

**DISTRICT OF TOFINO** 

### **Press Release**

For Immediate Release 2023/04/27

# TOFINO RECEIVES B.C. ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT TO EXTEND MULTI-USE PATH

**TOFINO, B.C.** – The BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure has awarded \$440,775 to the District of Tofino to improve the safety and accessibility of Mackenzie Beach Road for both residents and visitors.

The B.C. Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program provides support for the development of active transportation infrastructure for all ages and abilities. The project aligns with the provincial government's strategy for cleaner, more active transportation to reduce carbon pollution and improve the lives of all residents and visitors through accessibility and community connectivity.

## MLA for Mid Island-Pacific Rim Josie Osborne on behalf of B.C. Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Rob Fleming

"Tofino is a leader in its vision of safe, accessible, multi-use path networks throughout the community. I'm thrilled our government is supporting this project on Mackenzie Beach Road so residents and visitors can leave their cars at home or the hotel and instead walk, bike or roll to their destinations."

Mackenzie Beach is an important public space for many beachgoers, dog walkers and residents. The overall project will add a separated Multi-Use Path (MUP) along Mackenzie Beach Road and end-of-trip facilities including washrooms and improved public access to the beach. The improved pathway will provide residents and visitors with a safe, sustainable travel option creating additional connections within the existing cycling and pedestrian network.

#### Tofino Mayor Dan Law

"We are very grateful to the Government of British Columbia for this funding. Thanks to the Province's generous investment, pedestrians and cyclists will soon have a safe and dedicated access to one of Tofino's most beautiful and well-loved public beaches. This is a wonderful project on so many levels. Council is excited to see it move forward and acknowledges that the project would not have been possible without provincial support."

The project is a key component of Tofino's Multi-Modal Transportation Plan as well as Tofino's Cycling Network Plan and will advance the District's goals in achieving its greenhouse gas emissions reduction commitments by

increasing all commute trips to work or school by Tofino residents via walking, cycling, or transit by 50% by 2031. This project also seeks to provide a specific environmental benefit by improving the conditions of an adjacent salmon bearing stream and wetland.

#### **BACKGROUND**

- B.C. Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program
- <u>District of Tofino 2021 Official Community Plan</u>
- <u>District of Tofino Multi-Modal Transportation Plan</u>
- <u>District of Tofino Cycling Network Plan</u>

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