

# Okanagan Rail-Trail Project

## Active Transportation Cross-Canada Check up

**EDMONTON**  
**2018**  
June 3-6 **ite**

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Andrew Gibbs (City of Kelowna)

Project Partnership:

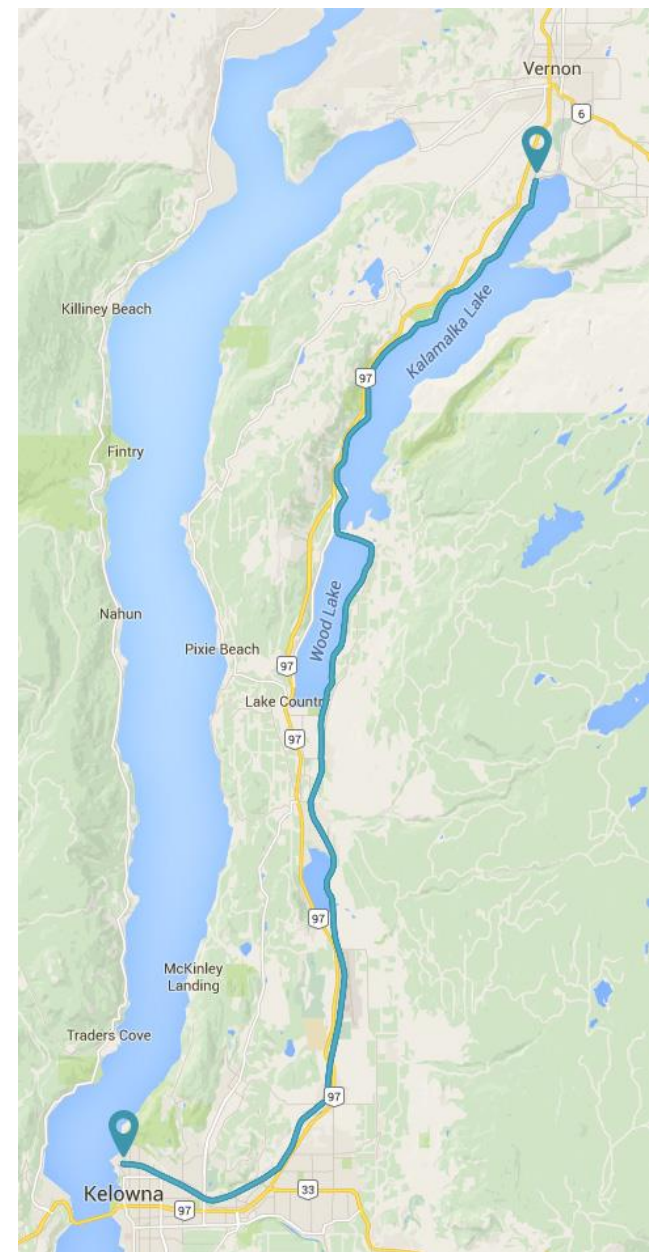


# Presentation Outline

- Project Background
- Development of the Partnership
- Design Considerations
- Community Engagement and Funding
- Project Update
- Lessons Learned
- Future Plans
- Q&A

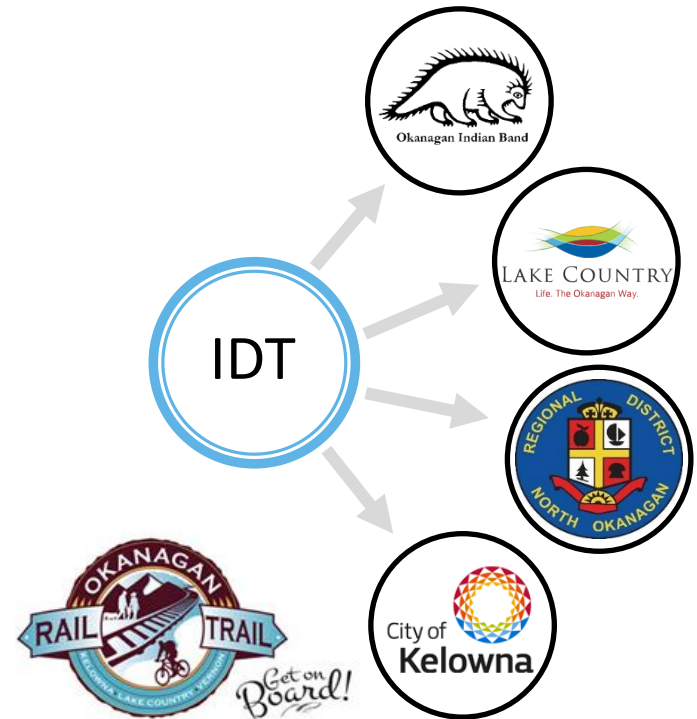
# Project Background

- In 2013, CN Rail discontinued service between Coldstream and Kelowna, BC
- 49.5 km continuous and undeveloped corridor
- “Once in a lifetime opportunity”



# Development of the Partnership

- Community Volunteers formed Okanagan Rail Trail Initiative (ORTI)
- In 2015, City of Kelowna, District of Lake Country, Regional District of North Okanagan, and Province of British Columbia Invested \$22M to purchase corridor.
- In 2016, joined by the Okanagan Indian Band to form the “Inter-jurisdictional Development Team” (IDT)
- Urban Systems Ltd awarded the first phase of Design and Construction (2017)



# Vision for the Corridor

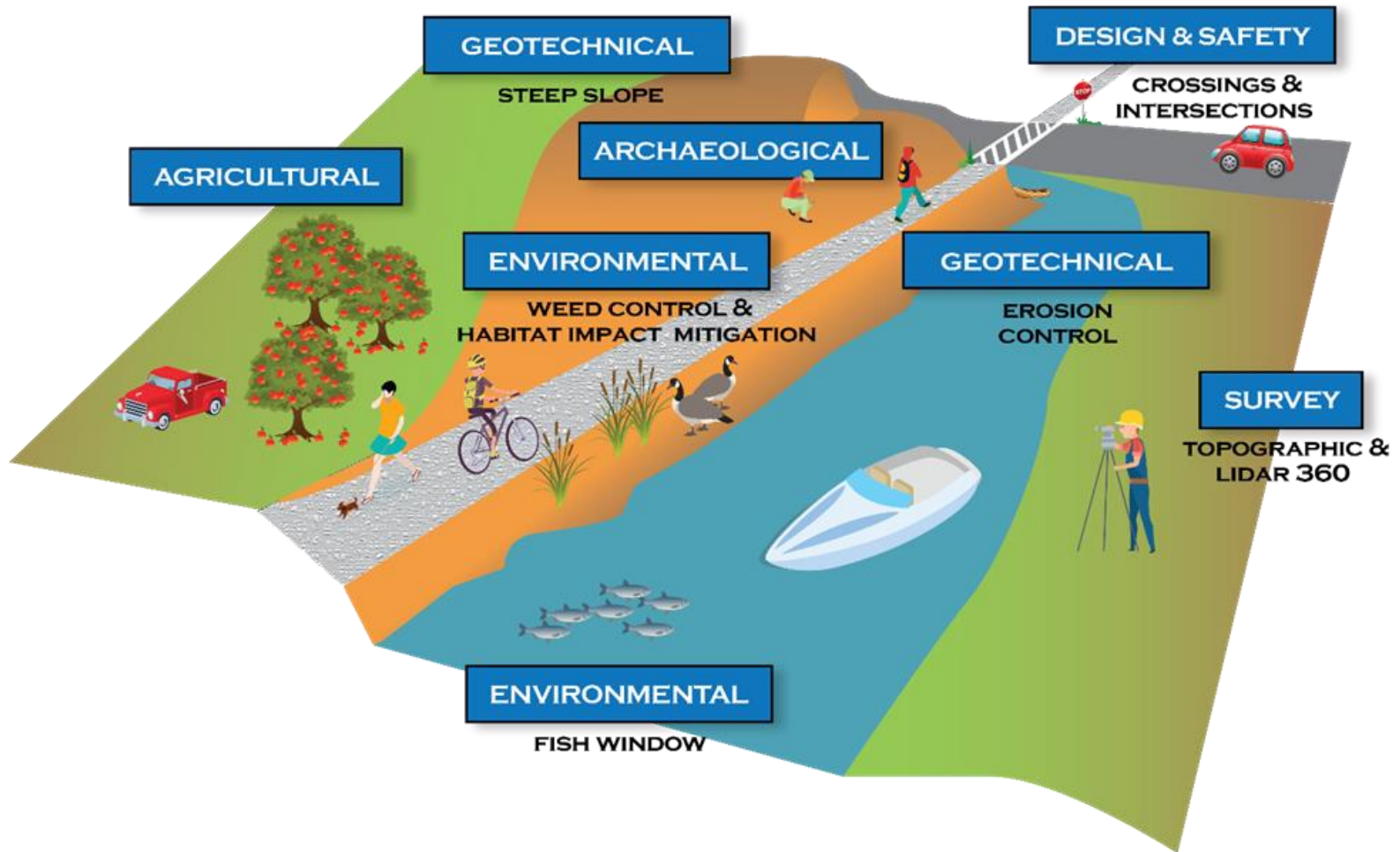
“The vision of the initial phase of the trail is to create a SAFE, continuous gravel trail with signage, fencing, barriers, and support infrastructure at a basic level”

- Non-motorized use
- 3.0-4.6m gravel trail\*
- Commuter and Recreational Use
- Connects over 200k residents
- 22km of lakefront trail





# Design Considerations



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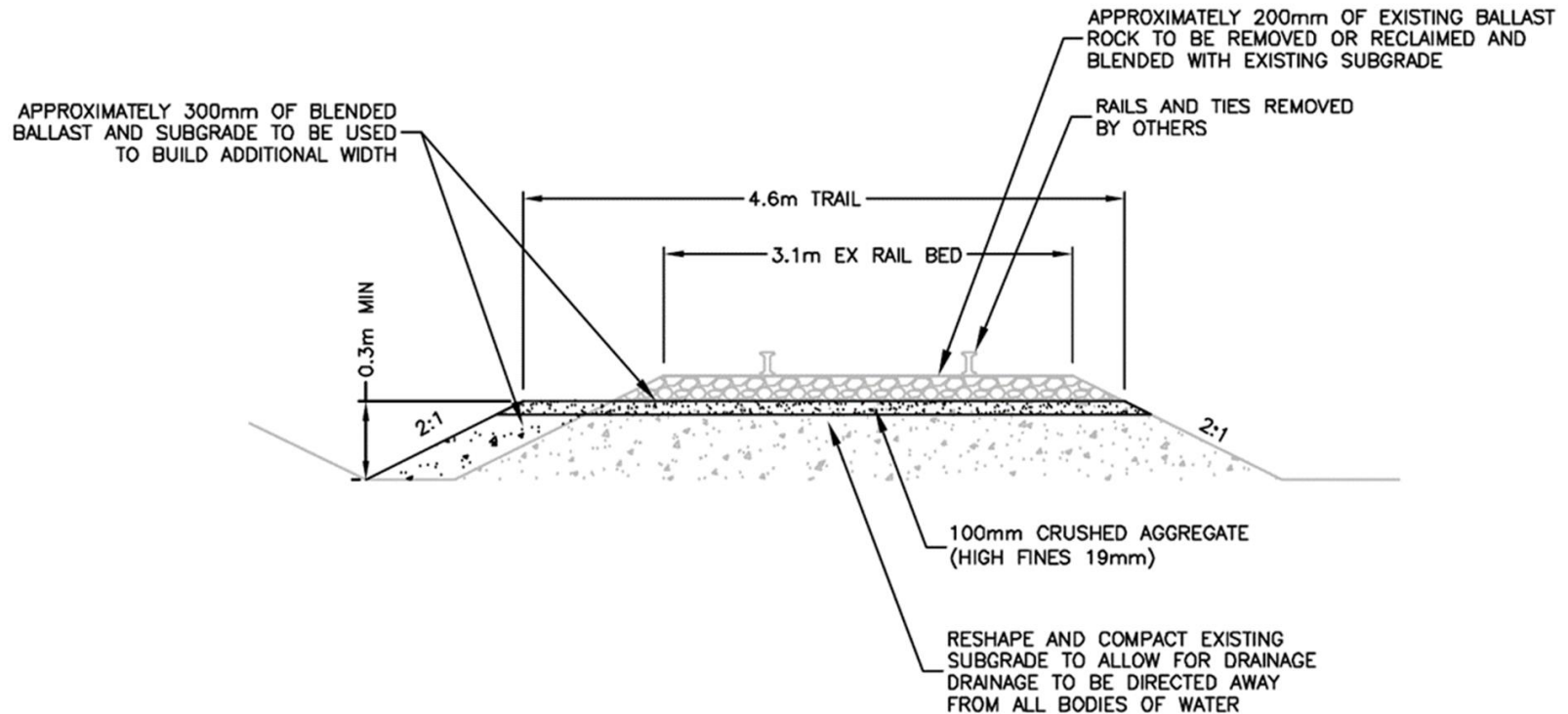


# Design Considerations





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# Design Considerations



# Community Engagement





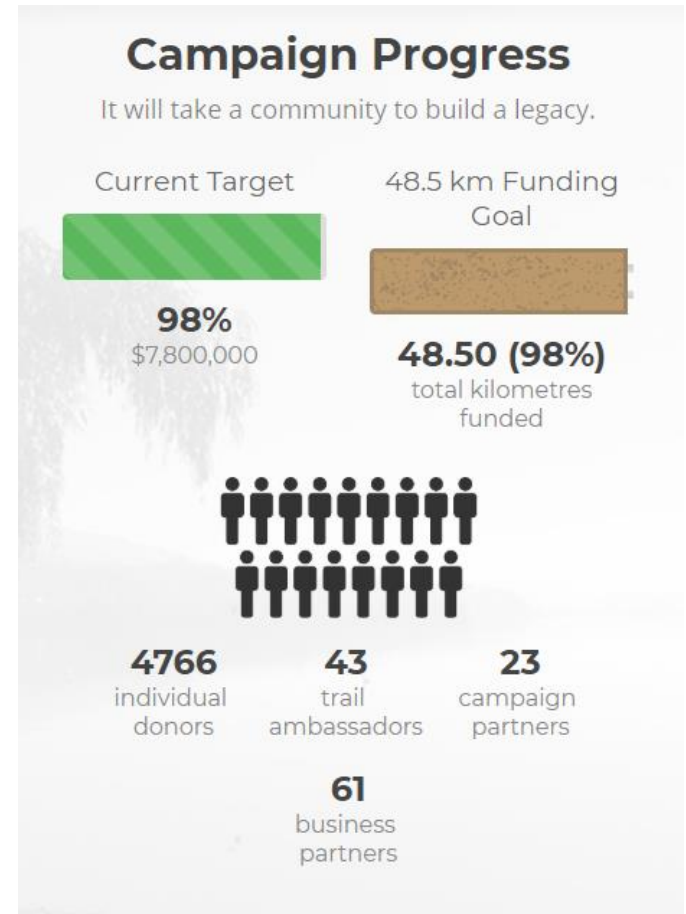
# Funding

**Project Total = \$7,800,000**

## ■ Grants

- Bike BC = \$777,435 (2017)
- Canada 150 = \$471,500 (2017)
- Provincial Rural Dividend Fund = \$500,000 (2017)
- Build Canada Federal Grant = \$1,300,000 (2018)

## ■ Highest individual donation >\$1M





# Project Update

- Phase 1 Completion = fall 2018
- Opening following ALC approval
- Remaining Sections:
  - Airport to Lake Country incl. OKIB IR#7 – transfer of title
  - Add'l Property Acquisition
- Transition from Planning and Development (IDT) to Governance (Okanagan Rail Trail Committee)

# Lessons Learned

- Partnerships
  - Regional Partnerships
  - Community Partners (ORTI)
  - Local, Provincial, and Federal Governments
- Focus on the total completed project
  - Consistent minimum standard for the entire corridor
  - All fundraising directed toward whole project
- Grants (eligible costs!)
- Test Section
- On-going use during construction

# Future Plans

- Okanagan Rail Trail Impact Assessment (2014)
  - Estimated 600,000 users annually by year 5
  - Health and wellness benefits
  - Safe and convenient transportation choices
  - Economic Impact (tourism) by year 15
    - \$9.7M visitor spending
    - \$3.2M employment income
- Opportunities for cultural/heritage interpretation

# Future Plans

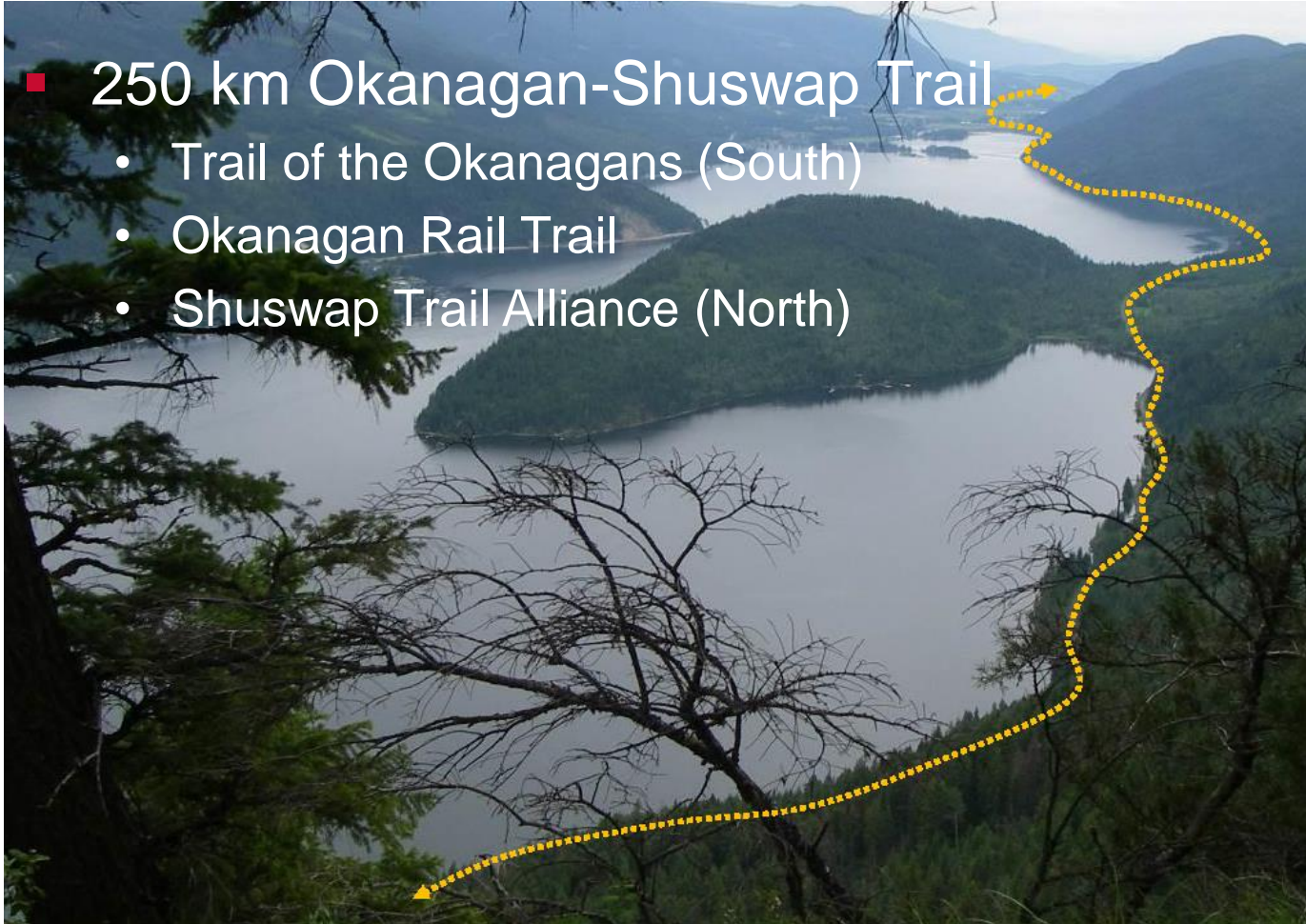
- Next Phase(s)
  - Kelowna Airport to Lake Country (incl. OKIB)
  - Paving and lighting (Kelowna)
  - West extension (Gordon to Okanagan Lake)
  - North extension (Mile 88 to College Way)
- Improved Amenities
- Private Development?
- Future “Transportation Corridor”?



# Future Plans

## ■ 250 km Okanagan-Shuswap Trail

- Trail of the Okanagans (South)
- Okanagan Rail Trail
- Shuswap Trail Alliance (North)



# Acknowledgements





A scenic landscape featuring a wide, light-colored dirt path that curves along the edge of a calm, blue lake. To the left of the path is a steep, rocky hillside with sparse green vegetation and several tall, dark evergreen trees. To the right of the path is the lake, which reflects the clear blue sky. In the distance, more mountains are visible under a vast, cloudless sky. Three people are walking away from the viewer on the path, adding a sense of scale to the scene.

# Questions?

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