



# The Sails Are Flying

The work on Km 0 has been progressing and four Shade Sails are now gracing this wonderful area which is transforming into the Northern Gateway of the Okanagan Rail Trail. Km 0 at k'ek'mapłqs, once a traditional gathering place of the syilx people, has been re-imagined to create a welcoming shaded spot to start or end your trip on the trail. It will also offer a unique learning space where interpretive signage will give inspiration to the stories of the land and the people who once dwelled here and used this area as a seasonal fishing campsite.

The Gateway is being developed through a partnership between the Regional District of North Okanagan, Okanagan Indian Band and Friends of Okanagan Rail Trail.

The Welcome Kiosk's structure and wayfinding signage is in production and should be in place by the end of September.

[Learn More About Km 0](#)



# Just How Popular is the Okanagan Rail Trail?

Many people ask about the number of users on the trail. You may have noticed that there are cedar posts along the edge of the trail in spots in each of the jurisdictions. These mark the trail counters which have electronic cords underneath the surface of the trail. They count traffic going in both directions.

The trail usage is beyond predictions and the Okanagan Rail Trail has become part of life in the valley.

Mayor Jim Garlick of Coldstream mentioned the popularity of the trail and commented on trail supporters in his summer newsletter: "Considerable energy and resources have resulted in a multi-use trail that was only a concept just a short time ago. Appreciation has to go out to those private individuals who saw the potential of this project and promoted it to where it is today!"

About The Trail



Trail count numbers from January to the end of July:

**RDNO:**

382,599

**Lake Country:**

79,765

**City of Kelowna:**

375,000 (bikes only)

Explore The Trail

## In-Kind Donations



Thank you to Marilyn Anions of Enderby for her most generous donation of an e-trike and wagon. Our Stewards will put this to good use along the trail as it helps with their work on the invasive weeds along the corridor.



We want to share our thanks to Shade Sails Canada for their kind donation in repairing the damage caused by a disappointing act of vandalism to one corner of a shade sail only weeks after it was installed.

Thank You Donors





# What's Next On The Trail

Work is almost complete at Coldstream Station. This area will offer parking and amenities for the start of your trip from the North end of the ORT. Work on the Houghton Road Active Transportation connection in Kelowna continues to develop another connection to the ORT in Kelowna.

News + Events



# FORT Volunteers

We have had two FORT days on the trail with tents set up in each jurisdiction where Trail Ambassadors, Stewards, and Board Members were out greeting trail users and sharing information about the trail. This season has been all about trail etiquette and showing respect for the trail and other users.

FORT Stewards have been working hard to keep the native plantings well nurtured at Km 0 and have done some work on invasive weeds along the trail.

We are always looking for more “friends” for the trail, so please contact [volunteer@okanaganrailtrail.ca](mailto:volunteer@okanaganrailtrail.ca) if you are interested in giving back to the trail.

Volunteer Today!



# Fundraising Continues

FORT is always fundraising as we have many more enhancements we would like to make and your support is always appreciated.

We have a growing group of Friends who **DONATE** on a regular basis and this helps back grant applications and our ongoing FORT project planning.

Thank you so very much for your generosity.

Donate  
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