



NEWS RELEASE

Discovery Trail Connects the Community with the Start of Section 2

Abbotsford, March 17, 2009 – Construction of Section 2 of the Discovery Trail was officially started today by Abbotsford Councillor and Deputy Mayor Moe Gill, and local MLA's Mike de Jong and John van Dongen.

Section 2 of the trail will run from Exhibition Park to Willband Creek and Clearbrook Road to Townline Road. This 8.5 km of trail will connect Exhibition Park, Gladwin Park, Riverside Park and Willband Park, as well as Clearbrook Park and Townline Hill Park. The second phase of the project is funded in part by a Provincial Local Motion Grant of \$952,003.25, and the City must match the funding through donations toward amenities, services, cash and materials.

"This is a very important project for our community," says Abbotsford Mayor George W. Peary. "The project's continued success is contingent upon a dedicated group of volunteers. Many businesses and individuals have contributed to the Discovery Trail and I'm proud to see a community project that inspires tremendous generosity and volunteer spirit. These trails are built by the people for the people and are truly a lasting legacy for our community."

To date, Discovery Trail partners include the Province of British Columbia; Mainland Sand and Gravel; Lafarge; Abbotsford Community Foundation; the Holmberg family, The Abbotsford News; Imperial Paving, Mount Lehman Contracting, Handlers Used Equipment, and Home Hardware - Blackwood Building Centre Ltd.

The Trail Head for Section 2 will be located at Exhibition Park, at the entrance off Gladwin Road, across from Chief Dan George Middle School. Donation opportunities for this section include metres of trail, pavers, interpretive signage, and benches. Detailed donor information is available on the City's website at www.abbotsford.ca.

The first of the trail's five sections was completed in 2008, and when complete, Discovery Trail will be a 35.5 kilometre, multi-purpose, all-season, paved trail. The four additional sections of Discovery Trail are planned to be opened by 2012.

More information on the Discovery Trail project can be found at www.abbotsford.ca, or by calling the Special Projects Manager at 604-864-5507.

For more information contact:

Katherine Jeffcoatt
Manager, Corporate Communications and Marketing
E: kjeffcoatt@abbotsford.ca
Tel: 604-864-5564

Tracy Klassen
Communications Manager
E: tklassen@abbotsford.ca
Tel: 604-864-5564