

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** J. Zaffino, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** December 19, 2024

**RE:** **Adra Tunnel License of Occupation**

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### **Administrative Recommendation:**

THAT the Board support the application to acquire a Lands Act Tenure, in the form of a Lease, for up to a 30 year term from the Province of British Columbia; DISTRICT LOT 2125S AS SHOWN ON PLAN CG 7 SIMILKAMEEN DIVISION YALE DISTRICT, PARCEL B (PLAN A50) OF DISTRICT LOT 198S SIMILKAMEEN DIVISION YALE DISTRICT, PARCEL C (PLAN A50) OF SUB-LOT 3 DISTRICT LOT 2711 SIMILKAMEEN DIVISION YALE DISTRICT PLAN 1190 for Community Institutional purposes to support the ongoing operation and maintenance of Adra Tunnel and the associated Recreational trail located within which forms part of the Kettle Valley Rail Trail.

### **Purpose:**

To acquire tenure from the Province to maintain and manage the Adra Tunnel.

### **Reference:**

Parcel Map

### **Business Plan Objective:**

Key Success Driver 2.0: Optimize the Customer Experience.

### **Background:**

In the summer of 2021, local trail advocates requested to the province and RDOS to initiate a project to explore the viability opening the Adra Tunnel on the KVR between Chute Lake and Penticton. The tunnel which is nearly 500 meters long and turn 180 degrees in the mountain had been closed to through traffic due to structural issues.

A group of community minded citizens formed the Woodwackers 2.0, who began fundraising and securing in-kind commitments which have totaled an estimated 2 million dollars. To facilitate the initiation, project works and ongoing maintenance, the RDOS is the proponent securing the multiphase approvals from the Province. Now that the tunnel's construction requirements have been completed, we can start the process of securing tenure to open the tunnel to the public in the spring of 2025.

**Analysis:**

The Provincial License of Occupation application for the Adra Tunnel is the final step in reopening this historical feature on the KVR Trail. This tenure would enable the RDOS to manage the site, develop associated amenities, and partner with community stakeholders to maximize its benefits. By formalizing this agreement, the RDOS can address safety concerns, leverage funding opportunities, and enhance the site's value for residents and visitors.

Requirement of a successful License of Occupation requires a Management Plan that shows the proponent (RDOS) has the means to maintain and manage the asset and in the case, of outstanding construction requirements.

**Financial Implications:**

Operating costs for Adra Tunnel are considered in the staffing request for Parks and Facilities Lead Hand and the Program Change Request for Parks and Trails which total a \$39,000.

The final construction component is the fabrication and installation of gates for seasonal closure of the tunnel which is a condition of the approval to complete the project. This is considered as a Capital Request in the 2025 budget for the amount of \$60,000.

These costs do not include maintenance of future comfort and use amenities at the site or consider maintenance requirements to manage the impacts of increased usage for the KVR trail or Rock Ovens Park.

**Alternatives:** THAT the Board not support the application to the Province for a License of Occupation at this time.

**Communication Strategy:** None

**Respectfully submitted:**

"J. Shuttleworth"

J. Shuttleworth, Manager of Parks

**Endorsed by:**

"M. Koch"

M. Koch, Managing Director Community & Environmental Services