

Kelly's Bridge Project

Final Report

Prepared for: Island Coastal Economic Trust



March 2017

Village of Sayward
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Sayward Background

The friendly village of Sayward is a tranquil community nestled between the Port of Kelsey Bay and the Salmon River in the verdant Sayward Valley on Vancouver Island. Sayward is accessed by Highway 19, the main highway serving the east coast of Vancouver Island from Victoria to Port Hardy, and is 75 kms north of Campbell River. Access to the Village is via the picturesque Sayward Road which offers travelers views of the Salmon River and great opportunities to spot Roosevelt Elk, bear, and other wildlife. Sayward is surrounded by beautiful parks and pristine wilderness. As a designated age friendly community, mobility-accessible parks are a Village priority. Sayward's convenient location alongside Highway 19 between Campbell River and Port McNeill also makes it a great day trip destination for tourists exploring northern Vancouver Island.



Photo credit: Joan Magee

Project Background

Mary Kelly's trail in the Salmon River Estuary Conservation Area is adjacent to the Village Centre. This trail travels along the Salmon River and estuary, and traverses Mary Kelly's island which is now part of the Nature Trust of BC's holdings. This trail was inaccessible for many years as the bridge connecting Sayward and Mary Kelly's island was in disrepair and unsafe to use. Construction of a new bridge to replace the old decommissioned wooden footbridge on Mary Kelly's trail was an important part of the Village of Sayward's trail system and tourist attraction plans. Installing a new bridge was a high priority to allow residents and visitors access to a hidden gem in the Sayward Valley.

Engineering

A 80-foot long steel structure to be placed on the Mary Kelly's trail system was designed by Onsite Engineering Ltd. in the Spring of 2011. Onsite Engineering Ltd. was the main vendor involved with the survey, decommissioning plan, detailed design, and construction planning for the site. This included supply and delivery of all bridge components, installation of the bridge and all required components, and all excavation

and rip rap placement. Integra Forest Consulting Ltd. was contracted in May of 2014 to prepare a dangerous tree assessment report related to the footbridge construction site at Kelly's Trail.

Budget

The budget for the project was \$84,000 and funded by the following partnerships:

Community Recreation Program	\$46,400
ICET	<u>\$37,600</u>
Total Funding	\$84,000

Total expenses (Appendix A) were \$87,147. The project was over budget for two main reasons: (1) the need for a Dangerous Tree Assessment of the worksite not included in the original budget and (2) higher than budgeted engineering costs.

Community Benefits

The bridge now provides a linkage to a 1.5 kilometre trail within the 52 hectre conservation area. Mary Kelly's trail enhances the outdoor amenities of the Village by providing persons who walk on a regular basis and desire a range of locations and distances another great hiking option. Opening up the trail in close proximity to the Village Centre that accesses the Salmon River Estuary Conservation area provides residents and visitors access to an active bird sanctuary, walking, nature photography and paddling opportunities. The bridge and trail are also wheel-chair accessible which is a huge benefit to mobility challenged community members and visitors.

The Village of Sayward is currently working with Destination BC to develop a tourism strategy for the area. One of the outcomes that are clear is that Sayward has an opportunity to attract visitors to the area due to the region's natural beauty and outdoor recreation activities, of which Kelly's Trail is an important part.

The Village of Sayward through both its tourism and economic development committees has now updated and upgraded all of its promotional material including its various trail maps of the Sayward area. Highlighting Mary Kelly's trail and its opportunity for nature walks, bird watching, photography and kayaking is a key feature in all of the Villages' promotional material. Information about the trail has also been given a prominent place on the Village's website. In addition, Sayward Futures Society which is the local tourism marketing agency promotes the trail at its visitor centre, in all of its literature and on its website.

Official Opening 2016

The Village of Sayward was very pleased to have the Lieutenant Governor of B.C., the Honourable Judith Guichon, OCB attend the official opening of Kelly's Bridge on March 2nd, 2016. Several speakers were at the opening including Dallas Smith from Island Coast Economic Trust, Jasper Lament CEO from the Nature Trust of BC, and Brian Springinotic CEO of Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation. Mayor and Council were in attendance along with local RCMP officers and community members. A congratulatory letter from the Honourable Peter Fassbender, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development was read. Her Honour then cut the ribbon which officially opened Kelly's Bridge.





The Village of Sayward would like to thank Island Coastal Economic Trust and the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development Community Recreation Program for their generous grants toward this project.

**Financial Statement
Kelly's Bridge Project**

Period: March 2013 - May 2016

Project Income (Sources of Funding)

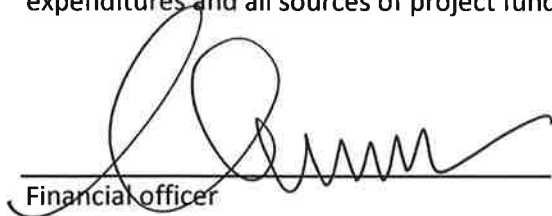
Island Coast Economic Trust grant	\$ 37,600.00
Province of BC Community Recreation Program grant	\$ 46,400.00
Total Income (Sources of Funding)	\$84,000.00

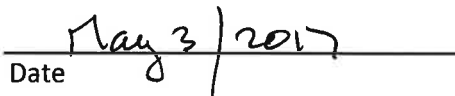
Project Expenditures

Site Preparation, Supplies, and Materials	\$ 46,206.07
Installation	\$ 27,000.00
Professional Services and Contingency	\$ 13,941.10
Total Expenditures	\$87,147.17

Balance	<u><u>-\$ 3,147.17</u></u>
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I hereby certify that this statement accurately represents all project expenditures and all sources of project funding


Financial officer


Date