

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community Reviving The Historical 1,600 FT Adra Tunnel on KVR, Enhancing Okanagan's Legacy

Nov 30, 2023

The reopening of the Adra Tunnel along the Kettle Valley Rail trail is a symbol of community effort and is making substantial progress in reopening the historic 1,600 FT Tunnel which has been closed for over 40 years. This restoration is not just about reconnecting the Okanagan region but also about celebrating our shared heritage.

Originally built over a century ago, this iconic tunnel was closed 40 years ago due to a fire. Today, the Woodwackers 2.0 ([more info below](#)) is dedicated to its reopening, having secured 1,200 FT of the tunnel in 2023 with only 400 FT remaining.

About the Progress:

- **Accomplishments:** 1200 ft of the tunnel secured, with substantial structural enhancements:
 - 2000 cubic meters of rock removed
 - 121 out of 412 bolts installed
 - 166 out of 300 split sets installed
 - 6 out of 8 concrete arches installed
 - 42 cubic meters of shotcrete sprayed
 - 33 8'x20' welded wire mesh sheets installed
 - 437 ft of Tecco mesh installed
 - 330 ft of steel cable installed
- **Remaining Work:** Securing the final 400 ft includes installing lighting, gates at both entrances, site grading, and additional concrete arches.

Vision and Financial Update:

- **Vision:** To restore the Adra Tunnel, preserving its historical significance and transforming it into a celebrated landmark, fostering a vibrant destination for all to enjoy.
- **Financials:** \$700,000 raised, with an additional \$300,000 needed.

[More information on our vision can be found below.](#)

Your Support Matters:

- Contribute through [www.adratunnel.com].

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- Donate via [The Community Foundation](#) or at RDOS, 101 Martin St., Penticton, BC.

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WHO ARE THE WOOD WACKERS 2.0?

In 2021, a diverse community network spanning generations and industries united to continue the Woodwackers' work. We are Woodwackers 2.0, ranging from late 80s to 20s, dedicated to opening trail access and unlocking the potential buried beneath 2000 cubic feet of debris. The group has worked collaboratively with the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS), which is supportive of the project and has gained approval from the Province to complete the tunnel restoration.

We believe in our trail network's value, fostering a healthy community and unlocking tourism, recreation, and economic prosperity for the Okanagan. This is a milestone that has been 40 years in the making.

We have made a massive amount of progress in 2023 by securing 1200 FT with 400 FT remaining and we could not have done it without the unwavering support of the community. Many local businesses have donated their time and resources to support the project with equipment, volunteers, and hauling. We have raised 700K of private donations and have yet to receive public funding. Please see our website for our donor list adratunnel.com.

OUR VISION (EXPANDED):

Once essential for regional connectivity, the tunnel is set to become a vibrant destination for all ages, offering an exhilarating experience reminiscent of the Little Tunnel, yet on a larger scale.

Imagine the excitement of journeying through this long, storied tunnel, an experience that will enchant adventurers, cyclists, hikers, and history enthusiasts. Our goal transcends mere reopening; we're creating a new adventure. The Adra Tunnel will become a place of discovery, blending historical charm with modern adventure. It promises to enhance regional tourism and provide memorable experiences, intertwining our community's rich history with the present.

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The reopening of the Adra Tunnel is not just a construction project; it's about reimagining how we connect and celebrate our shared spaces. Our vision is to turn the tunnel into a bridge across time, inviting locals and visitors to immerse in the scenic beauty of our backyard. This initiative celebrates outdoor activities, tourism, and our cultural legacy, aiming to leave a lasting imprint of community spirit, health, and outdoor appreciation. Join us as we create a legacy that harmoniously blends our past with an exciting future.