

Date: December 13, 2023

To: Whom It May Concern

Re: Letter of Support - Sunshine Coast Community Services Society

I am writing on behalf of the Sunshine Coast Community Services Society (SCCSS) to wholeheartedly endorse and support the Connect the Coast Society's multi-use path (MUP) initiative.

SCCSS has been providing services for people on the Sunshine Coast since 1974. Each year we support over 5000 residents living all along the Coast. We are committed to effecting social change and reducing social inequity by supporting everyone to reach their full potential.

The main beneficiaries of SCCSS's programs and services will also benefit greatly from this initiative, which addresses transportation inequity and the high cost of living, encourages healthy lifestyle choices, supports regional economic growth and helps combat climate change.

The Connect the Coast Society's goal of building a MUP from Langdale to Sechelt and, eventually, from Sechelt to Lund, will benefit Sunshine Coast residents and visitors alike. In particular, residents who do not or cannot drive, our elders and our youth will benefit from the addition of a safe and cost-effective active transportation option to our limited transportation network, which is currently designed for and dominated by motorized vehicles.

We also see and would greatly welcome the ability of our staff and volunteers to walk or bike into our work sites. Although many express a desire to do this the reality is that the safety concerns are significant. Implementing a MUP will address those safety concerns.

I encourage other stakeholders, granting organizations and all levels of government to extend support and assistance to this initiative, which will transform transportation on the Sunshine Coast.

Sincerely,



Catherine Leach
Executive Director