Back Country Horsemen Society of British Columbia

February 16, 2026

To: Daniel Scott A/Director, Trails and Trail Infrastructure Ministry of Environment & Parks PO Box 9811 Stn Prov Govt Victoria, BC V8W 9W1 Via email: KVR.Trail@gov.bc.ca

Re: Preservation of the Kettle Valley Railway Trail Corridor

Dear Mr. Scott,

I am writing to you representing our equestrian society, the Back County Horsemen of BC (BCHBC) and our members interests in access and the use of the section of the KVR from the Coldwater, through Tulameen and Coalmont to Princeton, BC. It is so popular to all recreational users, not just equestrians.

We are formally objecting to the province's decision to decommission this section of the KVR. Just as concerning as the decision itself is the ***lack of transparent process and meaningful community consultation*** before moving forward with permanent removal plans. Outdoor Recreation has become an industry in itself, supporting rural communities.

BCHBC has an outstanding history of working in cooperation with BCParks, RSTBC and many other stakeholders when it comes to maintaining trails and access all over BC. Our 20 chapters and 900+ membership have devoted over $2 million and thousands of volunteer hours helping to maintain camps, trail networks and access points.

We are asking you to wait with your plan of decommissioning work and start a consultation process. We support and want to collaborate with all the other stakeholders who wish to come up with a strategy to restore, reroute if need be and keep this important section of the KVR and TCT open for all users, which will support all the small communities on this section of trail.

Yours respectfully,

Brian Harder
BCHBC President
president@bchorsemen.org
604-341-6382

cc:d

Honourable Anne Kang, Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport TACS.minister@gov.bc.ca
Honourable Tamara Davidson, Minister of Parks and Environment ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Honourable Brittny Anderson, Minister of State for Local Government & Rural Communities msp.minister@gov.bc.ca
Honourable Rechie Valdez, Minister of Women and Gender Equity and Secretary of State for Small Business and Tourism (Canada) Minister-Ministre@wage-fegc.gc.ca
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