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MEDIA RELEASE

Name the Trail Contest – Winner Announced

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

North Cowichan/Duncan, BC – North Cowichan, the City of Duncan, and Cowichan Tribes are happy to announce that the newest trail linking the City of Duncan to Cowichan Commons will be named the Friendship (siiye`yu) Trail.

In celebration of the development of this trail that runs alongside the E & N Railway, the Mayors of North Cowichan and Duncan sponsored a “Name the Trail” contest resulting in over 45 unique names being submitted for consideration. Peggy L. Smith submitted the winning trail name, the Friendship (siiye`yu) Trail. Mayor Tom Walker and Mayor Phil Kent, in consultation with Chief Lydia Hwitsum, in recognition of the friendship between the two municipalities, chose this name to also reflect the important friendship enjoyed with the Cowichan Tribes.

This new trail is jointly funded by the Municipality of North Cowichan and the City of Duncan, with the assistance of a ParaTransit grant. The trail will offer a pedestrian, stroller and bicycle link with multiple access points. The new Friendship (siiye`yu) Trail will eventually connect the Cowichan Tribes from the south, through to the City of Duncan downtown, and on to North Cowichan and the Cowichan Valley Trail, becoming part of a larger trail network with connections to the Trans Canada Trail network and Somenos Marsh.

“The name Friendship (siiye`yu) Trail certainly struck a chord with both Mayor Kent and me,” noted Mayor Tom Walker, “It speaks to the cooperative nature between our communities and the people that live in them. Cowichan Tribes Chief Lydia Hwitsum was also thrilled with the name selected and the safe community connection that this trail will create.”

Mayor Phil Kent added, “Although not chosen, honourable mention goes to those who submitted the Somena Rail Trail, and the Hayward Junction as potential names.”

North Cowichan and Duncan thank all those that participated in the contest.

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