



Penticton Indian Band

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 20, 2025

snpink'tn (Penticton) Indian Band Issues Immediate Closure of KVR Corridor on PIB-Owned Lands Due to Severe Safety Hazards

The snpink'tn (Penticton) Indian Band is announcing the immediate closure of the section of the former Kettle Valley Railway corridor owned by the Band, extending from Summerland south to Banbury Green in Kaleden (see attached map). This closure applies to all public access effective immediately. Recent heavy rainfall has resulted in significant washouts, slope failures, rockfall and structural instability along multiple areas of the corridor. Several portions of the trail are now severely compromised, impassable, and unsafe for any form of public use. These conditions present a clear and unacceptable risk to community safety, and the Band is taking all necessary steps to prevent injury or loss of life.

These lands belong to the Penticton Indian Band. Access to them is strictly prohibited and illegal. PIB has repeatedly posted No Trespass notices along this corridor, which is privately owned fee simple property. Despite these notices, unauthorized public use has continued. The deteriorated state of the terrain, combined with ongoing geotechnical instability, makes further access dangerous and interferes with essential assessment and remediation work.

Chief Greg Gabriel underscored the seriousness of the situation, stating, *"The safety of our members is our highest priority. The recent storms have caused severe damage along this corridor, and the risks are far too great for anyone to be on this trail. We are asking everyone to respect this closure so that no one is put in harm's way. Our community and visitors must be protected, and we cannot allow anyone to access an area that is this unsafe."*

The snpink'tn Indian Band is undertaking a full evaluation of the damage, including detailed site inspections and technical assessments, which will determine the scope of required repairs and the timeline for future reopening, if deemed possible. Until this work is complete and conditions are confirmed safe, no public access of any kind will be permitted. Additional signage and monitoring will be implemented along the corridor, and enforcement measures will be pursued as necessary to ensure compliance.

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