



Churn Creek Trail – Background Information CRD Chair Al Richmond

- The Churn Creek area of the Cariboo Chilcotin is the latest community in the Cariboo Regional District (CRD) to develop a wheelchair accessible wilderness trail.
- The Churn Creek Gateway Low Mobility Trail and was built in partnership between the Cariboo Regional District (CRD); the Friends of Churn Creek Protected Area Society; the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development through the BC Community Recreation Program; Northern Development Initiative Trust; and the Cariboo Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition.
- From the \$401,250 Community Recreation Program grant awarded to the Cariboo Regional District for the accessible trail upgrade projects, \$30,000 was dedicated to Churn Creek Gateway Low Mobility Trail.
- Approximately 450 metres long and featuring a packed, crushed gravel surface, this accessible interpretive wilderness trail loop offers unique geographical features and connections to the human history of the area.
- Sagebrush and prickly pear cacti line and surround the trail, while the meeting of Churn Creek with the Fraser River provides spectacular views. A particular highlight of the trail is a sacred petroglyph boulder created by ancestors of the modern Secwepem'c (Shuswap) people and repatriated to the area in 2012 by the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem and High Bar First Nations.
- The trail has a very gentle grade as well as an accessible outhouse, an accessible picnic table, two benches and a kiosk at the trailhead with information about the trail and the local area. The kiosk design reflects a Secwepem'c pithouse, complete with entrance ladder through the roof. There is ample parking available for visitors.
- The Churn Creek Gateway Low Mobility Trail is located approximately 60 km southeast of Williams Lake and the drive takes about 2.5 hours. From Williams Lake, visitors should travel on Highway 20 approximately 3 km and then turn left onto Dog Creek Road. Continue on this road until Dog Creek Valley and then follow signs for Gang Ranch, which will take visitors across the Fraser River Bridge. At the next intersection, take the left turn onto Empire Valley Road.
- On-going management of the site is provided by the Friends of Churn Creek Protected Area Society. For more information, visit friendsofchurn.ca.

