

## 'An amazing connection': Adawe Bridge opens, linking Vanier to Sandy Hill

More than 100 people strolled across footbridge on Friday for early ribbon-cutting ceremony.

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LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO /

The Adawe Bridge opened on Friday between Somerset and Donald streets. It's a safer, more direct pedestrian link between Vanier and Sandy Hill.

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**By:** [Lucy Scholey](#) Metro, Published on Fri Dec 04 2015

Cyclists can now bypass the treacherous Cummings Bridge and take a safer link from Sandy Hill to Vanier.

The Adawe Bridge, a pedestrian link between Somerset and Donald streets, officially opened on Friday afternoon, as more than 100 people strolled across for the first time.

There had been rumblings the footbridge would open earlier than its anticipated spring 2016 ribbon cutting (Mayor Jim Watson was quick to point out that the \$9.2-million link was both on budget and early). And people had been getting antsy, phoning councillors' offices asking when it would be ready.

"This is going to be such an amazing connection point for any communities downtown connecting east of the Rideau and vice-versa," said Rideau-Vanier Coun. Mathieu Fleury, noting that he and neighbouring Rideau-Rockcliffe Coun. Tobi Nussbaum biked to the new bridge from city hall in six minutes.

"It's been a long time in the making," said Rawlson King, president of the Overbrook Community Association. "Everybody was putting pressure on them to open up early because it's a wonderful, direct link."

In his speech, Nussbaum noted the word “Adawe” means “trade.”

The next pedestrian bridge in the works is the Fifth Avenue-Clegg Street link, which will connect the Glebe to Old Ottawa East.