



Board Highlights

March 17, 2022

RDCK Adopts Five-Year Financial Plan

The RDCK Board adopted its 2022 – 2026 Financial Plan Bylaw, an annual requirement which must be completed by end of March each year. This year's budget was focused on dealing with the continued impact COVID has had on the RDCK, in particular in recreation which has seen reduced user fee revenue over the past two years. Core services such as fire services, recreation and resource recovery have tax increases in 2022 with the RDCK in general seeing a 6.55% increase in taxation. [Click here](#) to view the financial plan (agenda item 8.6, pg. 262)

The RDCK hosted eight virtual public meetings and one in-person meeting through February and March which allowed the public in our various sub regions to comment and provide feedback on the five year Financial Plan.

City of Castlegar Economic Development Service Establishment

The RDCK Board has established the City of Castlegar Economic Development Service to address regional economic opportunities and challenges. The goal is to promote sustainable, diversified economic growth, work with and for all economic sectors, while supporting existing businesses, promoting alliances between businesses and encouraging new opportunities. With the support of local government and the community, local businesses can thrive and grow in the City of Castlegar.

Cottonwood Lake land transfer

The RDCK is proceeding with the next step of transferring 49 hectares of land near Cottonwood Lake to the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC). The land was acquired by the RDCK in 2021 as a result of fundraising efforts by the Cottonwood Lake Preservation Society (CLPS). The RDCK, CLPS and NCC developed a memorandum of understanding to work in collaboration to protect the natural habitats and ecological features occurring on the land. These next steps include publishing the intent to transfer the land in a local newspaper, paying all related expenses and the stewardship endowment, finalizing the closing dates and signing of the land donation agreement.

Cottonwood Lake Accessibility Project

The RDCK Board approved entering into a partnership agreement with the Kootenay Adaptive Sports Association (KASA) for the completion of the Cottonwood Lake Accessibility Project. The project will upgrade the park so it is accessible to all segments of the population. Work to be done includes ensuring accessibility to the following areas: parking, washroom facilities, wildlife nature viewing, fishing platforms, trails, footbridge and wharf.

The cost of the project will be \$425,000. The Nelson, Salmo, Areas E, F, and G Regional Parks Service will cover up to \$225,000 while KASA will contribute \$200,000.

For more information

info@rdck.bc.ca | 250.352.6665 | 1.800.268.7325 (BC) | or visit rdck.ca

Public Library Contribution Services

The RDCK Board directed staff to take the next steps in expanding funding for library services in the region. An establishing bylaw for an Electoral Area E Library Contribution Service to provide funding to the Nelson Public Library will be prepared for Board consideration. Additionally staff will prepare a bylaw to expand the Salmo and Area G Library Financial Aid Service to include the entirety of Electoral Area G. This service currently funds library services within the Village Salmo. The objective of these contribution services is to create sustainable funding from rural areas for local library services located in municipalities and accessed by rural residents. The adoption of both bylaws would be subject to public consultation processes and elector approval by means of the Alternative Approval Process (AAP).

Major upgrade for outdoor pool in Salmo

The outdoor pool at the Salmo Valley Youth & Community Centre will be undergoing a major upgrade. The RDCK Board approved entering a contribution agreement with Columbia Basin Trust for a \$150,000 grant to replace pool heaters, the mechanical room and sanitization equipment at the pool. This is part of Columbia Basin Trust's commitment to outdoor recreation assets in the area by providing grants to help communities improve facilities that support active, healthy lifestyles.

Ootischenia Fire Hall Expansion and Improvement Project

NDB Construction Ltd. has been awarded the design and construction services by the RDCK Board for the Ootischenia Fire Hall vehicle bay expansion and improvement project. An additional 720 square feet of space will be added to house rescue apparatus and address safety issues regarding insufficient space for equipment storage. The project will also include a new main entrance and energy efficiency work. The cost of the project is limited to a maximum value of \$212,429 and is expected to be completed by the end of September 2022.

RDCK to donate to Canadian Red Cross Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis

The RDCK will contribute \$5,000 to the Canadian Red Cross Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Appeal to assist Ukrainian children and its citizens impacted by the ongoing conflict in the Ukraine.

Director's Reports

RDCK Directors provide monthly reports explaining what they have been working on. [Click here](#) to read the March reports in the Board minutes (agenda item 4.4, pg. 128).

Discretionary Grant

AREA A

Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society – Voices of the Lake Podcast	\$1,000
Gray Creek Hall Society – Sump Pump Repairs	\$1,000

AREA F

Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society – Voice of the Lake Podcast	\$1,000
Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society – Kootenay Lake Watershed Monitoring Project	\$1,500
Nelson & District Arts Council – Summer Programming	\$2,500

Nelson Nordic Ski Club – Salmo Riverbank Stabilization & Bull Trout Habitat Enhancement	\$1,500
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AREA H

Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy – Literacy Program in the Slocan Valley	\$2,000
Nelson Community Food Centre – Phase Three: Kitchen Renovation	\$3,000

AREA J

Ootischenia Fire Department – Service Awards	\$5,000
Robson Fire & Rescue Society – Training Tablets	\$4,300
Kidney Foundation, BC & Yukon – Kidney Walk Kootenay West	\$500

SLOCAN

Village of Slocan – Easter Egg Hunt	\$100
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Community Development Grant

AREA D

Kaslo Outdoor Recreation & Trails Society – Mt. Buchanan Downhill Bike Trail	\$5,000
Kaslo Search and Rescue – SAR Hall Future Building Project	\$25,000
Schroeder Creek Water Society – Groundwater at Risk Pathogens Assessment (GARP)	\$7,000

AREA E

Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society – Kootenay Lake Watershed Monitoring Project	\$1,500
Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society – Voices of the Lake Podcast	\$1,000
West Kootenay EcoSociety – Healthy Watersheds Community in Nature	\$12,500

AREA F

Nelson Public Library – Strategic Planning	\$1,800
Nelson Community Food Centre Society – Phase Three: Kitchen Renovation	\$4,000

AREA G

Nelson Community Food Centre Society – Phase Three: Kitchen Renovation	\$4,000
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AREA H

Nelson Public Library – Strategic Planning	\$1,800
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AREA I

Nelson Community Food Centre Society – Phase Three: Kitchen Renovation	\$2,000
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AREA J

Castlegar & District Chamber of Commerce – West Kootenay Trade Show	\$2,000
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AREA K

Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services – Burton Food Access and Recovery	\$5,000
Nakusp Secondary School – 2022 Ski and Snowboard Provincials	\$1,500

KASLO

Village of Kaslo – Kaslo Seniors Hall Building Upgrades \$10,000

SALMO

Village of Salmo – Firehall Upgrades \$30,000

Community Works Fund

AREA A

RDCK Asset Management Inventory Project \$1,500

AREA B

RDCK Asset Management Inventory Project \$1,500

Fields Forward Society – Weather Stations & Climate Change Decision Management Tool Project \$40,000

AREA C

RDCK Asset Management Inventory Project \$1,500

AREA D

RDCK Asset Management Inventory Project \$1,500

AREA E

RDCK Asset Management Inventory Project \$1,500

Harrop Fire Hall – Infrastructure Upgrade Project \$68,760

AREA F

RDCK Asset Management Inventory Project \$1,500

AREA G

RDCK Asset Management Inventory Project \$1,500

AREA H

RDCK Asset Management Inventory Project \$1,500

Krestova Improvement District – New Source Well Infrastructure Project \$56,671

AREA I

RDCK Asset Management Inventory Project \$1,500

Pass Creek & Tarrys Fire Halls – Infrastructure Upgrade Project \$366,150

AREA J

RDCK Asset Management Inventory Project \$1,500

AREA K

RDCK Asset Management Inventory Project \$1,500