

# **Media Release**

January 6, 2023 For immediate release

# RDCK to re-launch official community plan review project for Electoral Area I

Nelson, BC: The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is re-launching its review of the Official Community Plan (OCP) for Electoral Area I to help manage growth and land use development in its communities (Brilliant, Glade, Thrums, Tarrys, Shoreacres and the Voykin Subdivision) beginning in early 2023.

"The RDCK's Planning Department is excited to update this OCP, to get out and connect with community members and to build on current regional planning initiatives underway, such as, the Housing Action Plan and Active Transportation Feasibility Study for the Castlegar-Nelson Corridor," said RDCK Planner Stephanie Johnson.

An OCP is a policy document that influences how people experience their community. This includes how we live, gather, work, learn, recreate, shop and move around in our Electoral Area. At its heart, an OCP is about land use management and physical growth within the Electoral Area. As well, an OCP guides residential development and transportation choices, climate action planning, community character, health and equity, housing affordability, protection of ecological areas, resource management and servicing infrastructure.

#### **Get involved!**

Over the coming months we'll be completing the public engagement phase of this OCP review, which started in 2016-2017, and included community meetings and a survey. The project was paused to collect further information on the Shore Acres aquifer and Brilliant Head Ponds riparian area, and then delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to the above studies, the RDCK has also completed some region wide projects, such as, flood mapping, a housing needs assessment and community heritage register that will support the drafting of this OCP. Projects that are currently underway that can also be incorporated include, the RDCK's housing action plan, wildfire development permit consideration and the active transportation Castlegar-Nelson corridor feasibility study.

#### The RDCK seeks YOUR input!

Stay up-to-date on the OCP Review Project and upcoming opportunities for you to participate in the process by checking the following project page for updates and new activities: www.rdck.ca/ArealOCP.

Incorporated in 1965, the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is a local government that serves 60,000 residents in 11 electoral areas and nine member municipalities. The RDCK provides more than 160 services, including community facilities, fire protection and emergency services, grants, planning and land use, regional parks, resource recovery and handling, transit, water services and much more. For more information about the RDCK, visit <a href="https://www.rdck.ca">www.rdck.ca</a>.

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