



Board Highlights

December 14, 2023

Fire Protection Service Loan Authorization Bylaws

Following voter assent in three separate referendums for fire protection service loan authorizations, the Board has adopted bylaws in the North Shore Fire Protection Service, Slokan Valley Fire Protection Service, and Tarrys and Pass Creek Fire Protection Service to authorize borrowing up to \$750,000 for the purchase of a frontline fire engine. Requirements for each fire department within the RDCK include having a fire engine and water tender less than 25 years old and meeting specific National Fire Protection Association, Underwriters Laboratories of Canada, and Fire Underwriters requirements. The fire engine for the North Shore Fire Department needs to be replaced in 2024, while the fire engines for the Tarrys Fire Department and Winlaw Fire Department need to be replaced in 2025.

Recreation Facilities Public Engagement Projects

With the approval of the Board, RC Strategies will lead the community engagement for a pair of public engagement projects. These projects include Reimagining Recreation at the Castlegar & District Community Complex and a needs assessment for the Nelson Recreation Campus (Nelson & District Community Complex, Civic Centre, and Nelson Curling Club).

The goal of the reimagination project is to find a clear understanding of what services and to what the level the community of Castlegar and Electoral Areas I and J want to see and are willing to financially support. As for the recreation interest of Nelson and Electoral Areas E and F, the objective of the needs assessment is to help identify a long term plan to service the recreation interests of the area recognizing the infrastructure is nearing end of life.

Tipping fees increased at all RDCK landfills and transfer stations

The Board has adopted an amendment to the Resource Recovery Facilities Regulatory Bylaw to increase the tipping fees by 10% in 2024. The price change is driven by significant increases to operating costs in recent years including fuel, labour, insurance, supplies, more stringent regulatory requirements, and increased borrowing repayment costs. The increase will also help build reserves required for major capital projects planned over the next 10 years.

RDCK Strategic Plan 2023-2026

The Board adopted the 2023-2026 Regional District of Central Kootenay Strategic Plan. The plan outlines the vision, mission and values of the organization, while providing a framework and process for how the strategic priorities will be achieved. [Click here](#) to read the strategic plan.

For more information

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

Leah Main appointed to the RDCK Board of Directors

Councillor Leah Main has been appointed to the RDCK Board of Directors as the representative of the Village of Silverton. Main replaces Mayor Colin Ferguson. Councillor Clarence Denbok has been appointed as the Alternate Board Director.

Long term service awards

The Board recognized and thanked 17 employees for their long term service to the RDCK.

- Janet Matheson - 35 years
- Joseph Richichi - 35 years
- Kim Hayashi - 35 years
- Rachel Zdebiak - 15 years
- Dave Rowe - 15 years
- Thomas Lavis - 15 years
- Heather Zavagno - 15 years
- Evan Bjarnson - 15 years
- Stuart Horn - 10 years
- Christine Hopkyns - 5 years
- Shiree Worden - 5 years
- Erik Chmara - 5 years
- Suzanne Nedham-McBriar - 5 years
- AJ Evenson - 5 years
- Alayne Hamilton - 5 years
- Todd Johnston - 5 years
- Paris Marshall Smith - 5 years

2024 appointments for external committees

The Board appointed RDCK Directors to external committees for varying terms. These appointees represent regional interests on external bodies that deal with specific matters and issues relevant to local stakeholders. These committees include:

- Columbia Basin Trust Board of Directors – *Director Suzan Hewat*
- Highway No.3 Mayors and Chairs Coalition – *Director Kelly Vandenberghe*
- Municipal Insurance Association of British Columbia – *Director Keith Page*
- Selkirk College Regional Innovation Chair for Rural Economic Development – *Director Aidan McLaren-Caux*
- Southeastern BC Regional Connectivity Committee – *Directors Garry Jackman & Walter Popoff*
- Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Treaty Advisory Committee – *Director Arnold DeBoon*
- West Kootenay Transit Committee – *Directors Maria McFaddin, Diana Lockwood & Walter Popoff*

Emergency and Disaster Management Act

As part of BC's modernization of emergency management legislation, the Province is creating new regulations for post-emergency financial assistance and local authority emergency management. They are asking for feedback from regional districts and municipalities across the Province. However, feedback is requested by the end of January 2024. The Board will send a letter to the Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness and the Premier of British Columbia, requesting more time to provide feedback. The proposed new requirements place a new and significant workload on local authorities, including making changes to RDCK

bylaws and Emergency Program Committee Terms of Reference, as well as the creation of new bylaws and service agreements with partnering municipalities, plus additional resources will be needed.

The Board also directed staff to review and update the Emergency Program Committee's Terms of Reference in preparation for the changes to legislation and staff will hold a workshop for the Board early in 2024 to draft the feedback which then will be submitted to the Province.

Director's Reports

RDCK Directors provide monthly reports outlining what they have been working on. [Click here](#) to read the December reports in the Board minutes.

RDCK Quarterly Report

For the latest RDCK Quarterly Report, which details the current projects and initiatives of the RDCK, please [follow the link](#).

Discretionary Grants

[AREA A](#)

South Kootenay Lake ArtConnect Society – Christmas Open House/Musical \$500

[AREA B](#)

Ktunaxa Kinbasket Child and Family Services Society – Community Christmas Celebration \$2,000
Kitchener Valley Recreation & Fire Protection Society – Chairs \$1,000

[AREA E](#)

Balfour & District Business & Historical Association – Wheelhouse Storage \$831.60

[AREA G](#)

Salmo Community Resource Society – Christmas Hampers \$500

[AREA I](#)

Castlegar Minor Hockey Association – U7/U9 Annual Tournament \$250

[AREA J](#)

Ootischenia Fire Department Social Club \$2,500
Castlegar Minor Hockey Association – U7/U9 Annual Tournament \$250

Community Development Grants

[AREA B](#)

Creston Valley Minor Hockey Association – 100 Years of Ice Sports Legacy Project \$5,000
Trails for Creston Valley Society – Kapapa Trail Enhancement Project \$2,500

AREA D

Argenta Community Association – Argenta Yuletide Market	\$500
Jewett PAC – Cross country ski upgrade	\$500
Regional District of Central Kootenay – Glacier Creek Kiosk Signage	\$5,800
Regional District of Central Kootenay – Lardeau Regional Park Development	\$3,000

AREA E

Regional District of Central Kootenay – S279 Recreation Commission #10	\$23,000
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AREA H

Krestova Doukhobor Community Society – Krestova Community Ice Rink	\$2,575
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AREA I

Tarrys Fire Department Social Club – Waterproof Fire Rescue Jackets	\$2,000
Tarrys Fire Rescue Auxiliary – Children’s Christmas Party	\$1,500

CRESTON

Town of Creston – Columbaria purchase	\$6,929
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SALMO

Village of Salmo – Public Washrooms, Lions Park	\$30,000
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SLOCAN

Village of Slocan – WE Graham Hamper	\$1,000
Village of Slocan – Halloween Hoot	\$1,000

Community Works Fund

AREA D

J.B. Fletcher Restoration Society – Building Sealing and Solar	\$25,000
Kaslo Baseball and Softball Association – Murray Pearson Memorial Field Reservations	\$20,000

AREA F

North Shore Hall Paving Project	\$100,000
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