



Regional District of Central Kootenay
COMMUNITY SUSTAINABLE LIVING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Open Meeting Agenda

Date: Tuesday, April 16, 2024
Time: 1:00 pm
Location: RDCK Board Room, 202 Lakeside Dr., Nelson, BC

Directors will have the opportunity to participate in the meeting electronically. Proceedings are open to the public.

Pages

1. WEBEX REMOTE MEETING INFO

To promote openness, transparency and provide accessibility to the public we provide the ability to attend all RDCK meetings in-person or remote (hybrid model).

Meeting Time:

Tuesday, April 16, 2024
1:00 PM PST

Join by Video:

<https://nelsonho.webex.com/nelsonho/j.php?MTID=mebe65e4b00846699a351053876b56faf>

Join by Phone:

+1-604-449-3026 Canada Toll (Vancouver)

Meeting Number (access code): 2771 515 9739

Meeting Password: PMr3rYqF2q4 (76737973 from phones)

In-Person Location:

RDCK Boardroom
202 Lakeside Drive
Nelson, BC

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Main called the meeting to order at _____ p.m.

3. TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We acknowledge and respect the Indigenous peoples within whose traditional lands we are meeting today.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION:

The Agenda for the April 16, 2024 Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

5. RECEIPT OF MINUTES

4 - 8

The February 13, 2024 Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee minutes, have been received.

6. STAFF REPORTS

6.1 FOR INFORMATION: UPDATE ON SUSTAINABILITY SERVICE PROJECTS & AREAS OF ACTIVITY

9 - 22

The Staff Update dated April 16, 2024 from Paris Marshall Smith, has been received.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1 FOR INFORMATION: WATERSHED GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE UPDATE

23 - 33

The Committee Report dated March 28, 2024 from Paris Marshall Smith, Sustainability Planner, has been received.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 FOR INFORMATION: CSLAC IDEAS ON RESTRUCTURING THE YEAR

34 - 38

The CSLAC 'Ideas on Restructuring the Year' presentation dated April 18, 2024 from Paris Marshall Smith, has been received.

8.2 FOR DISCUSSION: RESCHEDULE JUNE 2024 MEETING

Due to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Annual Conference on June 6-9, Chair Main has requested to change the June 11, 2024 CSLAC meeting to June 18, 2024.

9. PUBLIC TIME

The Chair will call for questions from the public and members of the media at ____ p.m.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for June __, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT

RECOMMENDATION:

The Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned at _____ p.m.



Regional District of Central Kootenay COMMUNITY SUSTAINABLE LIVING ADVISORY COMMITTEE Open Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.
RDCK Hybrid Meeting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair L. Main	Silverton	In-person
Director G. Jackman	Electoral Area A	In-person
Director R. Tierney	Electoral Area B	In-Person
Director K. Vandenberghe	Electoral Area C	
Director A. Watson	Electoral Area D	
Director C. Graham	Electoral Area E	
Director T. Newell	Electoral Area F	
Director H. Cunningham	Electoral Area G	In-person
Director W. Popoff	Electoral Area H	In-person
Director A. Davidoff	Electoral Area I	
Director H. Hanegraaf	Electoral Area J	In-person
Director T. Weatherhead	Electoral Area K	
Director S. Hewat	Village of Kaslo	

STAFF PRESENT

S. Sudan	General Manager of Development and Community Sustainability Services
D. Sequin	Manager of Community Sustainability
P. Marshall-Smith	Sustainability Planner
S. Kindred	Administrative Assistant, Development & Community Sustainability Services

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Tuesday, February 13, 2024

1:00 PM PST

Join by Video:

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Join by Phone:

+1-604-449-3026,,27711575315#94548977# Canada Toll (Vancouver)

Meeting Number (access code): 2771 157 5315

Meeting Password: XGkHuY7SK36

In-Person Location:

202 Lakeside Drive - Boardroom

Nelson, BC

2. CALL TO ORDER

General Manager Sudan called the meeting to order at 1:13 p.m.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIR

CALL FOR NOMINATION (3 times)

General Manager Sudan called for nominations the first time.

Director Popoff nominated Director Main.

Director Main consented to the nomination.

General Manager Sudan called for nominations the second and third time.

No further nominations.

Director Main was declared the Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee Chair for 2024 by acclamation.

4. CHAIR'S ADDRESS

Chair Main thanked the Committee for their confidence and appreciates the opportunity to serve as Chair of the Community Sustainable Living advisory Committee.

5. COMMENCEMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

RECESS/ The meeting recessed at 1:14 p.m. for a break and reconvened at 1:18 p.m.

RECONVENED

6. TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We acknowledge and respect the Indigenous peoples within whose traditional lands we are meeting today.

7. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

The Agenda for the February 13, 2024 Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried

8. RECEIPT OF MINUTES

The December 12, 2024 Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee minutes, have been received.

9. STAFF REPORTS

9.1 FOR INFORMATION: UPDATE ON SUSTAINABILITY SERVICE PROJECTS & AREAS OF ACTIVITY

The Staff Update dated February 13, 2024 from Paris Marshall Smith, was received.

DIRECTOR PRESENT Director Weatherhead joined the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 FOR REVIEW: CSLAC 2024 ACTIONS AND WORKPLAN

The CSLAC Actions and Workplan presented by Paris Marshall Smith, Sustainability Planner, was received.

10.2 FOR REVIEW: CSLAC FINANCIAL STATEMENT UPDATE AND REVIEW

The CSLAC 2024 Financial Statement reviewed by Manager Sudan was received.

Staff has requested an amendment to the following recommendation, passed at the December 12, 2023 CSLAC Meeting.

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved that it be recommended to the Board:

That the foregoing motion being:

That the Board direct staff to include placeholders in the annual grant allocation of \$25,000 in Community Sustainable Living Service S105, in the draft 2024 budget for the following projects:

- *Columbia Basin Groundwater Monitoring Program - Living Lakes: \$8,333*
- *Kootenay Lake Watershed Monitoring Program (KLWMP) - Friends of Kootenay Lake: \$8,333*
- *Regenerative Educational Community Food Garden - Elk Root Conservation: \$8,333*

be amended to read:

That the Board direct staff to include the annual grant allocation of \$20,000 in Community Sustainable Living Service S105, in the 2024 budget for the following projects:

- *Columbia Basin Groundwater Monitoring Program - Living Lakes: \$10,000*
- *Regenerative Educational Community Food Garden - Elk Root Conservation: \$10,000*

Carried

Moved and seconded,
MOTION ONLY

That the Board approve the 2024 Budget from Community Living Advisory Service S105.

Moved and seconded,
AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION ONLY

That the foregoing motion being:

That the Board approve the 2024 Budget from Community Living Advisory Service S105:

Be amended to replace “approve the 2024 Budget from” with “include the proposed” and with the addition of the words “in the draft 2024 Financial Plan” after the word “S105 budget”, thus reading:

*That the Board **include the proposed** Community Living Advisory Service S105 budget in the draft 2024 Financial Plan.*

Carried

Moved and seconded,

And resolved:

MAIN MOTION

That the Board include the proposed Community Living Advisory Service S105 budget in the draft 2024 Financial Plan.

Carried

11. PUBLIC TIME

The Chair will call for questions from the public and members of the media at 2:57 p.m.

12. NEXT MEETING

The next Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Moved and seconded,

And Resolved:

The Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

Carried

Leah Main, Chair



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY

CSLAC Staff Update

Date: 2024/04/16

To: Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee

From: Paris Marshall Smith, Sustainability Planner

Subject: UPDATE ON SUSTAINABILITY SERVICE PROJECTS & AREAS OF ACTIVITY

File: 01-0515-20-CSLAC

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update to the Community Sustainability Living Advisory Committee (CSLAC) of the current activity of the Sustainability Planner within S105. Updates on S100 initiatives such as RDCK Climate Actions, Regional Energy Efficiency Program (REEP) and 100% Renewable Energy by 2050 will go directly to the Board.

- Year 1 (2017) focus – responding to projects underway and initiating new activity to support Board priorities on Coordinated Delivery; Water – protection & advocacy; Housing; and Food & Agriculture. Energy & Climate Change are also Board priorities as per the climate action charter;
- Year 2 (2018) focus – integrating initiatives internally and externally through coordinated communication, marketing, policy development and by-law review.
- Year 3 (2019) focus – Watershed Governance Initiative, Senior Energy Specialist, Regional Energy Efficiency Program (REEP),
- Year 4 (2020) focus – Watershed Governance Initiative, Timber Deadstock Bioenergy, Regional Energy Efficiency Program (REEP) and Climate Action Strategy
- Year 5 (2021) focus – Watershed Governance Initiative, Climate Action Strategy and Regional Bioenergy Opportunities
- Year 6 (2022) focus - Watershed Governance Initiative, Climate Action Strategy & project management of Slocan Lake and River Partnership (SLRP), Invasive Species Plan Implementation & Geothermal GIS projects
- Year 7 (2023) focus: Watershed Governance Initiative, Slocan Lake and River Partnership (SLRP) and Grid Resilience Investigation.
- Year 8 (2024) focus: Climate Action Plan, Watershed Governance Initiative and Slocan Lake and River Partnership (SLRP)

SUMMARY OF SUSTAINABILITY PLANNER'S *February to April* WORK TIME DISTRIBUTION

AREA OF WORK	CURRENT %	COMMITMENT
Community Sustainability Service (105) initiatives		
Central Kootenay Food Policy Council	2%	Reviewed CAP revised actions, providing support for presentation to Board in May.
Watershed Governance Initiative	10%	Update attached as a report
Slocan Lake and River Partnership	5%	Agreement to create a distinct partnership and working group.
Rural Grid Resilience Investigation	0%	No updates at this time – report expected for June CSLAC meeting
Regional Active Transportation Strategy	5%	Staff are planning a gathering on May 13 to continue to investigate the Board direction to develop a proposal for a regional active transportation strategy
Admin	5%	The admin rhythm revolves around the bi-monthly CSLAC meeting and includes project evaluations & funding applications
General admin (S100) initiatives		
Climate Action Strategy	65%	Staff have provided a recommendation to the Board for a revised RDCK Climate Actions.
Regional Invasive Species Plan	1%	Request for 2 nd year funding moved to May, Working Group met again.
Admin	7%	Reporting as needed to the Board
TOTAL	100%	

Color legend for areas of work
Food & agriculture
Water advocacy & protection
Energy & Transportation
Climate Action

CURRENT CSLAC COMMITMENTS FOR YEAR 8 (2024)

CSLAC AREA OF FOCUS	PROJECT	STATUS	TIMELINE	CSLAC STAFF TIME
Food and Agriculture	Central Kootenay Food Policy Council	Active and confirmed	On-going	5%
Water	Watershed Governance Initiative – Phase 3	Active and Confirmed	On-going	25%
	Slocan Lake and River Collaborative	Active and Confirmed	On-going	
Energy	Rural Grid Resilience Investigation	Active and confirmed	Summer 2024	5%
Climate Action	Climate Action Strategy	Active and confirmed	On-going	60%
	Implementation of Regional Invasive Species Strategy	Active and confirmed	Spring 2024	
CSLAC	Administration	Active and confirmed	On-going	5%

2024 staff time commitment 100%

Available CSLAC funding for 2024 Funding committed for 2024

DASHBOARD OF CSLAC ACTIVITIES – Board resolutions follow

Program	Responsible	Update of Activity	Staff time & funding	Current allocation of resources by SP	Activity to next meeting	Activity for 2024
CENTRAL KOOTENAY FOOD POLICY COUNCIL	Executive Director with support from SP	Working with ED on presenting to the Board in May	\$15,000 from S100 + staff time	Normally minimal: 1-2 hours per month to attend meetings and follow email conversations.	Support presentation preparation	Continue to participate in Council

Project	Responsible	Update of Activity	Staff time & funding	Current allocation of resources by SP	Activity to next meeting	Activity for 2024
WATERSHED GOVERNANCE PROJECT PLANNING	SP & Water Service Liaison	Provided an update to CSLAC in April, preparing a letter to the Province to indicate interest in proceeding with water sustainability planning and objective development in Creston Valley	Expenses from CARIP + staff time + \$25,000 for Duck Creek	SP (0.3 FTE), GMDS (0.05 FTE), CSM (0.1 FTE) and Water Services Liaison (0.1 FTE) to support the project	Review Services Case Analysis, prepare report on Natural Asset Management in Ymir Watershed	Project plan will be brought to CSLAC for review in June
SLOCAN LAKE AND RIVER PARTNERSHIP	SP & GMDS	Development of Terms of Reference for the Partnership underway	\$5,000 from CSLAC project fund	SP – 3-4 hours per month	Meet with Steering Committee to review ToR	Develop structure for SLRP

Project	Responsible	Update of Activity	Staff time & funding	Current allocation of resources by SP	Activity to next meeting	Activity for 2024
CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY	SP	Recommendation on Board agenda for revised RDCK Climate Actions	Funding from S100 LGCAP and other grants & staff time	60-70 % of staff time for first part 2024	TBD by Board	TDB by Board

Project	Responsible	Update of Activity	Staff time & funding	Current allocation of resources by SP	Activity to next meeting	Activity for 2024
REGIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES PLAN	SP	Regional Working Group met twice. Board report moved to May for review.	Staff time + tbd determined for 2024	Minimal	Responding to a question that was asked at March Board, will be brought back in May	

Project	Responsible	Update of Activity	Staff time & funding	Current allocation of resources by SP	Activity to next meeting	Activity for 2024
GRID RESILIENCE	SP	pilot underway by LINKS in Lardeau Valley for CSLAC consideration	Staff time	Minimal	Minimal, reporting on project in June 2024	Reporting on outcomes & funding application for ongoing pilots

Project	Responsible	Update of Activity	Staff time & funding	Current allocation of resources by SP	Activity to next meeting	Activity for 2024
WEBSITE UPDATE & PRINT MATERIAL	SP & Communications Coordinator	Website continues to be updated and prepared for transition to new website	Staff time	On-going	On-going monitoring and updating	Ensure that website supports internal and external communication effectively
ADMIN	SP	Project management, relationship building, meetings, communication, reporting	Staff time	4-5 hours per week	On-going	

BOARD RESOLUTIONS THAT GUIDE CSLAC’S WORK

FOOD & AGRICULTURE	
CENTRAL KOOTENAY FOOD POLICY COUNCIL	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 718/17 That the Board direct staff to include a \$10,000 per year funding for the Central Kootenay Food Policy Council within the 2018-2022 draft financial plan for Service S105. 2. 741/18 That the Board grant the balance of \$22,083.62.00 to the Central Kootenay Food Policy Council (CKFPC) contingent on all grant reporting and society action reporting deliverables be presented and approved by the Board; AND FURTHER, that staff obtain documentation form CKFPC that indicates they are in compliance with the British Columbia Societies Act. 3. 757/18 That the Board appoint the following Directors to the Central Kootenay Food Policy Council for a term to end December 31, 2020 Director Faust and the second appointment BE REFERRED to December 13, 2018 Board meeting. 4. 03/19 That the Board appoint the following Director to the Central Kootenay Food Policy Council for a term to end December 31, 2020 as per resolution 757/18: Director Peterson Director Main (Alternate) 5. 48/19 That the Board agrees that the Central Kootenay Food Policy Council has satisfied the Board’s requirements and has demonstrated that it is in compliance with funders and the BC Societies Act; AS SUCH, the RDCK Board grants the balance of the \$29,347.87 to the Central Kootenay Food Policy Council from Community Sustainability Service S105. 6. 284/20 That the Board approve the \$25,000 in the 2020 Financial Plan from Community Sustainable Living Service S105 be held for a Food Security Coordinator position within the Emergency Operations Centre as leveraging funds. 7. 285/20 That the Board direct staff to report on options to establish a Food Security Coordinator position to be fully funded through Community Sustainable Living Service S105 with a budget up to \$25,000. 8. 377/20 That the Board send a letter of support for the Columbia Basin Food Security Plan; AND FURTHER, that the Board allocate funds to the first phase of the "Central Kootenay Interim Food Security Action Plan" from Community Sustainability Service S105 in the amount of \$22,145.00 to the Central Kootenay Food Policy Council. 9. 115/21 That the Board approve the Central Kootenay Food Policy Council’s request for increase in core funding for a total amount of \$15,000 to be included in the 2021 Financial Plan from the Service 105 Community Sustainable Advisory. 10. 286/21 That the Board and staff review the draft Central Kootenay Interim Food Security Action Plan and provide their recommendations by May 11, 2021. 11. 288/21 That Board direct staff to complete an internal assessment, prior to requesting a Service Case Analysis, to understand if a Contribution Service for food and agriculture is possible.

	<p>12. 855/21 That the Board direct staff to work with Central Kootenay Food Policy Council to proceed with the proposed actions of the Regional Food Security Action Plan: (See minutes for full resolution)</p>
<p>WATER</p>	
<p>WATERSHED GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 416/16 That the RDCK write a letter to the POLIS Project on Ecological Governance and invite the organization to the West Kootenay to hold a watershed workshop. 2. 592/16 That the RDCK invite The POLIS Project on Ecological Governance to attend the January 2017 Board meeting to give a presentation on watersheds and water sustainability. 3. 88/18 That the Board direct staff to invite the Polis Project to host a workshop with the RDCK staff and Directors on watershed governance; AND FURTHER expenses and stipend be paid by General Administration S100. 4. 256/18 The Watershed Governance workshop with the POLIS Project be booked for May 18th, 2018 and the Watershed Governance Workshop Discussion report be made available to all Board Directors. 5. 487/18 That the Board direct staff to develop a Regional Watershed Governance Initiative project plan, and identify an allocation for General Manager of Development Service and Sustainability Coordinator's time to implement the project plan for consideration in the draft 2019 five year financial plan within General Administration Service (\$100). 6. 892/18 That the RDCK Board directs staff to seek funding to launch and coordinate a scoping study to better understand the potential watershed governance roles and responsibilities of the RDCK; with areas for the study to be determine by the Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee at the January committee meeting; And Further, the Board allocates staff time of the Sustainability Planner (0.3 FTE), General Manager of Development Services (0.1 FTE) and Water Services Liaison (0.1 FTE) to support the procurement process for services. 7. 13/19 That the Board direct staff to develop a Regional Watershed Governance Initiative project plan, and identify an allocation for General Manager of Development Service and Sustainability Coordinator's time to implement the project plan for consideration in the draft 2019 five year financial plan within General Administration Service (\$100). 8. 121/19 That the RDCK Board approve funds in the amount of \$26,250 from S105 Community Sustainable Living Advisory Service for the Watershed Governance Initiative scoping study, to complement the work being done in Area H and I's ground water studies, for the following watersheds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bourke, Sitkum & Duhamel Community Watershed (Area F); • Arrow Creek Community Watershed (Area B); • Ymir Community Watershed (Area G); • Argenta Watershed (Area D); • Harrop (Area E); • and Deer Creek (Area J) 9. 409/10 That the RDCK Board award the Regional Watershed Governance Initiative Scoping Study to Christina Metherall and Elucidate Consulting, and that the Chair and Corporate Officer be authorized to sign the necessary documents to a maximum value of \$26,880 (includes GST).

	<p>10. 282/20 That the Board direct staff to prepare a workplan to determine the organizational capacity of the Community Sustainability Services and Water Services staff to pursue the recommendations of the RDCK Regional Watershed Governance Initiative report dated January 2020.</p> <p>11. 389/20 That the Board endorse the Watershed Governance Initiative Project Plan (May 2020) and direct staff to pursue the Project Plan as a collaboration between Community Sustainability and Water Services staff.</p> <p>12. 610/20 The Board direct staff to bring forward a project plan with budget that will seek to collate and map existing watershed information held by the RDCK and other sources at a regional scale to inform our next steps and as a support to communities and conducting a gap analysis; AND FURTHER bring this back to the Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee to inform the RDCK’s next steps on watershed governance.</p> <p>13. 828/20 That the Board approve transfer of funds to Community Sustainability Service S105 for a student position to support the Watershed Governance Initiative Data Collation and Mapping project in the amount of \$14,500 from the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) Service S100 and include in the 2021 Financial Plan; That the Board approve transfer of \$9,000 in funds for the Watershed Governance Initiative Data Collation and Mapping project from Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) Service S100 to Community Sustainability Service S105.</p> <p>14. 112/21 That the Board send a letter of support to Living Lakes Canada for the Columbia Basin Water Monitoring Collaborative and Water Hub.</p> <p>15. 113/21 That the Board direct staff to report back to Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee on how the workplan for the Watershed Governance Initiative is modified and budgeted based on a collaboration with Living Lakes Canada.</p> <p>16. 584/21 That the Board approve the recommended next steps of Phase 3 of the Watershed Governance Initiative (WGI) with a focus on relationship building and planning, mapping and monitoring as outlined below and presented to the Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee August 17, 2021:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supporting continued relationship building with Yaqan Nukiy and Ktunaxa Nation Council, Syilx Okanagan Nation Alliance, Secwepemc and Sinixt 2. Provide technical support for community led watershed mapping and communication tools such as story mapping 3. Supporting management of RDCK water systems - pilot natural asset management 4. Supporting regional monitoring – investigate how the RDCK could support local level monitoring 5. Supporting community led mapping – investigate Nature Based Planning <p>17. 585/21 That the RDCK Board direct staff to develop a work plan for continued work on the Watershed Governance Initiative (WGI) including seeking external partners; AND FURTHER, to prepare for discussion on how Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee (CSLAC) can encompass the entire Board.</p> <p>18. 658/21 That the Board direct the Chair of the Board and Chair of Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee to reach out to MLA Brittny Anderson to discuss opportunities for engagement around the Regional Watershed Governance Initiative as it moves into Phase 3 focused on relationship building, monitoring and mapping.</p> <p>19. 852/21 That the Board direct staff, Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee Chair and Board Chair to work with MLA Anderson to develop a relationship with Forest Lands Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development and host community forums focused on watershed governance and stewardship in 2022.</p> <p>20. 853/21 That Resolution 847/20, being the transfer of \$9,000 in funds for the Watershed Governance Initiative Data Collation and Mapping project from Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) Service S100 to Community Sustainability Service S105 and include in the 2021 Financial Plan BE RESCINDED because funds were not needed as anticipated.</p>
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	<p>21. 86/22 That the RDCK Board approve funding up to \$25,000 for the 2022 Watershed Governance Initiative budget from S105 Community Sustainable Living Service and include this in the 2022 Financial Plan; AND FURTHER, the Board allocates staff time of the Sustainability Planner and Water Services Liaison to support the 2022 Watershed Governance Initiative.</p> <p>22. 128/22 That the Board direct staff to submit a response on behalf of the RDCK to the Province on the Watershed Security Strategy and Fund; AND FURTHER, invite Board members and staff to comment on the draft responses by Monday, February 28, 2022.</p> <p>23. 258/22 That the RDCK Board direct staff to send a request to Yaqaan Nukiy Chief and Council for their participation on developing a Water Sustainability Plan for the Creston Valley; AND FURTHER, request that the Province order a Water Sustainability Plan be developed in the Creston Valley in partnership with RDCK and Yaqaan Nukiy SUBJECT TO agreement from Yaqaan Nukiy.</p> <p>24. 433/22 That the Board direct staff to prepare a service case analysis and report back to the Board on the implications of establishing the requisition of a Drinking Water & Watershed Protection Service bylaw for protection of watersheds and drinking water in the Regional District of Central Kootenay to be added to the workplan in 2023.</p> <p>25. 515/22 That the Board direct staff to work with the Wynndel community residents to create a story map, request an investigation under the Drinking Water Protection Act (Section 29) and request that the Ministry of Forests confirm the VRI (vegetation regeneration index) for the Duck Creek Watershed; AND FURTHER, that the Community Sustainable Living Service (S105) contribute up to a total of \$25,000 of funds over 2022 and 2023 budget years to conduct a cumulative impact study of proposed logging in the Duck Creek Watershed.</p> <p>26. 224/23 The Board is asked to provide comments related to watershed ecosystem services and health; climate resiliency; watershed governance and the help needed; economic opportunities within watersheds; reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples as it relates to water; and, advancing the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>27. 304/23 That the Board approve the RDCK enter into a Collaborative Research Agreement with Selkirk College to provide research support for a service case analysis on a Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Service Case Analysis for the period of May 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023; AND FURTHER, that the Agreement be signed by the Chair and Corporate Officer.</p> <p>28. 305/23 That the Board direct staff to conduct Step 1 of Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee project evaluation of completing a Natural Asset Management Plan for Ymir Water System - Quartz Creek Watershed.</p> <p>29. 377/23 That the Board direct staff to complete Step 2 of Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee project evaluation to create a natural asset management plan for the Quartz Creek Watershed prepare a workplan and budget.</p> <p>30. 304/23 That the Board approve the RDCK enter into a Collaborative Research Agreement with Selkirk College to provide research support for a service case analysis on a Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Service Case Analysis for the period of May 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023; AND FURTHER, that the Agreement be signed by the Chair and Corporate Officer.</p> <p>31. 305/23 That the Board direct staff to conduct Step 1 of Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee project evaluation of completing a Natural Asset Management</p>
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	<p>Plan for Ymir Water System - Quartz Creek Watershed.</p> <p>32. 377/23 That the Board direct staff to complete Step 2 of Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee project evaluation to create a natural asset management plan for the Quartz Creek Watershed prepare a workplan and budget.</p>												
<p>KOOTENAY LAKE PARTNERSHIP</p>	<p>1. 91/18 That the RDCK Board approve funding of \$10,000 under S105 Community Sustainable Living Service to support the contracted service of the Kootenay Lake Partnership Coordinator position within the 2018 budget.</p> <p>2. 414/19 That the RDCK Board extends its support for Living Lakes Canada's Foreshore Inventory and Mapping for Aquatic Species at Risk proposal to the Canada Nature Fund with in-kind contributions of mapping data and staff hours for a total contribution of \$175,000.00 over the four (4) year term of the project, which is:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="572 565 1177 894"> <thead> <tr> <th>PROJECT</th> <th>IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Regional Flood and Hazard Risk Assessment</td> <td>Completed in 2018 \$40,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LIDAR Acquisition and Processing</td> <td>Completed in 2018 \$40,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Floodplain Mapping Kootenay Lake</td> <td>In Process \$60,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inundation Study</td> <td>In Process \$10,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning staff time for review and outreach</td> <td>Pending \$25,000.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>3. 390/20 That the Board direct staff to transfer the remaining grant funding from the Real Estate Foundation (REF) in Community Sustainability Service S105, administered by RDCK on behalf of the Kootenay Lake Partnership, to Living Lakes Canada to support the Program Coordinator Position upon receiving confirmation from REF to do the transfer; AND FURTHER, that final report comes back to RDCK for information</p> <p>4. That the Board approve an allocation of \$10,000 annually from 2022-2024 to fund the Kootenay Lake Partnership Coordinator from the Community Sustainable Living Service S105 and this amount be added to the 2022-2026 Financial Plan; AND FURTHER, the Board approve that amount be paid to the Ktunaxa Nation Land and Resource Division annually, to support the Kootenay Lake Partnership through contract administration of the Coordinator position SUBJECT TO a contribution agreement with the Ktunaxa Nation Council being prepared and brought back to the Board.</p>	PROJECT	IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS	Regional Flood and Hazard Risk Assessment	Completed in 2018 \$40,000.00	LIDAR Acquisition and Processing	Completed in 2018 \$40,000.00	Floodplain Mapping Kootenay Lake	In Process \$60,000.00	Inundation Study	In Process \$10,000.00	Planning staff time for review and outreach	Pending \$25,000.00
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Planning staff time for review and outreach	Pending \$25,000.00												
<p>ENERGY</p>													
<p>REGIONAL BIOENERGY & FULL FIBER UTILIZATION PLANNING</p>	<p>1. 119/19 That the Board direct staff to explore partnerships possibilities with Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Regional District East Kootenay and Regional District Kootenay Boundary on the Timber Deadstock Biofuel scoping study; AND FURTHER, that staff explore funding opportunities for the study</p> <p>2. 232/19 That the Board approve the RDCK entering into a Contribution Agreement with Columbia Basin Trust to support the research and development of a business plan for timber deadstock biofuel in the Regional District of Central Kootenay, and that the Chair and Corporate Officer be authorized to sign the necessary documents;</p>												

	<p>AND FURTHER, the required matching funds of up to \$25,000 come from Service S105 - Community Sustainable Living Advisory; AND FURTHER, that the grant funds be received and administered through S105.</p> <p>3. 500/20 That the Board direct staff to further develop the business case potential of the Wood Pellet Boiler Network, District Energy in Castlegar and Village District Energy Systems as part of the Timber Deadstock Bioenergy Feasibility Study in coordination with municipal staff.</p> <p>4. 845/20 That the Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee Chair, RDCK Board Chair and senior staff approach the new Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development to ask what emerging direction may be coming which would assist the RDCK in further investigating bioenergy projects which would align with provincial objectives of maximizing fiber utilization and reducing forest fuel loading; AND FURTHER to make a similar outreach to Forest Enhancement Society BC.</p> <p>5. 285/21 That the Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee take no further action at this time on the following recommendation: 845/20 That the Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee Chair, RDCK Board Chair and senior staff approach the new Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development to ask what emerging direction may be coming which would assist the RDCK in further investigating bioenergy projects which would align with provincial objectives of maximizing fiber utilization and reducing forest fuel loading; AND FURTHER to make a similar outreach to Forest Enhancement Society BC.</p>
COMMUNITY GEOTHERMAL - GIS PROJECT	<p>1. 451/21 That the Board approve funding \$10,000 for the South Kootenay Lake Community Services Society's Community Geothermal - GIS Project Set-up and Data Integration from S105 Community Sustainable Living Service and include this in the 2021 Financial Plan.</p>
RURAL GRID RESILIENCE INVESTIGATION	<p>1. 516/22 That the Board direct staff to work with Community Energy Association to understand the potential and limitations of energy storage, micro generation or bi-directional charging and prepare a workplan and budget for 2-3 community pilots in 2023, with the report to come back to the Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee for review.</p> <p>2. 303/23 That the Board approve \$6,500 in funding to support a Lardeau Valley Opportunity LINKS Society pilot of residential power back up/renewable home assessment & rebates, to be paid from the Community Sustainable Living Service (S105).</p>
CLIMATE ACTION	
CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY	<p>1. 124/19 That the Board direct staff to prepare a resolution that responds to ramping up RDCK's climate action in response to the climate emergency by April, 2019.</p> <p>2. 272/19 - WHEREAS Climate change is recognized to be an urgent reality requiring rapid decarbonisation of energy across all sectors; Climate change is recognized to be an urgent reality where risks are compounded by increased climate change weather related events (more precipitation in the winter, dryer hotter summers) and increased levels of uncertainty. Preparing for increased resilience and adaptability is critical; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the Regional District of Central Kootenay Board recognizes that the world is in a global state of climate crisis. This reality creates an imperative for ALL ORDERS OF GOVERNMENT to undertake "rapid and far reaching" changes to building construction, energy systems, land use and transportation.</p> <p>1. 701/19 That the Board direct staff to update the RDCK Policy Framework to incorporate a climate action lens; AND that, the 3-phased Climate Action Lens Policy strategy will seek input from the Senior Management Team to ensure smooth integration with operations and will bring recommendations to the Board for approval.</p> <p>2. 861/19 That the Board direct staff to distribute the 2019 RDCK State of Climate Action full report and summary handout to the public.</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. 848/20 That the Board approve transfer of funds to Community Sustainability Service S105 for a student position to support climate action work in the amount of \$14,500 from the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) Service S100 and include in the 2021 Financial Plan; AND FURTHER, to offset the costs of the student position, the Board direct staff to apply to the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) for \$12,000. 4. 604/21 That the RDCK Board endorse updating the RDCK State of Climate Action (SoCA) reporting framework to include a combination of reporting efforts such as – a dashboard, an annual scorecard, and reports (less frequent than current annual reports) with expenses to be paid from General Administration Service S100. 5. 44/22 That the Board adopt Policy 200-01-17 Better Corporate Building Policy and accompanying Procedures effective January 20, 2022 6. That the RDCK Board adopt science based carbon pollution (greenhouse gas emissions) reduction targets of 50% below 2018 levels by 2030, and 100% by 2050; AND FURTHER that the Board directs staff in 2022 to prepare 4-year climate action plans as a pathway to 2030 climate action targets and bring a report back to the Board. 7. 259/22 That the RDCK Board approve the budget of up to \$80,000 for the development of the 2023 -26 Climate Action Plan and associated four (4) year Communication and Engagement Strategy, and that these funds be drawn from the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) reserve in General Administration Service S100. 8. 514/22 That the Board appoint the following Directors to an advisory group to support the completion of the Regional District of Central Kootenay Climate Action Plan – Aimee Watson, Garry Jackman, Janice Morrison, Suzan Hewat 9. 268/23 That the Board refer adoption of RDCK Climate Actions to the August 17, 2023 Board meeting to allow for continued engagement through to July 26; AND FURTHER, that Staff are directed to conduct public in-person meetings at the request of Directors (all requests be submitted no later than Friday May 5). 10. 391/23 That the Board approve up to the amount of \$121,700 to support communication and engagement related to RDCK Climate Actions from the Local Government Climate Action Program funding in Service 100 – General Administration; AND FURTHER, that the Board utilize the Community Sustainable Living Committee, as an advisory committee, to inform communication and engagement related to building the RDCK Climate Plan. 11. 89/24 That the Board direct staff to solicit additional individual feedback from RDCK Board Directors via survey; AND FURTHER, that staff use engagement feedback to identify different possible Climate Action Plan versions; AND FURTHER, that staff provide these versions to the Board for direction on which to develop. 12. 90/24 That the Board approve stipend and expenses for the Climate Action Plan workshop to be paid from General Administration Service S100.
<p>RURAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (RDI) – CLIMATE ADAPTATION PROJECT</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 233/19 That the Board partner with the Rural Development Institute’s Regional Approach to Rural Climate Adaptation Project Partnership and direct staff to finalize the agreement; AND FURTHER, allocate \$12,500 of in-kind staff time from Service S105 for 2019-2020 (2 years) to support the Partnership. 2. 595/19 That the Board approve the RDCK entering into a Collaborative Research agreement with Selkirk College for the Regional Approach to Rural Climate Adaptation Project Partnership for the period from May 1, 2019 to March 1, 2021, and that the Chair and Corporate Officer be authorized to sign the necessary documents.
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 257/18 That the Board commit to the development of strategies and implementation of projects to achieve the long-term goal of deriving 100% of its net energy from renewable sources by 2050, and commit to demonstrate strong political leadership and significantly contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gases in the region.

<p>100% RENEWABLE ENERGY BY 2050</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. 222/19 That the Board appoint the following individual(s) to work with the West Kootenay EcoSociety towards the 100% Renewable Energy by 2050 from the Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee; AND FURTHER, stipend and expenses to come from S105: Director Faust & Lockwood 3. 412/19 That the Board Chair and Corporate Officer sign the Memorandum of Understanding with West Kootenay 100% Renewable Energy Plan. 4. 139/21 That the Board receive the West Kootenay 100% Renewable Energy Plan dated December 2020 as presented in the January 6, 2021 West Kootenay 100% Renewable Energy Plan Board Report; AND FURTHER, that the adoption of the plan be considered after the workshop has taken place.
<p>REGIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES PLAN</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 483/21 That the Board direct Development and Community Sustainability Services staff to coordinate with staff from Geographic Information Services, Resource Recovery, Water Services, Recreation Facilities and Parks to create a proposal for an implementation plan of the draft Regional Invasive Species Strategy. 2. 50/22 That the Board direct staff to negotiate and enter into a sole-source agreement with the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society for an invasive plant inventory on RDCK-owned or leased properties and development of a detailed implementation plan of the Regional Invasive Species Strategy for an amount not to exceed \$44,472 exclusive of GST; AND FURTHER, that the costs for the inventory be paid from the services responsible for the lands and buildings sites identified and the costs of \$8,500 for the Regional Invasive Species Implementation Plan be paid from General Administration Service S100. 3. 780/22 That the Board direct staff to enter into a sole-source agreement with the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society for invasive plant management on RDCK-owned-leased properties, as outlined in the 2022 RDCK Invasive Plant Management Plan up to a maximum amount of \$48,230 plus GST; AND FURTHER, that the costs for the invasive plant management be added to the 2023-2027 Financial Plan for the departments responsible for the lands and building sites identified. 4. 172/23 That the Board direct staff to enter into a Contribution Agreement with Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society for the implementation of PROGRAM Option 1 of the Regional Invasive Species Strategy for a total not to exceed \$15,000 + GST. 5. 646/23 That the Board appoint the following two (2) Directors to the Regional Invasive Species Working Group for a term to end September 2024 – Kelly Vandenberghe and Suzan Hewat.
<p>REGIONAL ACTIVE & LOW CARBON TRANSPORTATION STRATEGY</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Board direct staff to prepare a detailed project budget to investigate regional active transportation solutions as outlined in the report from Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee (CSLAC) staff dated September 10, 2022 and report back to CSLAC for approval.
<p>COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS – partnership with Youth Climate Corps/Wildsight</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 125/23 That the Board support the development and delivery of the Climate Action Ambassadors program in partnership with Youth Climate Corps-Wildsight; AND FURTHER, the Board provide a letter of support to partner with Youth Climate Corps through Wildsight for the application to the Rural Economic Diversification & Infrastructure Program (REDIP) contributing in-kind support (\$58,000) and cash contribution (\$40,000 previously approved in reso 259/22) to be funded from the Local Government Climate Action Plan for training in each of the departments and oversight of development and delivery of the program. 2. 651/23 That the Board provide a letter of support to the Rural Economic Diversification & Infrastructure Program (REDIP) for the Fire to Food Youth Climate Corps-Wildsight project with in-kind support up to \$19,200 for training in each of the departments and oversight of development and delivery of the program.
<p>CSLAC ADMINISTRATIVE & COMMUNICATION SUPPORT</p>	
<p>WEBSITE UPDATE & PRINT</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 601/18 That the Board direct staff to highlight the work of the Sustainability Service (105) through the RDCK website and announce with a media release.

MATERIAL	2. 578/19 That the Board directs staff to procure services from Little H Design Works for \$2,500 for the work of designing the summary report for the RDCK's Climate Action Indicator Project with funds to come from Service 105; AND FURTHER, staff be directed to seek quotes to produce a graphic illustration of this report for distribution on line.
ADMIN	<p>1. 382/18 That the RDCK Board support the allocation of S105 funds 'Grants' leveraging and linking additional funds from external agencies for sustainability initiatives, as described in the Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.</p> <p>2. 123/19 That the Board approve the 2019 Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee draft budget; AND FURTHER, that the directors stipend and expenses be reduced to \$5,000 for the years 2020-23 inclusive.</p>



CSLAC Committee Report

Date of Report: March 28, 2024
Date & Type of Meeting: April 18, 2024, Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee
Author: Paris Marshall Smith, Sustainability Planner
Subject: WATERSHED GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE - UPDATE
File: 10-5200-20-WGI
Electoral Area/Municipality: RDCK

SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on WGI's Phase 3 and outline actions for 2024. It is for information only.

As background, staff report from April 2022 on *Watershed Security Strategy and Fund Response and Request for a Water Sustainability Plan* is provided in ATTACH01.

SECTION 2: BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

THE FOLLOWING PROVIDES INFORMATION AND THE ON-GOING ACTION ITEMS FOR PHASE 3 including an update from 2023 and plans for 2024.

At this time, all 2024 project costs are approved and included in current budgets. Supporting resolutions:

584/21 That the Board approve the recommended next steps of Phase 3 of the Watershed Governance Initiative (WGI) with a focus on relationship building and planning, mapping and monitoring as outlined below and presented to the Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee August 17, 2021:

1. Supporting continued relationship building with Yaqan Nukiy and Ktunaxa Nation Council, Syilx Okanagan Nation Alliance, Secwepemc and Sinixt
2. Provide technical support for community led watershed mapping and communication tools such as story mapping
3. Supporting management of RDCK water systems - pilot natural asset management
4. Supporting regional monitoring – investigate how the RDCK could support local level monitoring
5. Supporting community led mapping – investigate Nature Based Planning

86/22 That the RDCK Board approve funding up to \$25,000 for the 2022 Watershed Governance Initiative budget from S105 Community Sustainable Living Service and include this in the 2022 Financial Plan; AND FURTHER, the Board allocates staff time of the Sustainability Planner and Water Services Liaison to support the 2022 Watershed Governance Initiative.

1. SUPPORTING CONTINUED RELATIONSHIP & EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

- a. **First Nations** – Staff report the following progress on the Board direction (258/22) *to send a request to Yaqaan Nukiy Chief and Council for their participation on developing a Water Sustainability Plan for the Creston Valley; AND FURTHER, request that the Province order a Water Sustainability Plan be developed in the Creston Valley in partnership with RDCK and Yaqaan Nukiy SUBJECT TO agreement from Yaqaan Nukiy*

As background, staff report from April 2022 on *Watershed Security Strategy and Fund Response and Request for a Water Sustainability Plan* is provided at ATTACH01.

- June 2023 – Staff and Directors Aimee Watson and Garry Jackman met with Yaqaan Nukiy Nasookin, Council and senior staff to discuss a partnership. There was interest to work together and the RDCK was asked to wait while Yaqaan Nukiy organized on their end.
- March 2024 – Yaqaan Nukiy have responded to the RDCK to say they are now ready to proceed with preparing Water Objectives and a Water Sustainability Plan for the Valley.

Actions for 2024 –

- Notify the Province of the RDCK’s interest to co-develop:
 - Section 43 [Water Objectives](#) – provides options for single issues that can be anticipated – like management of agricultural water demands on the Goat or forestry practices in specific watersheds. Can also provide a foundation for building relationships and working towards a Water Sustainability Plan.
 - Section 64 [Water Sustainability Plan](#) for Yaqaan Nukiy ?amak?is – Creston Valley – provides a way to plan for habitat protection, drought, floods, usage at a community level. This does not require that Yaqaan Nukiy take the lead. The Province will recognize RDCK as the lead with Yaqaan Nukiy’s support.
- Work with Yaqaan Nukiy to define the project terms and scope
- Develop a project plan for CSLAC’s review

- b. **Province** – There are on-going efforts to promote the Watershed Governance Initiative and determine areas of partnership.

Actions for 2024 –

- As outlined above, staff will prepare a letter to be signed by Board Chair expressing an interest to work with the Province on developing Water Objectives and a Water Sustainability Plan for Creston Valley

- c. **Community** – staff continue to engage and connect with community

- Prepare a Natural Asset Management Plan for Ymir Watershed/Quartz Creek

Actions for 2024 –

- Staff will continue to work with the residents, stewardship groups and water purveyors on watershed protection and planning.

2. PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY LED WATERSHED MAPPING AND COMMUNICATION TOOLS

- a. Story Mapping - The WGI GIS Assistant contract was not renewed given the low level of work that was happening and instead, staff have negotiated to do the work internally via GIS services.

That the RDCK Board direct (717/22) staff to include funding up to \$45,000 in the 2023 draft Financial Plan, from Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP) Reserve Fund held in General Administration Service S100, for the 2023 Watershed Governance Initiative GIS Assistant.

For 2024 – staff will work with Yaqan Nukiy and any other interested stewards to prepare additional story maps

- b. Cumulative Impact Study –

For 2023 – continued to work with Wynndel residents to create a story map, request an investigation under the Drinking Water Protection Act (Section 29) and request that the Ministry of Forests confirm the VRI (vegetation resource inventory) for the Duck Creek Watershed

That the Board direct (515/22) staff to work with the Wynndel community residents to create a story map, request an investigation under the Drinking Water Protection Act (Section 29) and request that the Ministry of Forests confirm the VRI (vegetation regeneration index) for the Duck Creek Watershed; AND FURTHER, that the Community Sustainable Living Service (S105) contribute up to a total of \$25,000 of funds over 2022 and 2023 budget years to conduct a cumulative impact study of proposed logging in the Duck Creek Watershed.

For 2024 – build this focus into work happening across the Valley

- c. Natural Asset Management plan -

That the Board direct (377/23) staff to complete Step 2 of Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee project evaluation to create a natural asset management plan for the Quartz Creek Watershed prepare a workplan and budget.

For 2024 – report back to CSLAC with proposal to apply for Community Works funds and project scope

3. SERVICE CASE REVIEW OF DRINKING WATER AND WATERSHED PROTECTION SERVICE

- based on the growing number of project requests and interest in investigating methods to protect watersheds and consumptive drinking water sources, the Board directed staff (433/22) to prepare a service case analysis and report back to the Board on the implications of establishing the requisition of a Drinking Water & Watershed Protection Service bylaw for protection of watersheds and drinking water in the Regional District of Central Kootenay to be added to the workplan in 2023.
- the Service Case Analysis is complete and being reviewed by staff

For 2024 – report back to CSLAC on analysis and proposed next steps

SECTION 3: DETAILED ANALYSIS

3.1 Financial Considerations – Cost and Resource Allocations:

Included in Financial Plan: Yes No Financial Plan Amendment: Yes No
 Debt Bylaw Required: Yes No Public/Gov't Approvals Required: Yes No

Description		Cost
Staffing	1. WGI relationship & external partnership oversight 3. Services Case Review oversight	0.25 FTE
Staffing	2. WGI GIS Assistant for technical GIS work	0.5 FTE – GIS service
Project costs	2. Project costs for cumulative impact study and story mapping, investigation, engagement	\$25,000 (included in 2024 CSLAC budget)
Project costs	2. Project costs for Natural Asset Management plan	tbd

3.2 Legislative Considerations (Applicable Policies and/or Bylaws):

None at this time

3.3 Environmental Considerations

The WGI project supports whole watershed/ecosystem-based planning approach that includes consideration of the land (trees and soil), water (surface and ground) and the humans and animal uses of the land. This data collated will provide communities with information to more accurately understand the impacts of climate change, industry, recreational, natural hazards, development and also the compounded and unknown. Furthermore, this will enable communities to prepare for the anticipated events related to climate change: wildfire, drought, flooding, debris flows.

3.4 Social Considerations:

The WGI provides regional watershed data that is current, accessible, and relevant to support communities with tangible tools to pursue collaborative decision making with regards to watersheds.

3.5 Economic Considerations:

Economic development is significantly dependent on healthy and intact watersheds that enable sustainable regional growth. By prioritizing watershed health, effective watershed governance will support long term

economic planning related to industries such as recreation, forestry, fishing, mining, agriculture, tourism, and the health and wellness industry.

3.6 Communication Considerations:

The communication strategy reflects the components and priorities of Phase 3.

3.7 Staffing/Departmental Workplace Considerations:

The current actions are included in staff work plans: Sustainability Planner, General Manager of Development and Community Sustainability Services, Community Sustainability Manager and Water Services Liaison to support the project.

3.8 Board Strategic Plan/Priorities Considerations:

The Watershed Governance Initiative aligns with the following Board priorities:

- 1. Seek opportunities for partnerships with local communities:**
 - Moving towards reconciliation with First Nations through respectful interactions and exploring partnerships
 - Achieve better coordination between the RDCK and local municipalities on common strategic priorities
- 2. Protect our water sources**
 - Develop comprehensive watershed management plan with all stakeholders and include them in OCP
 - Crown land logging and private land logging have limited impact on the quality and quantity of water available to RD residents for drinking and recreation
- 3. Establish a governance model for watershed management in the RDCK**
 - The RDCK determines what available tools it has to protect watersheds

SECTION 4: OPTIONS & PROS / CONS

This report is for information only.

SECTION 5: RECOMMENDATIONS

This report is for information only.

Respectfully submitted,

Paris Marshall Smith, Sustainability Planner

CONCURRENCE

Chief Administrative Officer – Stuart Horn

General Manager of Development and Community Sustainability Services – Sangita Sudan

Manager of Community Sustainability Services – Daniel Seguin



Board Report

Date of Report: February 28, 2022
Date & Type of Meeting: April 21, 2022 Open Board Meeting
Author: Paris Marshall Smith, Sustainability Planner
Tanji Zumpano, Water Services Liaison
Subject: WATERSHED SECURITY STRATEGY AND FUND RESPONSE &
REQUEST FOR A WATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN
File: 10-5200-20-WGI-WSSF
Electoral Area/Municipality: All

SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to recommend the Board formally request that the Province order a Water Sustainability Plan for the Creston Valley, and that it be developed in partnership with the RDCK and Yaqaan Nukiy.

SECTION 2: BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The Province has committed to developing and implementing a Watershed Security Strategy and Fund to strengthen the security of watersheds, and increase the role of Indigenous peoples, local governments, and community in watershed governance.¹ A response to the Watershed Security Strategy and Fund Discussion Paper published on January 25th 2022 was submitted from the RDCK on March 18th 2022, following Board direction.

A key message included in the response was that the RDCK requests that the Province order a Water Sustainability Plan (WSP) be developed in partnership with the RDCK and Yaqaan Nukiy for the Creston Valley. Although the Water Sustainability Act states that the Province does not need a local government request to order a WSP, staff understand that if a local government does make a request, it is more likely that the Province will consider the request. This request has not been formally made.

WHAT IS A WATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN?

Under the provincial Water Sustainability Act, Water Sustainability Plans (WSP`s) are a tool that can support water management and watershed governance within a specific area. ``WSPs are intended to be long-term documents. Advancing a thorough understanding of the local context and the key actors in the community is critical to ensuring not only a good plan but a well-supported vision for the watershed that will drive implementation and meaningful change in water management and ongoing governance.”² WSPs are intended to guide government-to-government relationships with First Nations to support shared governance of water

¹ https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/722/2022/01/Watershed-Security-Strategy-Discussion-Paper_04.pdf

² [Polis Project – Water Sustainability Plans](#)

systems and watersheds.³ A WSP must be ordered by the Province who designates an area and process for a WSP if one or more of the following conditions exist:

- Conflicts between water users.
- Risks to water quality.
- Risks to aquatic ecosystem health.
- Restoration measures in relation to a damaged aquatic ecosystem⁴.

The RDCK can request that the Province order a Water Sustainability Plan.

WHY REQUEST A WATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN NOW?

Since 2018, the RDCK Watershed Governance Initiative (WGI) has been creating the conditions for collaborative decision making regarding drinking water and watershed protection. Relationship building, data collection and information sharing has been integral to this work. With the continued impact of 2021's drought and flood season, the success of the WGI web and story mapping, and the reality of the RDCK's limited jurisdiction to influence activities in our watersheds, there is an urgency to support residents and come up with a unified plan to ensure watershed security for all.

The recent launch of the new Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship and the development the Watershed Security Strategy and Fund, signal a change in how the Province is managing drinking water and watershed protection. The success of the WGI and the increasing pressures of industry, climate crisis and development make this a favourable time for the RDCK to advocate for a Water Sustainability Plan.

WHY START WITH THE CRESTON VALLEY?

The WGI has helped reveal the sheer number of drinking water watersheds in the RDCK and the diversity of pressures and challenges affecting them. However, the Creston Valley represents a breadth of pressures (agriculture, development, industry, governance, drought, geo-hazard), a depth of understanding (RDCK managed Erickson-Arrow Creek, agricultural water demand modeling, and several Improvement Districts) and maturity of relationships that provide a strong foundation from which to pursue such a novel/new approach.

Over the last few years the Creston Valley has been severely impacted by extreme weather events including but not limited to:

- Extreme drought causing irrigation water restrictions and dry drinking water wells;
- Extreme heat events (Heat Domes) causing water system source shortages and crop destruction;
- Extreme rainfall events causing overland flooding; and
- Mild winters causing shifting pest phonologies and distributions.

A critical relationship in this area is with Yaqan Nukiy, and working together to develop a WSP presents an important opportunity for the RDCK to deepen that relationship and understand new-to-us methods for drinking water and watershed protection. Lasting and meaningful reconciliation is a priority for the RDCK and working in in partnership with Yaqan Nukiy and Ktunaxa Nation Council provides a space to explore shared management of land and water systems.

³[Okanagan Water Board – Water Use Plans vs, Water Sustainability Plans](#)

⁴[Water Sustainability Act – Part 3 Division 4 Sections 65 & 66](#)

Staff view Water Sustainability Plans as the best avenue to gain more influence in the management of watersheds in our region. Understanding that the RDCK has many watersheds that are at immediate risk, choosing a single one to pilot this process is difficult. However, while there are only a handful of WSPs in process in the Province, prioritized areas are characterized by existing relationships with key stakeholders and First Nations, similar to those the RDCK has in the Creston Valley.

SECTION 3: DETAILED ANALYSIS

3.1 Financial Considerations – Cost and Resource Allocations:

Included in Financial Plan:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Financial Plan Amendment:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Debt Bylaw Required:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Public/Gov't Approvals Required:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

None at this time

3.2 Legislative Considerations (Applicable Policies and/or Bylaws):

The proposed Watershed Security Strategy and Fund proposes to provide guidance [on the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People Act](#) and the [Water Sustainability Act](#) which includes Water Sustainability Plans.

3.3 Environmental Considerations

Water Sustainability Plans support a water first approach that prioritizes whole watershed-system protection. This could provide communities with information to more accurately prepare for the impacts of climate change, industry, recreational, natural hazards, development and also the compounded and unknown and enable communities to prepare for the anticipated events related to climate change: wildfire, drought, flooding, debris flows.

3.4 Social Considerations:

Water Sustainability Plans must consider all those who value and have interest in the watershed. "Affected Indigenous nations and other local groups will want to be involved in establishing the terms of reference for a WSP since the terms of reference guide the entire WSP process, both in content and procedures. Terms of reference could include acknowledgement of the inherent authority of Indigenous nations and aboriginal rights and title to water, reference government-to-government agreements, emphasize the development of co-governance processes, and prioritize the need to protect environmental flows."⁵

3.5 Economic Considerations:

Water Sustainability Plans could provide a model of economic development that places water protection and intact watersheds at the forefront to support sustainable regional growth. Prioritizing watershed health could support long term economic planning related to industries such as recreation, forestry, fishing, mining, agriculture, tourism, and the health and wellness industry.

3.6 Communication Considerations:

Staff will coordinate communication with Board members and staff, and with First Nations and the Province.

3.7 Staffing/Departmental Workplace Considerations:

The current actions are included in staff work plans: Sustainability Planner, General Manager of Development and Community Sustainability Services, Community Sustainability Manager and Water Services Liaison to support the project.

⁵ [Polis Project – Water Sustainability Plans](#)

As mentioned, there are few examples of Water Sustainability Plans in process. If a WSP were to be ordered for the Creston Valley the required staff time and resources is unknown.

3.8 Board Strategic Plan/Priorities Considerations:

Participating in the Watershed Security Strategy and Fund engagement process aligns with the following Board priorities:

1. **Seek opportunities for partnerships with local communities:**
 - Moving towards reconciliation with First Nations through respectful interactions and exploring partnerships
 - Achieve better coordination between the RDCK and local municipalities on common strategic priorities
2. **Protect our water sources**
 - Develop comprehensive watershed management plan with all stakeholders and include them in OCP
 - Crown land logging and private land logging have limited impact on the quality and quantity of water available to RD residents for drinking and recreation
3. **Establish a governance model for watershed management in the RDCK**
 - The RDCK determines what available tools it has to protect watersheds

SECTION 4: OPTIONS & PROS / CONS

Staff recommend that the RDCK Board request that the Province order a Water Sustainability Plan be developed in the Creston Valley in partnership with the RDCK and Yaqaan Nukiy (Lower Kootenay Band).

Option 1 – APPROVE

That the RDCK Board request that the Province order a Water Sustainability Plan be developed in the Creston Valley in partnership with the RDCK and Yaqaan Nukiy (Lower Kootenay Band).

Pro

- Recognizes the significance and strength of relationship with Yaqaan Nukiy
- Responds to the urgency being experienced by Creston Valley residents regarding their water systems
- Recognizes the compounding pressures of industry, agriculture, development, and climate change on Creston Valley water systems

Con

- Making a request does not guarantee that the Province will issue an order
- If a WSP is ordered, it will require significant staff time to develop a Plan
- A WSP is not an immediate solution to the pressures faced by residents

Option 2 – NO FURTHER ACTION AT THIS TIME

That the RDCK Board direct staff to take no further action regarding Water Sustainability Plans at this time.

Pro

- Allows staff to consider another approach
- Staff times can be directed elsewhere

Con

- Staff feel the launch of the new Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship and the development the Watershed Security Strategy and Fund suggest changes that could respond to RDCK's desire for more equitable and sustainable watershed governance and that to act now (rather than wait) would be beneficial

SECTION 5: RECOMMENDATIONS

That the RDCK Board direct staff to send a request to Yaqaan Nukiy Chief and Council for their participation on developing a Water Sustainability Plan for the Creston Valley; AND FURTHER, request that the Province order a Water Sustainability Plan be developed in the Creston Valley in partnership with RDCK and Yaqaan Nukiy.

Respectfully submitted,
Paris Marshall Smith and Tanji Zumpano

CONCURRENCE

Chief Administrative Officer – Stuart Horn	Approved
General Manager of Development and Community Sustainability Services – Sangita Sudan	Approved
Manager of Community Sustainability Services – Chris Johnson	Approved



Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee (CSLAC)

Ideas on restructuring the granting cycle/budget year

Paris Marshall Smith
April 16, 2024



CSLAC's Role

- Advancing sustainability in the region with a focus on water, climate action, food & agriculture, housing, energy
- To test and explore ideas – ideas for new projects that can be investigated or piloted



CSLAC proposed changes

- **Analysis:** An annual report is prepared for December's meeting to summarize CSLAC's projects and available staff time and funding for the following year.
- **Visioning:** In February, CLSAC reviews the annual workplan and discusses emerging regional needs that could be investigated through CSLAC
- **Financial Alignment:** That the CSLAC grant funding process (i.e. intake, proposal review, funding allocations) be altered to better align with the RDCK budget approval
- **Project Funding:** The funding be approved as part of the overall Budget and THEN project applications are solicited based on available and secure funding.



CSLAC Annual Calendar

- December – annual report, what has been accomplished and what's available (staff time and funding) for the following year
- February – visioning and annual planning, budget discussion
- March – approve CSLAC budget with funding
- April – call for applications if funding available
- June – evaluate applications



QUESTIONS?

