



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY

**RIONDEL COMMISSION
OPEN MEETING AGENDA**

**7:00p.m.
November 5, 2024**

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).

Join by Video:

<https://rdck-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/94421359917?pwd=LfhDEQvHQfsXbbarayvB1HpvASbaLd.1>

Join by Phone:

1 778 907 2071 Canada
833 955 1088 Canada Toll-free

Meeting ID: 944 2135 9917

Meeting Password: 055296

In-Person Location: Riondel Community Centre, Commission Office, Room #6
1511 Eastman Ave., Riondel, BC

COMMISSION MEMBERS

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Commissioner G. Panio | Riondel | In-person |
| Commissioner N. Anderson | Riondel | In-person |
| Commissioner J. Donald | Riondel | In-person |
| Commissioner D. Lavigne | Riondel | In-person |
| Commissioner A. Cop | Riondel | In-person |
| Commissioner L. Cranna | Riondel | In-person |
| Commissioner G. Jackman | Director – Electoral Area A | In-person |

MEMBERS ABSENT

[Name] [Title]

STAFF

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------|---------|
| Jenna Chapman | Meeting Coordinator | Virtual |
|---------------|---------------------|---------|

____ out of ____ voting Commission/Committee members were present – quorum was met.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Panio called the meeting to order at [Time] p.m.

2. TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

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

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED and seconded,
 AND Resolved:

The Agenda for the November 5, 2024 Riondel Commission meeting, be adopted as circulated.

Carried/Defeated/Referred

4. RECEIPT OF MINUTES

The October 1, 2024 Riondel Commission meeting minutes, have been received.

5. DELEGATE

5.1 There are no Delegates scheduled for this Commission meeting.

6. PUBLIC TIME

The Chair will call for questions from the public at _____ p.m.

7. OLD BUSINESS

6.1 Circle of Friends Hot Water Tank Update

Chair Panio to provide the Commission with an update on the hot water tank replacement for the Circle of Friends Building.

6.2 New Tarp for the Recreation Centre Roof

Commissioner Anderson will provide an update on the replacement tarp for the Recreation Centre Roof.

6.3 2025 Commission meeting Proposed Date and Times.

Commission to review the 2025 Proposed Riondel Commission Dates and Times.

| 2025 RIONDEL COMMISSION DATES | TIME |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| January 7, 2025 | |
| February 4, 2025 | |
| March 4, 2025 | |
| April 1, 2025 | |
| May 6, 2025 | |
| June 3, 2025 | |
| July 8, 2025 | |
| August 5, 2025 | |
| September 2, 2025 | |
| October 7, 2025 | |

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| November 4, 2025 | |
| December 2, 2025 | |

6.4 Update on Riondel Water Drainage Services Community Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Panio to lead the discussion on the Riondel Water Drainage Services Community Advisory Committee.

6.5 Insurance Requirements for Community Centre Events

Commissioner Panio to lead the discussion around Insurance Requirements for Community Centre Events.

6.6 Water Line & Electrical Work North of Recreation Centre Update.

The e-mail dated, October 29, 2024 from Craig Stanley, Regional Manager Operations and Asset Management has been received.

6.7 Maintenance Personnel Update

Commissioner Panio to lead the discussion re: Maintenance Personnel Update.

6.8 Feedback on Recent Community Centre Rentals (Fall Frolic Dinner & Dance; Elections BC)

Commissioner Panio to provide the Commission with an overview re: Feedback on Recent Community Centre Rentals (Fall Frolic Dinner & Dance; Elections BC).

6.9 Upcoming Community Centre Events Bookings: Flu and Immunization Clinic, November 22, 2024; Christmas Potluck, December 14, 2024.

Commissioner Panio to provide the Commission with an update re: Upcoming Community Centre Events Bookings: Flu and Immunization Clinic, November 22, 2024; Christmas Potluck, December 14, 2024.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Update on Administrative Assistant Posting.

Commissioner Panio to provide an update re: Administrative Assistant Posting.

Moved and seconded,
AND Resolved:

That the Riondel Commission send a Letter of Thank you to Teresa Johnson.

Carried/Defeated/Referred

8.2 Possible Donation of Cable for Fencing from Teck

The Commission to discuss the possible donation of cable for fencing from Teck.

8.3 Thank you to the East Shore Shed for work on the Community Centre signage & discussion of purchase of new signage.

Commission to thank East Shore Shed re: work on the Community Centre and provide a discussion regarding purchase of a new sign.

8.4 Possible CBAL workshop(s) on digital literacy.

Commission Panio to lead a discussion re: possible CBAL workshop(s) on digital literacy.

8.5 Discussion of East Shore Shed Rental Offset for Volunteer Work.

Commission to provide a discussion re: East Shore Shed rental offset for volunteer work.

8.6 Community Centre Support Document.

Commission Panio to lead a discussion re: Community Centre Support Document.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Ministry of Transportation Public Notice of Clearing Boulevards Update.

E-mail thread dated, September 24, 2024 – September 26, 2024 between Gerald Panio, Chair Riondel Commission and MOTI has been received.

9.2 Riondel Community Association Letter to Joe Chirico, General Manager of Community Services.

Letter dated, October 29, 2024 addressed to Joe Chirico, General Manager of Community Services from the Riondel Community Association has been received.

10. PUBLIC TIME

The Chair will call for questions from the public at _____ p.m.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next [Name of Commission] meeting is scheduled for [Date], [Year] at [Time].

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and seconded,
AND Resolved:

The [Name of Commission/Committee] meeting be adjourned at [Time].

Carried/Defeated/Referred

Delete the signature section and recommendations/actions below for the agenda – used for the minutes.

[Name of Chair], Chair

NOTE: The agenda is the template for your minutes. Remember to identify if a recommendation was **Carried/Defeated/ Referred** after the recommendation has been voted on.

***If there are recommendations that need to go to the Board of Directors please add them to the list below and forward to Angela Lund, alund@rdck.bc.ca to be put on the Board agenda.**

RECOMMENDATION(S) TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. *[List of Items]*

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE PROVIDED FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY AND WILL BE CONSIDERED AT ITS APPROPRIATE MEETING AS STATED.

Future [Name of Commission] Meetings

1. *[List of Items]*



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY

RIONDEL COMMISSION OPEN MEETING MINUTES

7:00 PM

October 1, 2024

IN-PERSON MEETING LOCATION FOR HYBRID MEETING MODEL

The following location has been determined to hold the in-person meetings for the Riondel Commission:

Location Name: Riondel Community Centre, Commission Office, Room #6

Location Address: 1511 Eastman Ave., Riondel BC

The facility listed above will be able to accommodate the remote requirements for the meeting.

Dial by your location

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

833 955 1088 Canada Toll-free

Meeting ID: 991 1942 3741

Passcode: 386155

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE MEMBERS

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Commissioner G. Panio | Riondel | In-person |
| Commissioner N. Anderson | Riondel | In-person |
| Commissioner J. Donald | Riondel | In-person |
| Commissioner D. Lavigne | Riondel | In-person |
| Commissioner L. Cranna | Riondel | In-person |

MEMBERS ABSENT

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Commissioner G. Jackman | Director – Electoral Area A |
| Commissioner A. Cop | Riondel |

STAFF

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Teresa Johnson | Meeting Coordinator | In-person |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------|

5 out of 7 voting Commission/Committee members were present – quorum was met.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Panio called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

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

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED and seconded,
AND Resolved:

The Agenda for the October 1st, 2024 Riondel Commission meeting, be adopted with the addition of item 8.6 Multiple Users Storage in Basement, before circulation.

Carried

4. RECEIPT OF MINUTES

The September 3rd, 2024 Riondel Commission minutes, have been received.

5. DELEGATE

No Delegation.

6. PUBLIC TIME

The Chair called for questions from the public at 7:03 p.m. No members of the public were present.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1 Circle of Friends Hot Water Tank

Chair Panio provided an update on the hot water tank replacement for the Circle of Friends Building. A contractor is working on the electrical issue, and is waiting to hear back from Turlock electrical for a quote on replacing the current 110 volt electrical configuration with a 220 volt configuration. The change would allow for more options and lower costs for the purchase of a new hot water tank.

7.2 Riondel Community Centre Entrance Hallway Improvements

Chair Panio provided an update on the entrance hallway improvements being completed by the Art Club. They will be moving the display cases on the south wall in order to have more space to showcase art work. The display cases will be reinstalled closer to the auditorium, on the opposite side of the front entrance door.

7.3 Riondel Community Association Display Case

Chair Panio provided an update on the new display case being installed outside of the Library entrance. Commissioner Anderson is proposing that a larger, 5 foot x 2.5 feet display case be built out of oak with a canopy, glass doors and lighting. The estimated cost of materials is \$350 with the labour donated by Commissioner Anderson. The display case is to be installed on the exterior south wall of the community centre. Benefits of the display case will be realized by the Riondel Commission, the Community Association, and any other parties interested in using the space.

MOVED and seconded,

AND Resolved:

That the Riondel Commission spends up to \$350 to pay for material costs to build a display case.

Carried

7.4 New Tarp for the Recreation Centre Roof

An update on the replacement tarp for the Recreation Centre roof will be presented at the next Riondel Commission meeting scheduled for November 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the Riondel Commission office.

7.5 Backstop Replacement

Chair Panio provided an update on the Backstop replacement in the Riondel Regional Park. RDCK (Regional District of Central Kootenay) staff and KLESMSS (Kootenay Lake East Shore Men's Shed Society) members have been working together to arrange for a RDCK tractor operator to be on site to assist with the installation of the new backstop. Support posts are currently being constructed off-site.

7.6 Commission Meeting Time

Commissioner Lavigne proposed a new start time for meetings. Late evening attendance has been difficult for her, and a 6:00 p.m. start time would be preferred. A 6:30 p.m. start time may be more desirable as it would lessen interference with typical household meal times. Maintaining evening meeting times is necessary to provide opportunities for residents who would otherwise be working during the day to participate. Input from Director Jackman is needed to ensure no scheduling conflicts would affect his attendance. This discussion will continue at the next Riondel Commission meeting scheduled for November 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the Riondel Commission office.

7.7 Report on Governance Issues Meeting

Chair Panio provided a verbal report on the Governance Issues meeting that was held on September 9th, 2024. The Community Association discussed adding power and water to the cook shack in the Riondel Regional Park. They discussed their society's inability to apply for grants involving RDCK-owned buildings. Financing and budget concerns were also addressed.

7.8 Water Notice Signage

Chair Panio provided an update on water notice signage in Riondel. Current signage for water restrictions and boil water notices have poor visibility and residents are unable to read them when driving by. Residents can sign up for Voyent alerts, but visitors do not get the alerts. Discussion surrounding improved signage options included:

- Larger bolder lettering on sandwich boards
- Flat screen television in a window to display active notices
- Programmable highway signs

Sandwich boards with bold, dark lettering were decided on as the most cost effective, weather resistant, and relocatable option. The water signage currently used by the City of Nelson was pointed out as an effective model.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Report on Water Advisory Meeting

Chair Panio provided a verbal report regarding the Riondel Water and Drainage Services Community Advisory Committee meeting that was held on September 13, 2024. The RDCK and YRB (Yellowhead Road and Bridge) were able to determine which culverts fall within RDCK responsibility and which fall within YRB responsibility. This development will ensure improved maintenance moving forward. Three properties on the north end of Ainsworth Avenue do not have water hookups. Two possibilities for funding are:

- 1) The entire cost of system installation is charged to property owners. A regular hookup fee would be approximately \$2000, however system installation in this case is estimated at \$15,000-\$20,000 or higher for each property.
- 2) The town of Riondel absorbs the cost of putting in new water lines to the three properties, and a one-time tax increase is applied to all properties in town. Property owners would still be responsible for the hook up charge.

This discussion will continue, and a recommendation will be made at the next Riondel Commission meeting scheduled for November 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the Riondel Commission office.

8.2 Arbor Improvements

Chair Panio provided an update on the removal of the arbor in front of the Riondel Community Centre. Kudos and thank you to KLESMS members for removing the arbor. The structure was rotting at the base, vandalized, and collapsing. The gravel area was weeded by volunteers. Initially, replacing the arbor was discussed but there may not be a need as the area looks much improved without an arbor.

8.3 Upcoming Community Centre Event Bookings

The following events have been booked in the Riondel Community Centre, and are received as information:

Fall Frolic Dinner and Dance Saturday October 5, 2024

Elections BC October 19, 2024

Flu and Immunization Clinic November 22, 2024

Christmas Potluck December 14, 2024

8.4 Riondel Commission of Management Volunteer Application Form

An introduction to the volunteer application form developed for the Riondel Commission will be presented at a future meeting, pending approval from RDCK staff.

8.5 Insurance Requirements for Community Centre events

Chair Panio led a discussion on insurance requirements for events hosted in the Riondel Community Centre. RDCK staff provided an explanation on insurance requirements. Notable discussion points include:

- Every local government in British Columbia must adhere to the same guidelines.
- Children and seniors are considered a higher risk as they fall within the vulnerable sector. Concerns around senior abuse and manipulation were cited.
- If the RDCK is not hosting the function with trained personnel, paid or volunteer, the event is considered an external event and therefore will need to provide their own insurance.
- Events classified as RDCK programs would fall under existing RDCK insurance. RDCK programs require trained and vetted individuals actively supervising. This includes a satisfactory criminal record check with vulnerable sector and first aid training.
- Staff will determine if leaders from user groups can be established, as there is no capability for existing staff to host programming offered at the Riondel Community Centre.

8.6 Multiple Users Storage in Basement

User groups are encouraged to take advantage of the vast basement storage space available in the Riondel Community Centre. The Art Club, Ambulance Society, and Mainstreet Newspaper currently utilize the space for storage. Groups are asked to put up clear notices stating who the items belong to.

8.7 Public Notice for Clearing Boulevards

The Commission would like to hold a meeting with representatives from YRB and MoTI (Ministry of Transportation) along with a small number of interested residents. The discussion will touch on any issues of concern, such as establishing road clearance parameters in order to facilitate proper snow clearing. Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Donaldson, and Chair Panio have volunteered to attend with a meeting date yet to be determined. The Community Association will send out an invitation to residents.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

10. AREA A DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Jackman was not in attendance and therefore unable to provide the Commission with a verbal report.

11. FINANCIAL REPORTS

The financial service statement for Riondel was not released in time for distribution at this meeting. Financial statements do not necessarily reflect real time figures as accounting can take some time to be reflected in monthly statements.

12. PUBLIC TIME:

The Chair called for questions from the public at 8:12 p.m. No members of the public were present.

13. NEXT MEETING

The next Riondel Commission meeting will be held on November 5th, at 7:00 pm.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and seconded,
AND Resolved:

The Riondel Commission meeting be adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Carried

DIGITALLY APPROVED

G. Panio, Chair



Panio Gerald <gpanio@bluebell.ca>

To: Teresa Johnson



Reply



Reply all



Forward



...

Tue 10/8/2024 8:21 PM

 **Flagged**

Start reply with:

Go ahead and send.

I made the changes.

Done!

*** CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Please proceed only if you trust the sender.***

Hi Teresa,

The minutes look fine to me. They have my approval. The edits are still shown in red--did you want me to accept them all, or will you do that before you send them out?

Gerald

From: [Craig Stanley](#)
To: [Jenna Chapman](#); [Stuart Durning](#)
Cc: [Joe Chirico](#); [Alexandra Divlakovski](#); [Allan Richardson](#)
Subject: RE: Riondel Water Line & Electrical Work Update
Date: October 29, 2024 11:03:16 AM

Hi Jenna,

Alex and Al have a solution for the water line but we need to finalize those details including cost .
Stu will connect with Al.

Brief email is: we have a plan to repair/replace the water line and are working through the details including design and costs and scheduling.

As for the electrical, I think we need to confirm what happened there and make a repair – maybe at the same time as the water repair excavation is happening.

Craig Stanley | Regional Manager – Operations and Asset Management

Phone: 236. 532.2030

From: Jenna Chapman <JChapman@rdck.bc.ca>
Sent: October 29, 2024 10:56 AM
To: Craig Stanley <CStanley@rdck.bc.ca>; Stuart Durning <SDurning@rdck.bc.ca>
Subject: Riondel Water Line & Electrical Work Update

Good Morning,

The Riondel Commission is meeting on November 5, 2024. One of their Agenda Items is a Water Line & Electrical Work North of Recreation Centre Update. Are one of you able to send me a brief e-mail proving an update of where we are at with this?

Thank you,

Jenna Chapman (She/Her) | Administrative Coordinator - Community Services

Regional District of Central Kootenay

Phone: 250.352.8195 |

[rdck.ca](#)

From: [Panio Gerald](#)
To: [Jenna Chapman](#)
Subject: Fwd: Public Pre-Winter Meeting
Date: October 29, 2024 10:58:36 AM

CAUTION This email originated from outside the organization. Please proceed only if you trust the sender.

From: **Panio Gerald** <gpanio@bluebell.ca>
Date: Thu, Sep 26, 2024 at 5:36 AM
Subject: Re: Public Pre-Winter Meeting
To: Colin McDonald <colinm@yrb.ca>
Cc: Brigl, Gundula MOTI:EX <Gundula.Brigl@gov.bc.ca>, Lewis, Kevin MOTI:EX <Kevin.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>, Kinnear, Greg MOTI:EX <Greg.Kinnear@gov.bc.ca>, Scott Mitchinson <SMitchinson@yrb.ca>, Riondel Commission <riocom@bluebell.ca>, Riondel Commission <riocom@googlegroups.com>, Paul Andersen <paul@yrb.ca>, Howard Hummel <howardh@yrb.ca>, Rodney Hafner <rodney@yrb.ca>

Hi Colin,

We'll definitely keep you in the loop. The Commission can get some notices out in regards to vehicles on the right of way. We can also include the contact information on the notices. We'll discuss this at our regular meeting this coming Tuesday.

I let you know if there are specific issues that could be discussed, other than the ones that you're aware of from our earlier meeting.

In the meantime, we'll get together a small group of residents interested in being a part of the highways discussion.

Gerald

On Wed, Sep 25, 2024 at 8:18 PM Colin McDonald <colinm@yrb.ca> wrote:

>

> Hey Gerald,

>

> Any meeting requests or concerns that you or the Commission may have, I will get you to direct to myself moving forward. If any members of the public have anything that they would

like to speak to someone in YRB about, please direct them to contact our Nelson office @ 250-352-3242 or our 24 hour emergency number @ 1-888-352-0356. We have a system that we use to track these calls and information provided to help us prioritize work and respond to emergencies quickly.

>

> I was part of a previous meeting with Kurt Edmonds and I have some items that we discussed at that time which could help us with the meeting you are requesting. There is a specific item that I would like to make sure everyone has put some thought into and are prepared to discuss. This would be the moving or removal of vehicles on the right-of-way, which impede effective snow plowing procedures.

>

> Keep me in the loop and I'll make sure I can attend this meeting but we will thank you.

>

> -Colin

>

> Colin C. McDonald
> Operations Manager
> Yellowhead Road & Bridge (Kootenay) Ltd.
> W: 250-428-0605 | C: 250-921-5955

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Panio Gerald <gpanio@bluebell.ca>

> Sent: September 25, 2024 7:30 AM

> To: Brigl, Gundula MOTI:EX <Gundula.Brigl@gov.bc.ca>

> Cc: Lewis, Kevin MOTI:EX <Kevin.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Kinnear, Greg MOTI:EX <Greg.Kinnear@gov.bc.ca>; Colin McDonald <colinm@yrb.ca>; Scott Mitchinson <SMitchinson@yrb.ca>; Riondel Commission <riocom@bluebell.ca>; Riondel Commission <riocom@googlegroups.com>

> Subject: Re: Public Pre-Winter Meeting

>

> [You don't often get email from gpanio@bluebell.ca. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

>

> Hi Gundula,

>

> Thanks for getting back to me so quickly. Let's aim for a meeting in early November. As a Commission, we'll see about getting together a small representative group interested in road issues.

>

> I'll let you suggest a date and time, as I know your schedule is a busy one.

>

> The Commission appreciates your willingness to engage with our community and listen to concerns and questions.

>

> Gerald Panio
> Chair, Riondel Commission of Management

>

> On Tue, Sep 24, 2024 at 2:0 PM Brigl, Gundula MOTI:EX <Gundula.Brigl@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

>>

>> Hi Gerald,

>>

>> Thanks for reaching out. I have been (and still am) working on another role with the Ministry this Summer. I'll start to transition back into my regular role in October.

>>

>> Given that, I'm not in a good position to attend a meeting in October but November might be possible. I politely have to decline a public meeting. As a Ministry we usually only hold these for major projects where there is a single, well-defined topic. I would, however, be happy to meet with the Commission or a representative group of individuals interested in road issues. I can also arrange for my colleagues on the West Kootenay District management team and YRB to attend.

>>

>> Please let me know what works best for you. My schedule is fairly open starting in early November.

>>

>> Thanks for your understanding,

>>

>> Gundula

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Panio Gerald <gpanio@bluebell.ca>

>> Sent: September 24, 2024 12:43 PM

>> To: Brigl, Gundula MOTI:EX <Gundula.Brigl@gov.bc.ca>

>> Cc: Riondel Commission <riocom@bluebell.ca>

>> Subject: Public Pre-Winter Meeting

>>

>> [EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

>>

>>

>> Hi Gundula,

>>

>> Based on some feedback at our last Commission meeting, I was wondering if you and Scott from YRB might like to come to Riondel for a public meeting to provide an overview of highways operations in our area, address concerns, and let people know how they can help crews during the winter season by not parking in ways that impede snow clearing.

>>

>> We have our regular Commission meeting on Oct. 1 at 7 pm. The

>> November meeting is on Tuesday, Nov. 5 at 7 pm, but this is probably a little late. You would also be welcome to choose another time and date for us to arrange a public session here at the Community Centre.

>> We would get the word out to the community. Unfortunately, I seem to have misplaced Scott's business card so haven't been able to cc him on this email.

>>

>> In the past, it has been good to keep communications open between MOTI, YRB, and the community. Thanks for getting back to me on this.

>>

>> Gerald Panio

>> Chair, Riondel Commission of Management



Riondel Community Association
P.O. Box 15
Riondel, BC, V0B 2B0
Email: RiondelCA@gmail.com

October 29, 2024
Joe Chirico
General Manager of Community Services
Regional District of Central Kootenay
Box 590
202 Lakeside Drive
Nelson, BC

Dear Mr. Chirico:

We understand that the RDCK is planning to apply to Columbia Basin Trust for grant funding for the Riondel Community Centre. I am writing on behalf of the Riondel Community Association to urge you to make this a priority.

The Riondel Community Centre is the hub of our community, and Riondel Community Association has over 100 members who come from Riondel, Kootenay Bay, and all along the east shore to Boswell to access our programming. We offer physical activity programs including yoga, walk-a-mile, and dance, as well as pickleball, which has become a very active program, especially in the winter. We also have a bridge group that plays twice a month, and weekly activities, including strings night for guitar and fiddle players, art history classes, bingo, pool, and movie night.

On top of our regular programs, we also sponsor special events. In the past year we have sponsored a Christmas craft fair, a Christmas potluck dinner, a Mother's Day tea, a family dance, a Children's Festival, and a fall dinner and dance. We have plans to include even more events in the future as well as possibly adding activities for children and youth.

We are not the only entity that operates out of the Riondel Community Centre. The library is housed there - and it's a significant library with many patrons. There is an active art club, a media lab, a band practice space that is used by at least two different groups, the Men's Shed, and of course, the Commission of Management office is there. The TAPS program offered by Community Connections uses our space for their biweekly lunches. Community members and organizations also rent space from us periodically for special events. With the exception of TAPS, which is externally funded, the success of all of these activities, events, and programs relies on community volunteers. Numerous volunteer hours continue to be provided, which is a strong indicator of the community's desire to see our building survive.

As I'm sure you're aware, the Riondel Community Centre is old and in urgent need of major upgrades in order to make it more energy efficient and accessible and thus able to continue to provide services to the East Shore community for years to come. Our tax base here is small; although people come from up and down the east shore, the building is supported financially entirely by the Riondel taxpayers. We are making a significant investment in the building through our taxes, but there is no way that taxes provide nearly enough money to fund the extensive upgrades required. We noted that the Crawford Bay Community Hall has accessed \$1.4 million in grant money for energy upgrades to their building. Since RDCK owns the building, we really need you to make a strong effort to acquire significant similar funding.

We are counting on you to take the appropriate steps to secure this funding in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

Jacquie Wallace
Chair

CC: Craig Stanley
Stuart Durning
Stuart Horn
Garry Jackman