



Regional District of Central Kootenay
CRESTON VALLEY SERVICES COMMITTEE
Open Meeting Agenda

Date: Thursday, July 4, 2024
Time: 9:00 am
Location: Creston and District Community Complex - Erickson Room
312 19 Avenue North, Creston, BC

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

Pages

1. ZOOM 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:

9:00 a.m. PST

Join by Video:

<https://rdck-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/97246108169?pwd=h7TjxgQudwdYDU4VKPB4Uae1k5PZ12.1&from=addon>

Join by Phone:

+1 778 907 2071 Canada
833 958 1164 Canada Toll-free

Meeting ID: 972 4610 8169

Meeting Password: 016601

In-Person Location:

Creston & District Community Complex - Creston Erickson Room
312 19th Avenue North, Creston, BC

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chair DeBoon called the meeting to order at [Time] a.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 July 4, 2024 Creston Valley Services Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

5. RECEIPT OF MINUTES

The May 30, 2024, Creston Valley Services Committee minutes, have been received.

5 - 10

6. DELEGATE

6.1 CRESTON VALLEY REGIONAL AIRPORT

Melody Schneider from Creston Valley Regional Airport will present a request for a standby generator for the airport.

11 - 16

7. STAFF REPORTS

7.1 FOR INFORMATION: RDCK EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT - QUARTER 2 REPORT

The Committee Report from Jon Jackson, Emergency Program Coordinator, re: Emergency Management Quarter 2 Report, has been received.

17 - 19

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 DISCUSSION ITEM: WATER GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE

The Committee Report from Paris Marshall Smith, Sustainability Planner, re: Water Governance Initiative, has been received.

20 - 30

8.2 DISCUSSION ITEM: SUB-REGIONAL APPROACH TO HOUSING

Director Vandenberg requested a discussion with the Committee around Sub-regional approach to housing.

8.3 2024 FINANCIAL PLAN AMENDMENT - S174 LISTER CEMETERY

RECOMMENDATION:

That it be recommended to the Board that the 2024 Financial Plan for S174 Cemetery – Creston, A, B and C be amended to increase Grants by \$3500 and decrease accumulated surplus by \$3,500 for the 2024 Grant to the Lister Community Cemetery, AND FURTHER, that the Board approve the payment of \$3,500 to the Lister Community Cemetery subject to the

receipt of the required documentation being submitted to the RDCK finance department.

8.4 DISCUSSION ITEM: WEST CRESTON FIRE HALL (WCFH) OVERVIEW

Director Vandenberghe requested a discussion with the committee regarding the upcoming referendum and the Lower Kootenay Band's interest in the WCFH.

8.5 DISCUSSION ITEM: CRESTON VALLEY ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLY STUDY

31 - 38

The Committee Report dated June 26, 2024 from Eileen Senyk, Water Services Liaison, re: Creston Valley Alternate Supply Feasibility Study, has been received.

9. OLD BUSINESS

9.1 REQUEST FOR FUNDING: CRESTON VALLEY LEGION HALL

The grant request and financials from Signe Miller, Creston Valley Legion Hall, with more information as per request re: Grant application for concrete repairs for handicapable access, has been received.

No new information has been received.

9.2 REVIEW ACTION ITEM LIST

39 - 40

The Committee will review the action item list from the May 30, 2024 Creston Valley Services Committee meeting.

10. PUBLIC TIME

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

11. IN CAMERA

11.1 Meeting Closed to the Public

RECOMMENDATION:

In the opinion of the Board - and, in accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter – the public interest so requires that persons other than DIRECTORS, ALTERNATE DIRECTORS, DELEGATIONS AND STAFF be excluded from the meeting;

AND FURTHER, in accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter, the meeting is to be closed on the basis(es) identified in the following Subsections:

90. (1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to

harm the interests of the municipality;

11.2 Recess of Open Meeting

RECOMMENDATION:

The Open Meeting be recessed at [Time] in order to conduct the Closed In Camera meeting.

12. NEXT MEETING

The next Creston Valley Services Committee meeting is scheduled for August 1, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT

RECOMMENDATION:

The Creston Valley Services Committee meeting be adjourned at [Time].



Regional District of Central Kootenay CRESTON VALLEY SERVICES COMMITTEE Open Meeting Minutes

9:00 am MST

Thursday, May 30, 2024

Creston and District Community Complex - Erickson Room

312 19 Avenue North, Creston, BC

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Committee Member A. DeBoon	Town of Creston
Committee Member G. Jackman	Electoral Area A
Committee Member R. Tierney	Electoral Area B
Committee Member K. Vandenberghe	Electoral Area C

RDCK STAFF PRESENT

S. Horn	Chief Administrative Officer
J. Riel	Creston Fire Chief
J. Chirico	General Manager of Community Services
C. Stanley	Regional Manager – Operations and Asset Management
T. Davison	Regional Manager - Recreation & Client Services
S. Sudan	General Manager of Development and Community Sustainability
D. Zayonce	Regional Fire Chief
J. Jackson	Emergency Program Coordinator
C. Feeney	Meeting Coordinator
R. Baril	Meeting Coordinator

CRESTON STAFF PRESENT

M. Moore	Chief Administrative Officer – Creston
----------	--

1. ZOOM 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:

9:00 a.m. PST

Join by Video:

<https://rdck-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/98770706204?pwd=bm1BV3V2TmJScEtCLOVtR0dZcWpSQTO9&from=addon>

Join by Phone:

+1 778 907 2071 Canada
833 958 1164 Canada Toll-free

Meeting ID: 987 7070 6204**Meeting Password:** 708016**In-Person Location:**

Creston & District Community Complex - Creston Erickson Room
312 19th Avenue North, Creston, BC

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chair DeBoon called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.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

Moved and seconded,
And resolved:

The agenda for the May 30, 2024 Creston Valley Services Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried**5. RECEIPT OF MINUTES**

The May 2, 2024 Creston Valley Services Committee minutes have been received.

6. STAFF REPORTS**6.1 CRESTON VALLEY FIRE - QUARTER 1 REPORT**

The Committee Report from Jared Riel, Creston Fire Chief, re: Creston Valley Fire: 1st Quarter Report 2024, has been received.

Jared Riel, Creston Fire Chief, provided an overview to the Committee regarding the 2024 First Quarter Report (Q1). Jared shared that the Canyon Lister Fire Hall diesel

exhaust extraction system project has been delayed due to some building remediation requirements and they are working with the RDCK and the building department to move the project forward.

Jared answered the Committee's questions.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 REQUEST FOR FUNDING: CRESTON VALLEY LEGION HALL

The grant request and financials from Signe Miller, Creston Valley Legion Hall, re: Grant application for concrete repairs for handicapable access, has been received.

Signe Miller, Creston Valley Legion Hall, is requesting funding support to repair the cement walkway and steps leading to the Canteen entrance for handicapable access.

She shared that they've been quite low on funding and when they do get funding, Head Office requires that 85% of Canteen revenue must be given back to the community. Due to this, they aren't able to create reserve funds for these types of repairs.

The Committee asked for more financial information as to the Legions Capital Replacement Plan, and how many other grants they have requested and from which other agencies. It was also suggested they explore funding from CBT and other community service clubs and return to the next meeting with this information.

Signe answered the Committee's questions.

ORDER OF AGENDA The Order of Business was changed with Item 8.1 considered at this time.
CHANGED

8.1 DISCUSSION ITEM: GOAT RIVER

The email dated May 23, 2024 from Kevin Lewis, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI), re: Goat River Access, has been received.

Director DeBoon read the email from Kevin Lewis, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to the Committee which provided some clarity on the access to Goat River. The main takeaways were:

- The Ministry has a road right-of-way- which bisects private land on both sides.
- People are free to walk the right of way but it's the individual's responsibility to ensure they stay on public land.
- Land parallel to the right of way is private property.
- There is no water access on this right of way.
- The gravel pit is under control of the Ministry and trespassing is not permitted.

Director DeBoon allowed the public to ask questions.

The members of the public had questions and comments regarding accessing Goat River, the Goat River Association & signage at Goat River.

DIRECTION TO STAFF: That staff schedule a meeting with Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, the Directors and RDCK staff regarding access to Goat River and how this information will be shared with the community.

ORDER OF AGENDA RESUMED Item 7.2 Discussion Item: Central Kootenay Food Policy Council was considered at this time

7.2 DISCUSSION ITEM: CENTRAL KOOTENAY FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

Director Vandenberghe requested a discussion with the Committee regarding the Central Kootenay Food Policy Council's presentation and ask from the May 16, 2024 Board Meeting.

The Committee had a discussion regarding the Central Kootenay Food Policy Council presentation that was received at the May 16, 2024 Board Meeting. The Committee felt the ask for \$15,000/year from the Food Policy Council was unclear. They are hoping to seek guidance on how these funds are being used.

7.3 DISCUSSION ITEM: KOOTENAY CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITIONS

Director Vandenberghe requested a discussion with the Committee regarding the Kootenay Clean Energy Transitions (KCET) Report that was presented at the May 16, 2024 Board Meeting.

The Committee had a discussion around the initiatives that RDCK was involved in with the KCET pilot project. The Committee discussed the pros and cons of this being kept a provincial service through the BC Building Code or continuing with KCET. Staff highlighted some key takeaways from this project and the intent to continue to support our contractors through workshops and further education.

7.4 DISCUSSION ITEM: PRIDE FLAG AT CDCC

Chair DeBoon requested a discussion with the Committee on having the Pride Flag up at Creston and District Community Complex (CDCC) for the month of June in recognition of Pride Month.

The Committee discussed having the Pride Flag fly at CDCC during the month of June in recognition of pride month. The Committee discussed there is a need for a policy for raising non-government organization flags. The Committee discussed that political neutrality is important and these conversations can become complex with the public.

Moved and seconded,
And resolved:

That the Board request staff to develop a policy on the raising of non-government organization flags at RDCK facilities.

Carried

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.2 DISCUSSION ITEM: IMAGINE KOOTENAY PARTNERSHIP

Director Jackman requested a discussion with the Committee regarding the Memorandum of Understanding for Imagine Kootenay Partnership.

Director Jackman provided a brief overview of Imagine Kootenay and the new membership and administrative changes. The Committee discussed that Imagine Kootenay is an opportunity to step up economic development but they would like to see some work done on their website if Areas A, B, C and Creston are to sign on as partners.

8.3 AIRPORT MASTER PLAN

Chair DeBoon requested an update on the Airport Master Plan. The report from Mike Moore, Chief Administrative Officer - Town of Creston, has been received.

Mike Moore, CAO - Town of Creston, provided an update on the successful candidate that was chosen for the request for proposal for the Creston Valley Regional Airport Economic Viability Study. HM Aero was awarded the contract in the amount of \$79,930. The Town of Creston may require additional funding for this project to use towards public engagement.

8.4 REVIEW ACTION ITEM LIST

The Committee will review the action item list from the May 2, 2024 Creston Valley Services Committee meeting.

The Committee discussed having the status updated with more information going forward so it's easier to keep track and monitor where each item is at. The Committee requested an update from staff on item 19.

9. PUBLIC TIME

The Chair called for questions from the public and members of the media at 11:50 a.m.

10. IN CAMERA

10.1 Meeting Closed to the Public

Moved and seconded
And resolved:

In the opinion of the Board - and, in accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter – the public interest so requires that persons other than DIRECTORS, ALTERNATE DIRECTORS, DELEGATIONS AND STAFF be excluded from the meeting; AND FURTHER, in accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter, the meeting is to be closed on the basis(es) identified in the following Subsections:

90. (1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;

Carried

10.2 Recess of Open Meeting

Moved and seconded,
And resolved:

The Open Meeting be recessed at 11:50 a.m. in order to conduct the Closed In Camera meeting.

Carried

11. NEXT MEETING

The next Creston Valley Services Committee meeting is scheduled for July 4, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Moved and seconded,
And resolved:

The Creston Valley Services Committee meeting be adjourned at 12:36 p.m.

Carried

Digitally approved By

Arnold DeBoon, Chair

From: Ken <sbird156@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2024 8:51 AM
To: Creston Valley Regional Airport <crestonairport@gmail.com>
Subject: AWOS Battery backup

As requested,

During the planned Fortis power outage on April 21 2024, subject did not perform sufficiently to meet our needs. The power outage was 5 hrs long. At present our AWOS tower's power is fed from the Airport's Utility building. It appears that the UPS APC Battery backup is in line to provide power to the AWOS tower in event of power failure.

The AWOS tower provides power to 3 Webcams, 1 AWOS computer with accessories including Ceilometer, 1 VHF radio, and Tower lighting.

The APC power saving backup unit the airport is using is not sufficient to meet our needs for prolonged power outages.

[APC Power-Saving Back-UPS XS 1300VA, 120V - BX1300G-CA | APC Canada](#)

--

Ken

Caretaker

Creston Valley Regional Airport

Note: This Incident report shows this power outage potentially would not have allowed a medivac to service Creston Airport during this outage. At the last minute the power came on and the flight was able to land and not be redirected.

Brigham Steed, President
Creston Valley Regional Airport Society

Creston Electric Inc.

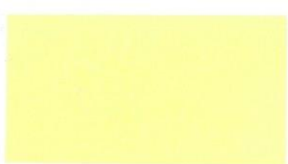
1207 Hillside St PO Box 722

Creston BC V0B1G0

250-353-1124

bwalkerelectric@gmail.com

GST/HST Registration No.: 787822931RT0001



Estimate

ADDRESS

Creston Airport

ESTIMATE # 1054

DATE 01/12/2023

DATE	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
01/12/2023	parts	100kw liquid cooled Generator, 400 amp transfer switch non service rated, extra duty battery, block heater.	1	59,874.90	59,874.90
01/12/2023	parts	Wire, conduits, splitter box, strut, and other associated hardware, (wire length unknown but should be close)	1	6,734.78	6,734.78
01/12/2023	parts	Freight on generator	1	800.00	800.00
01/12/2023	Labour	Labour			9,760.00
01/12/2023	Permit	Technical Safety BC permit #	1	2,114.00	2,114.00

SUBTOTAL 79,283.68
 GST @ 5% 3,858.49
TOTAL \$83,142.17

TAX SUMMARY

RATE	TAX	NET
GST @ 5%	3,858.49	77,169.68

Accepted By

Accepted Date



1424 Industrial Rd 2
Cranbrook, B.C. V1C 0B7
Telephone: 250-426-7020
TOLL FREE: 1-800-407-8090

February 14, 2024

To: Gordon Darnbrough

Reference: Creston Airport Backup Generator

We are pleased to offer the enclosed electrical Budget Price based on our recent site visit:

Electrical per lump sum \$ 94,910.00 Taxes Extra

This Budget Price is based on the following:

- Note: quote based as no hazardous material in existing construction (Hazardous Materials Assessment to be done by others and is required prior to commencing work)
- Work to be completed on weekdays (M-F, not including holidays)
- Includes the following:
 - Electrical Permit
 - Relocation / removal of existing Electrical Meters and install one Meter for this service location.
 - Subject to Fortis BC design and approval
 - Supply and install:
 - 60Kw 120/240v Diesel stand by generator. **Lead Time 37-39 Weeks**
 - Trenching and Concrete Pad
 - Automatic transfer switch
- Dose not Include:
 - Fortis BC Charges

Client's Name (please print)

Signature

Date

Trusting the above is satisfactory.

Yours Truly,

Noel Payne EXT -

Martech Electrical Systems
noel.payne@martechelectrical.com

Prices valid for 5 days from date of issue

**MAYDAY ELECTRIC LTD.
KOOTENAY RIVER ROAD
CRESTON, B.C.
V0B 1G2**

Office: 250-428-5260

Cell#: 250-428-6360

November 16, 2023

Atten: bduncan172@gmail.com
Creston Airport Generator

Our quote for installing a diesel generator at Creston Airport is \$85,232.54 + \$4,261.63 GST for a total of \$89,494.17. This price includes:

- Generator/ATS
- Concrete pad
- Wire to generator and ATS
- Commissioning of system
- 80 L of diesel
- Reconfiguration of electrical room service

The quote does not include:

- Any Fortis charges (but I don't foresee any reason to have Fortis to turn off the power)

Let me know if you have any questions.

Yours truly,



Tyler Mailhot – President

MARK BIBBY



LICENCED • BONDED • INSURED

130 5th Avenue South
Creston, BC V0B 1G0

Phone: 250-428-4648

Email: markbibbyelectric@gmail.com

November 30, 2023

Creston Valley Regional Airport
1993 D Airport Road,
Creston, BC
V0B 1G2

Re: Quote for installation of 100 kW (400 Amp) emergency generator for the main 400 amp electrical service at the Creston airport.

• Labour	\$11,470
• Diesel Generator (Includes delivery to Creston Airport) (35 – 40 weeks order time)	\$52,773
• Transfer Switch	\$7114
• Materials	\$9,834
• Trench Excavation and Bedding Sand	\$2,000
Subtotal	\$83,191
• PST (included in material costs)	
• GST	\$4,159.55
• Electrical Permit	\$335
TOTAL	\$87,685.55

For a propane model generator add \$3364 to the total (24 weeks order time)

This quote does not include a separate diesel or propane tank to feed the generator, nor does it include the running of or connection of the fuel lines. If you decide to purchase the diesel model I would suggest that a separate fuel tank as opposed to the built in tank may be more cost effective as you can see from the following price below.

Attention: Creston Valley Services Committee

We are asking for funding of **\$105,000.00** (*includes contingency fund*) for a Standby Generator for backup power to keep the **Creston Valley Regional Airport** operational during power outages.

- Airports require navigational equipment, AWOS (weather), Webcams, Radio communications, Tower and Runway lighting - this all relies on power.
- The services provided at our airport support are Emergency Flights for medivacs/Angel Flights, Search and Rescue (CASARA & GSAR) and BC Wildfire response. We support the business community and general aviation.
- This will also align with the principal directive that each municipal community have a disaster response plan.
- We are asking for updated quotes from the suppliers, as the previous ones have expired.



Creston Valley Services Committee

Emergency Program Report: 2nd Quarter 2024

Report Date: June 24, 2024

Response

The RDCK Emergency Program has one incident to report this quarter. Emergency Support Services volunteers were activated to assist two individuals impacted by a residential fire in Kaslo. Emergency Food, lodging, clothing and incidentals were provided.

Preparedness

ESS Recruitment

We obtained pleasing results from our new Emergency Support Services webpage, and social media campaign which ran from mid April to the end of May. In total, we received 40 new contacts from people expressing an interest in joining ESS, and our ESS Directors are contacting them to introduce them to the local teams.

Some of the people who responded live outside the RDCK, and we have passed their information on to the Emergency management staff in the East Kootenay and Kootenay Boundary regions.

New ESS teams are being formed by the Lower Kootenay Band, and in Procter. The RDCK Emergency Management team is supporting.

The recruitment website remains active as we work to counter volunteer attrition: <http://www.rdck.ca/JoinESS>

Other preparedness activities:

Reviewed and updated the activation protocols for the Emergency Operations Centre and ESS.

Updating supplier information for ESS, and onboarding new suppliers.

Attended the Castlegar ESS Operational exercise in which the responders practiced setting up and operating a Reception Centre.

Visited the new Procter ESS team, and spoke to the group about emergency preparedness and NEPP.

Continued working on the improvements to the data on our EOC webmap to identify facilities that could be activated as Cooling or Warming centres throughout the region.

Attended the ECCC /EMCR seasonal climate briefing to understand the seasonal outlook for climate related hazards, and maintained awareness of local conditions through daily environmental scans.

Attended an emergency planning meeting with the Lower Kootenay Band.

Presented to the West Kootenay Climate hub as part of their webinar.

Application process and online tool developed for seasonal EOC Resource workers & Support Services Resource workers.

Ian Briscoe has joined the RDCK this period as Emergency Program Coordinator and we are supporting him with onboarding and becoming familiar with our program.

Attended the RDCK EOC Exercise which simulated an emergency requiring an evacuation.

Hosted the ESS directors' forum in Kaslo to create an opportunity for knowledge sharing across our various ESS teams in the region.

Participated in the CP Rail Emergency Response Training session in Cranbrook.

Attended the Lardeau Valley emergency preparedness fair in Meadow Creek.

PROJECT WORK

IT upgrade for Creston Rec Centre

Site visit held with RDCK IT and Recreation Services staff. IT personnel are reviewing the findings and finalizing the equipment requirements.

Emergency Operations Centre Grant (UBCM CEPF)

Our application for a grant to support upgrades to the RDCK Emergency Operations Centre was successful and work has commenced on this project. We are currently designing the training exercises for RDCK & municipal staff, and sourcing the hardware for the enhancements to our backup EOC.

Outreach & Liaison (Ongoing)

Ongoing work to connect with individuals and groups to promote the emergency programs, with increasing emphasis on individual, family and community preparedness.

Chair and facilitate Emergency Preparedness Committee discussions throughout the region.

Attended meetings with various agencies related to Emergency Management, including:

City of Nelson Emergency team.

Riondel Commission

Ministry of Emergency Management & Climate Readiness (EMCR)

Prepared By:

Jon Jackson – Emergency Program Coordinator



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 Yaqan 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 Yaqan 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



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,

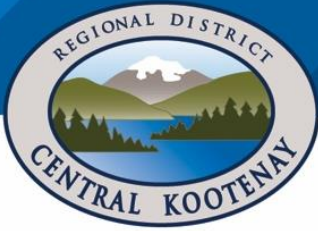
Paris Marshall Smith, Sustainability Planner

CONCURRENCE

Chief Administrative Officer – Stuart Horn

General Manager of Development and Community Sustainability Services – Sangita Sudan

Manager of Community Sustainability Services – Daniel Seguin



Committee Report

Date of Report: 06, 25, 2024
Date & Type of Meeting: 07, 04, 2024, Creston Valley Services Committee
Author: Eileen Senyk, Water Services Liaison
Subject: CRESTON VALLEY ALTERNATE WATER SUPPLY FEASIBILITY STUDY
File: 11-5700-20-43
Electoral Area/Municipality Electoral Areas A, B & C and the Town of Creston

SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide information to the Creston Valley Services Committee regarding the Creston Valley Alternate Water Supply feasibility study. The majority of the funding for this study has been provided by the Province of BC through the Ministry of Agriculture. Specifically this funding was made available through the Investment in Agriculture Foundation (IAF), Agricultural Water Infrastructure program. A portion of the funding for this study will come from the Community Development Fund.

SECTION 2: BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The goal of this project is to identify a long-term water supply source for the Creston Valley (from Duck Creek to the American border) to provide additional water for agricultural development and to be prepared for future water shortages due to climate change. This study is a necessary first step in securing a sustainable source or sources of water for agriculture in the Creston Valley, thereby decreasing the pressure on the Arrow Creek water supply and the Goat River Basin.

Regional District staff worked with the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Water, Lands and Resource Stewardship and with the Yaqan Nukiy (Lower Kootenay Band) to develop a scope of work for the project. The Scope of Work is as follows:

- Forecast water needs by areas in the Creston Valley from Duck Creek to the US border.
- Identify potential benefitting areas, stakeholders, water purveyors and First Nations Government.
- Incorporate Yaqan Nukiy interests as they relate to water related cultural heritage values.
- Assess treatment requirements for each potential source and usage.
- Compare current and potential future land uses in terms of current and potential future water demand.
- Assess storage infrastructure requirements.
- Assess transmission and distribution requirements.
- Assess feasibility of separate seasonal irrigation supply infrastructure.
- Assess feasibility of centralized vs. multiple sources.
- Prepare high-level cost estimates for servicing options.
- Assess agricultural growth potential and cost benefit if water supply is increased.
- Assess water license and permitting requirements for each feasible source.

At the April 18, 2024 Board meeting (pursuant to Board resolution #232/24) the Board resolved to award the contract for this project to Associated Engineering.

Associated Engineering is currently gathering information relevant to the project. Stakeholders will soon be invited to provide input. Government partners and stakeholders include the Yaqa Nukiy, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Water, Lands and Resource Stewardship, water purveyors in the Creston Valley and the agricultural community in the Creston Valley.

Investment in Agriculture Grant Structure:

The Investment in Agriculture - Agriculture Water Infrastructure Program is structured as follows:

Stream 3: Assessments, Engineering Studies or Plans

Stream 2: Community Projects

Stream 1: Producer Projects

This feasibility study has been funded through Stream 3 of this program. Future funding for implementation of recommendations within the study may be possible through Stream 2 ‘Community Projects’ in the future.

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

The budget for this project is \$100,000. The IAF have provided \$75,000 and the remaining \$25,000 will be funded by the Community Development Fund. The Community Development Fund portion is included in the 2024 Financial Plan. The funding will be equally split between Electoral Areas A, B and C.

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

None anticipated.

3.3 Environmental Considerations

Conflicts of interest exist between the needs of water for agriculture and environmental flows for fish in the Goat River. Identifying an alternate water supply for agriculture is a first step toward relieving the water demand currently experienced in the Goat River watershed. Arrow Creek, which supplies water to both the Town of Creston and the Erickson Water Distribution system, is a tributary to the Goat River.

3.4 Social Considerations:

Water purveyors are, at times, struggling with water shortage in the Creston Valley. For example, in 2021 the South Canyon Improvement District ran out of water during summer months. Identifying an alternate water source for agriculture will be a step toward relieving pressure on aquifers that are currently struggling to meet water demands.

3.5 Economic Considerations:

Agriculture is an important economic driver in the Creston Valley. Agriculture is also needed to protect food security/sovereignty in the area. A reliable long term water supply will protect these interests.

3.6 Communication Considerations:

There are several government partners (Municipal, Provincial & First Nations) and other stakeholders whose involvement in the project is crucial. Water purveyors in the Creston Valley and the farming community should be given opportunity to participate if the best outcome is to be achieved.

3.7 Staffing/Departmental Workplace Considerations:

Project coordination is included in the Utilities department work plan. The study will be conducted by Associated Engineering.

3.8 Board Strategic Plan/Priorities Considerations:

This project aligns with several Board priorities, starting with one of the guiding Values in the 2024 Strategic Plan:

Reconciliation - *We will work with our Indigenous neighbours to assist in empowering community success through partnerships on projects and service delivery.*

From the 'Develop Relationships and Partners':

- *Continue on the path to reconciliation through respectful and inclusive dialogue.*
- *Form long lasting, strong partnerships with Indigenous communities in support of their continued success.*

The Yaqan Nukiy are important partners in this project. The scope of work for this project was developed with input from the Yaqan Nukiy.

From 'Energy Efficiency and Environmental Responsibility'

- *Ensuring our watersheds are protected and well governed.*
- *Proactively prepare for and mitigate the impacts of natural risks, (fire, floods, and slides) including preparedness at the community level.*
- *Support community resiliency with resident safety as our top priority.*
- *Lead by example and implement strategies to support environmental stewardship and energy efficiency.*
- *Supporting our local agriculture and food security.*

While not explicit here, natural risks also include drought. One of the goals of this project is to be prepared for future water shortages due to climate change. A study alone will not make the community more resilient or enhance environmental responsibility. However, this is the first step toward eventual project implementation which would achieve both of those goals. The direct benefit of project implementation would be to the agricultural sector, but an important secondary benefit would be to fisheries.

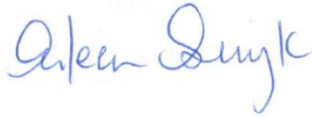
SECTION 4: OPTIONS & PROS / CONS

This report is for information only.

SECTION 5: RECOMMENDATIONS

This report is for information only.

Respectfully submitted,



Eileen Senyk
Water Services Liaison

CONCURRENCE

Water Operations Manager – Alexandra Divlakovski
Utility Services Manager – Chris Gainham
Chief Administrative Officer – Stuart Horn

Attachment A – Project Charter



Project Charter

Creston Valley Alternate Water Supply Study

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The purpose of the project is to review the feasibility of alternative long-term water supply for the Creston Valley. The intent is to support agriculture and to secure additional water supply for climate change resilience.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

In 2019 the Regional Board adopted a Drinking Water Conservation Plan. Currently, treated drinking water from Arrow Creek is used to irrigate crops in the Creston Valley. This project supports drinking water conservation by beginning the process of securing a separate source of water for irrigation and thereby conserving treated water from Arrow Creek for domestic use. This project also aligns with the Regional Board's strategic priority of protecting water sources. Arrow Creek is a fragile water source due to limited supply.

SPONSOR AND PROJECT TEAM

Project Sponsor: The Manager of Utilities will act as the project sponsor and will provide information to the General Manager of Environmental Services as required.

Project Manager: The Water Services Liaison will be responsible for the day to day management of the project and coordination with the Project Management team and the Consultant.

Project Team: The Project Team will include the General Manager of Environmental Services, the Utilities Manager, the Water Operations Manager, the Project Manager and the Water Services Liaison.

Government Partners, Internal & External Stakeholders: Internal stakeholders include all staff within the Utilities Department. Staff from Development Services and Sustainability will also have an interest in the project from the perspective of watershed governance and development approvals. The Emergency Services department maintains important relationships with several Dyking Districts in the Creston Valley and will therefore be included as an internal stakeholder. Other internal stakeholders include the Area Directors for the affected Electoral Areas (A, B and C).

Government Partners will include the Lower Kootenay Band (Yaqaan Nukiy), the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Water, Lands & Resource Stewardship and the Town of Creston.

External Stakeholders will include, water user groups in the Creston Valley, Improvement and Dyking Districts, the Agricultural Sector.

SCOPE OF WORK

Together, the following defines the desired project outputs. Their full and satisfactory delivery should be considered as a successful completion of the project.

Deliverables

A report that will provide a shortlist of water sources for further study and identify which water sources are not feasible and should therefore be eliminated from further consideration.

Elements of the study would include the following:

- Forecast water needs by areas in the Creston Valley from Duck Creek to the US border.
- Identify potential benefitting areas, stakeholders and water purveyors and First Nations Government.
- Incorporate Yaqaan Nukiy interests as they relate to water related cultural heritage values.
- Assess treatment requirements for each potential source and usage.
- Compare current and potential future land uses in terms of current and potential future water demand.
- Assess storage infrastructure requirements.
- Assess transmission and distribution requirements.
- Assess feasibility of separate seasonal irrigation supply infrastructure.
- Assess feasibility of centralized vs. multiple sources.
- Prepare high-level cost estimates for servicing options.
- Assess agricultural growth potential and cost benefit if water supply is increased.
- Assess water license and permitting requirements for each feasible source.

Outcomes:

The project is a necessary first step in securing a sustainable source of water for agriculture in the Creston Valley, thereby decreasing the pressure on the Arrow Creek water supply. The outcome is list of water sources that merit detailed study.

The study will include information regarding the type of transmission, distribution and storage required for each source on the shortlist and approximate costs (+/- 30%) for each.

OUT OF SCOPE

This project is a desktop, screening level study of possible irrigation water sources for agriculture in the Creston Valley. Detailed study of any water sources is out of scope. Identification of water sources for uses other than agriculture is also out of scope.

ASSUMPTIONS, RISKS AND CONSTRAINTS

It is assumed that the project will be able to proceed and that staffing resources will remain consistent and adequate throughout the process. If staffing levels and the resources available to undertake the project change, timelines will need to be adjusted accordingly. Contractor capacity will also play an important role in the risks involved. The Project Management team has found that contractors are very restricted in terms of capacity at this time, which has potential to delay the project.

IMPLEMENTATION (ONGOING)

Implementation of the project will begin immediately.

TIMELINES

The table lists the significant milestones in the project, such as phases, events, stages and deadlines in order, concluding with implementation.

Milestones	Start Date	Descriptions	Due Date	Responsible
Identify Stakeholders	January 11, 2024	Engage stakeholders who will provide input in regards to the scope of work prior to RFP.	January 31, 2024	Water Services Liaison (WSL)
Issue Request for Proposals	February 15, 2024	Issue RFP.	March 12, 2024 Deadline for submissions	Project Manager (WSL to support)
Award contract	April 18, 2024	Award contract after March Board meeting	April 18, 2024	Project Manager
Project commencement	May 29, 2024	Initiate feasibility Study	Ongoing	Contractor

Public Meeting	August 2024	Contractor to host meeting with coordination and support from RDCK.		Contractor supported by WSL
First Draft of Report		Receive first draft of the report.	October 31, 2024	Contractor
Review of Draft Report	November 1, 2024	Review report with stakeholders and provide feedback to contractor.	November 30, 2024	Stakeholders, WSL to coordinate.
Final Report			December 31, 2024	Consultant

CVSC ACTION ITEMS LIST – 07-04-2024

#	ACTION ITEM	MEETING ORIGIN	STATUS
1.	STAFF DIRECTION: That the Board direct staff to prepare a draft policy for Board review that requires recipients of financial grant in aid funds to engage with local area Directors and/or provide documentation during the budget process, in order to be eligible for funding via taxation in a given year.	05-Jan-2023	(Staff direction from Apr 6 Meeting)
2.	STAFF DIRECTION: That staff create a Terms of Reference on how the Dog Control Service will be delivered. Sangita Sudan and Jordan Dupuis to discuss with Mike Morrison, Manager of Corporate Administration – RDCK, on how this service would be addressed.	02-Mar-2023	In process / Gone to Board
3.	STAFF DIRECTION: That staff prioritize proposed or existing parks identified in the Ktunaxa RDCK Traditional Use Study (TUS) Summary Report dated April 2023 and come back at a later date to the Creston Valley Services Committee meeting with recommendations.	04-May-2023 & 01-Jun-2023 & 06-Jul-2023	(Staff direction at May, June, July meetings) Ongoing
4.	STAFF DIRECTION: Stuart Horn, Chief Administrative Officer – RDCK, to talk to Tom Dool, Research Analyst, about reaching out to the Hospital Boards and BC Transit with regards to transportation between Creston and Cranbrook.	04-May-2023	In process of being contacted by consulting company.
5.	STAFF DIRECTION: Staff to develop a clear process for feasibility studies, for clubs/ groups submitting recreation request proposals. Example: Creston Tennis Club	04-May-2023	This needs workshop. Nelson completed a workshop on the same subject.
6.	STAFF DIRECTION: Staff to communicate to Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTi) that there is a benefit to the community if they came to some resolution to keep the toilets and garbage at Martell Beach.	01-Jun-2023	COMPLETE
7.	STAFF DIRECTION: Staff to create a contribution agreement with Kootenay River Secondary School where RDCK lists what the funding is for and what the expectations are for the funding. To formalize the agreement, Staff to include in the agreement what the rates are that RDCK is going to charge to receive that funding. CVSC would review the contribution agreement with Kootenay River Secondary School every year.	01-Jun-2023	Ongoing. There is a funding in the 2024 budget for this agreement.
8.	STAFF NOTE: Stuart Horn, Chief Administrative Officer – RDCK advised that the ownership and maintenance of the signage is being handled by Kootenay Employment Services and the Committee will receive an update later in 2023.	06-Jul-2023 & 04-May-2023	Complete – awaiting a license of occupation for specific signage location before removing from list.
9.	STAFF DIRECTION: That staff report back to the CVSC as part of the 2024 budget process to provide direction on what would be required to reinstate the grant funding to Lister and Crawford Bay cemeteries, including the release of prior years amounts being held in reserve.	07-Sep-2023	Ongoing - Completed

10.	STAFF DIRECTION: That staff reach out to Ministry of Transportation to get their response/interest on Martel Beach regarding blocking trailer boat access.	07-Sep-2023	COMPLETE.
11.	STAFF DIRECTION: That staff request a workshop/session (in conjunction with a site visit for the Creston Valley Services Committee) with the Traditional Use Study (TUS) authors, the Ktunaxa Nation and Yaqaan Nukiy, to educate the Committee to better understand the TUS.	09-Sept-2023	Ongoing
14.	That staff meet with the Chamber of Commerce to plan a partnered Canada Day event and provide the appropriate budgetary impact in the draft 2024 budget.	08-Feb-2024	Completed
16.	STAFF DIRECTION: That staff arrange a meeting with the RDCK and the Town of Creston to discuss internal governance regarding the Kootenay Employment Services contract.	07-Mar-2024	Meeting has occurred. Staff will be scheduling a meeting now per item 17.
17.	STAFF DIRECTION: That staff arrange a meeting with Kootenay Employment Services (KES) and the Town of Creston regarding the KES contract, which is set to expire in 2025.	07-Mar-2024	Date to be scheduled.
18.	STAFF DIRECTION: That staff work with library to develop a policy around the capital reserve and investment amounts to establish how the reserved funding is being spent.	07-Mar-2024	Ongoing
19.	STAFF DIRECTION: That staff reach out to the Goat River Association regarding the budget.	07-Mar-2024	Motion passed at June Board meeting to pause funding until further information provided to Directors.
21.	STAFF DIRECTION: That Staff bring back a presentation to the May 30 CVSC meeting regarding more information on the letter being submitted in partnership with the Yaqaan Nukiy people to the minister requesting a water sustainability plan on behalf of the Creston Valley and how this Committee can help with moving this forward.	02-May-2024	Paris was unable to make May 30 th meeting. Presentation will be made at July 4 th meeting.
22.	STAFF DIRECTION: That staff schedule a meeting with Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, the Directors and RDCK staff regarding access to Goat River and how this information will be shared with the community.	30-May-2024	Ongoing.