



Media Release

September 19, 2024
For immediate release

Official results declared for West Creston Fire Protection Service Establishment Amendment and Loan Authorization Referendum

Nelson, BC: The official results of the September 14, 2024 referendum for the West Creston Fire Protection Service have been declared by the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) Chief Elections Officer. The proposed West Creston Fire Protection Area Service Establishment Amendment Bylaw and Loan Authorization Bylaw in Electoral Area C did not receive voter assent.

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY
WEST CRESTON FIRE SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT & LOAN AUTHORIZATION ASSENT VOTE
ASSENT VOTING RESULTS – OFFICIAL RESULTS**

VOTING STATIONS	YES	NO	SPOILED/REJECTED	TOTAL
Mail-In Ballots	4	7	0	11
Creston & District Community Complex	86	140	1	227
Voter Turnout: 52% (457 on Voters List)	90	147	1	238

[Official signed results](#)

The questions asked to obtain the assent of the electors were:

Are you in favour of the RDCK adopting both of the following bylaws?

YES NO

1. West Creston Fire Protection Area Service Establishment Amendment Bylaw No. 2912, 2024 which will permit the Regional District to increase the maximum annual allowable requisition for West Creston Fire Service S291 from \$146,250 or \$1.57/\$1,000 of net taxable value of land and improvement within the service area, whichever is greater, to \$393,831 or \$2.5519/\$1000 of net taxable value of land and improvements within the service area, whichever is greater; and

2. West Creston Fire Protection Service Loan Authorization (Fire Hall, Water Tender & Frontline Fire Engine) Bylaw No. 2916, 2024, which will permit the Regional District to borrow an amount not to exceed \$2,151,900

for the purpose of completing the construction of the West Creston Fire Hall and replacing the frontline West Creston Water Tender and Fire Engine.

The results of the referendum mean the proposal will not go ahead. RDCK staff and Directors thank the voters for turning up and casting their ballots. There was a 52% voter turnout for the referendum. From the beginning of the process, the RDCK was committed to ensuring the electors made the decision on if this service should proceed or not, and is pleased voter turnout for this process was substantial.

"The RDCK will now be looking at potential options for fire protection and response in the West Creston service area," said Kelly Vandenberghe, RDCK Electoral Area C Director. "We will be working with the Town of Creston and other stakeholders to determine these options. Once we have had these discussions we will communicate them to the community."

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

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