

# **Board Highlights**

October 17, 2024

## **RDCK Procedures Bylaw**

Under the Local Government Act, local governments must, by bylaw, establish general rules and procedures to be followed by the Board and by Board committees and commissions when conducting their business. This bylaw outlines the core elements of transparency, accountability and good governance in RDCK decision making. On October 17 the Board adopted the following resolution:

Regional District of Central Kootenay Procedure Bylaw No. 2898, 2024 be read a FIRST, and SECOND time by content to repeal and replace Procedure Bylaw No. 2576, 2019, and its amendments; AND FURTHER, staff provide public notice in accordance with Section 225 (2) of the Local Government Act.

The updated bylaw incorporates the amendments directed by the Board, as well as new options for streamlining meetings and clarifying procedures. The next step is to share with the public for review. <u>Click here</u> to review the amended bylaw on the RDCK website or go to <u>www.rdck.ca/publicnotices</u> for more information.

## **Permissive Tax Exemptions**

The Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw was adopted by the Board. Permissive tax exemptions issued by the RDCK Board, exempt eligible properties from taxation for a specified period of time, as they pertain to specific land uses, prescribed by the Province, in the Local Government Act. Properties eligible for a permissive tax exemption include land owned and held by an athletic or service organization for recreational use by the public, places of worship, agricultural or horticultural societies, halls or venues, and art galleries or museums owned by not for profit organizations. Applications are reviewed based on four key areas; land and improvement eligibility, applicant eligibility, regulatory eligibility, and taxation considerations.

For more information www.rdck.ca/taxexempt.

## **Emergency Operations Centre – Activation Summary**

The Board received for information a summary of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) activation in response to the 2024 wildfires. The RDCK EOC was activated on July 17 when 98 wildfires ignited within the RDCK and the EOC remained in full-scale activation for five weeks. The wildfires resulted in 14 Evacuation Orders and Five Evacuation Alerts being issued in Electoral Areas D and H, affecting 2,113 addressed properties and parcel identifiers. The next step is a four part after action review, including an internal review, interagency review, impacted Elected Officials review, and a review with residents of affected areas who were either on Evacuation Alert or Order. The results of this review will then be shared with the Board.

As well, the Ministry of Forests will provide post-wildfire risk assessment reports which can be found at www.rdck.ca/hazardreports.

#### **Strata Title Conversion**

The Board approved the Strata Title Conversion for the property located at 1155 Insight Drive in Electoral Area E from an existing industrial/commercial building to 16 strata units. The property, previously occupied by Pacific Insight Electronics Corp., has been vacant for a number of years and will now provide commercial strata spaces between 3,300 and 33,000 square feet.

### **Beyond Recycling Program**

The Board approved a two-year extension of the current one-year contract with <u>Wildsight</u> for the delivery of the Beyond Recycling Program for both the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years. Beyond Recycling is a locally developed environmental education program, financially supported by the RDCK, and other funders, which guides students in making sustainable lifestyle choices. The program is designed for grade 5 to 7 classrooms, addressing environmental issues, inspiring positive action and finding creative solutions to living sustainably by providing education on RDCK programs such as Resource Recovery, Water Conservation, Climate Action, and FireSmart.

#### Telecommunication Issues in Rural Areas of the RDCK

The Board directed the Chair and CAO to request a meeting with the Federal Minister of Canadian Heritage, currently the Honourable Pascale St-Onge, to discuss solutions to telecommunications issues in rural areas within the RDCK. These issues include, serious implications of lack of service and repair on landlines, outages that are interfering with emergency communications, and impediments to alternative technologies imposed by the telecom corporations throughout RDCK rural areas.

## **Director's Reports**

RDCK Directors provide monthly reports outlining what they have been working on. <u>Click here</u> to read the October reports in the Board minutes.

## **RDCK Quarterly Report**

For the latest RDCK Quarterly Report, which details the current projects and initiatives of the RDCK, please follow the link.

## **RDCK Board Meeting Video Recording**

To view a recording of this month's meeting, <u>click here</u>.

## **Discretionary Grants**

#### AREA A

Selkirk College Foundation – Steps for Success Creston Valley Ministerial Association – Christmas Hampers \$1,000

\$1,000

AREA B  Canyon Community Association – Community Association  Canyon Lister Fire Department – Fire Fighter Appreciation Day  Ktunaxa Kinbasket – Children's Christmas Gathering  Creston Valley Hospice Society – Volunteer Appreciation Dinner  Creston Valley Ministerial Association – Christmas Hampers	\$580 \$750 \$1,000 \$500 \$1,000
AREA C Canyon Lister Fire Department – Fire Fighter Appreciation Day Creston Valley Ministerial Association – Christmas Hampers	\$500 \$1,000
AREA E Renee Hayes – Squatters Camp Cleanup	\$419.65
AREA I Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital Health Foundation – Light up the Hospital	\$1,000
AREA J Robson Fire Department – Robson Fire Department 45 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Robson Fire Department – Halloween Fireworks Castlegar & District Community Arts Council – A New Economy	\$1,500 \$1,000 \$750
AREA K Burton Community Association – BVFD Budget Development	\$650
VILLAGE OF SLOCAN Village of Slocan – Earth Day	\$300
Community Development Grants	
AREA D  Lardeau Valley Opportunity LINKS Society – Argenta Community Workshop  Argenta Safety and Preparedness Society – Building Resilient Communities Conference  Kaslo Community Services Society – Holiday Hampers	\$5,000 \$1,675 \$4,000
AREA E Taghum Hall Society – Monthly Contra Dances	\$500
AREA F Taghum Hall Society – Monthly Contra Dances	\$910
AREA G Salmo Emergency Support Services (ESS) Team – Salmo ESS Discretionary Fund Ymir Community Association – Ymir History Billboard	\$800 \$4,000

AREA H Slocan Valley Rail Trail Society – Vegetation Management Selkirk College Foundation – Steps for Success	\$5,000 \$2,000	
AREA J  Deer Park Recreation Society – Operating Expenses  Castlegar & District Chamber of Commerce – Business Excellence Awards	\$20,000 \$500	
AREA K Burton Community Association – Burton Volunteer Fire Department – Christmas Fundraiser Grand Forks ATV – Safety Improvements to Shared Trails Nakusp and Area Development Board – Grow Arrow Lakes Arrow Lakes Search and Rescue Society – Helmet Purchase	\$4,999 \$1,000 \$4,000 \$4,000	
VILLAGE OF NAKUSP  Nakusp & District Museum – Community Tea  Arrow Lakes Gymnastics Club – Gymnastics Mats	\$980 \$980	
VILLAGE OF SALMO The Corporation of the Village of Salmo – Bear Proof Garbage Cans	\$6,000	
VILLAGE OF SLOCAN  Village of Slocan – Library Furniture  Village of Slocan – Saturday Market	\$2,500 \$2,000	
Recreation Commission No. 9 – Area A		
Riondel Arts Club Boswell Memorial Hall Boswell & District Farmers Institute Riondel Community Park & Campground Riondel Curling Club South Kootenay Lake Art Connect Society Crawford Bay & District Hall & Parks Association The Hexagon Players South Kootenay Lake Community Service Society — Halloween in Riondel South Kootenay Lake Community Service Society — Crawford Bay Community Christmas Potluck	\$1,733 \$2,000 \$1,766 \$873 \$1,745 \$3,300 \$6,500 \$3,000 \$1,350 \$1,000	
Recreation Commission No. 10 – Portion of Area E – Proctor/Harrop/Balfour/Queens Bay		
Kootenay Lake Family Network Balfour Senior Citizens Association – BC Branch #120 Redfish Parent Advisory Committee Balfour Recreation Commission	\$1,000 \$871 \$1,000 \$1,000	