



Board Highlights

November 14, 2024

Aimee Watson acclaimed as RDCK Board Chair for 2025



Electoral Area D Director Aimee Watson was acclaimed as Board Chair for 2025 by the RDCK Board at this month's meeting. Chair Watson has served as the RDCK Electoral Area D Director since 2014 and begins her seventh term as Chair.

Village of Nakusp Councillor and RDCK Director Aidan McLaren-Caux was elected as Board Vice-Chair for 2025 by the Board of Directors. Vice-Chair McLaren-Caux has served as a RDCK Director since 2022 and begins his first term as Vice-Chair.

The Board Chair and Vice-Chair are elected annually by the Board of Directors and serve a one-year term.

(pictured L-R) Aidan McLaren-Caux, Vice Chair and Aimee Watson, Chair

Forestry WorksforBC letter of support

The Board will send a letter of support to the Ministry of Forests regarding the [Forestry WorksforBC](#) campaign. Forestry WorksforBC is a group of forest-based organizations and companies, representing more than 1,000 businesses engaged in all aspects of British Columbia's forestry sector. The objective of the campaign is to bring awareness to how much this industry affects the provincial economy, and the impact mill closures across the province have on communities and families. From the perspective of the Board, forestry is critical to the area, but it is imperative to ensure ecological and community values are considered in forestry practices. Increasing efficiency of use through value added regional production is critical.

Economic Trust of the Southern Interior BC

The Board appointed the following Directors (Hanegraaf – rural, Lockwood – municipal, Lunn – municipal, and McLaren-Caux – alternate) to the Economic Trust of the Southern Interior BC for a two-year term ending December 31, 2026. The not-for-profit corporation was created to administer a \$50 million one-time endowment intended to support investment in the economy of the Southern Interior of BC.

Emergency and Disaster Management Act – Indigenous Engagement Requirements

British Columbia's new Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA) requires consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Governing Bodies is undertaken by all municipalities and regional districts in a culturally safe manner, across all phases of emergency management. The RDCK Board will partner with member municipalities,

For more information

info@rdck.bc.ca | 250.352.6665 | 1.800.268.7325 (BC) | or visit rdck.ca

who agree to do so, in completing the Indigenous Engagement Requirements under EDMA. The province has provided \$40,000 of funding to each Local Authority to meet the requirements. The RDCK will undertake a coordinated approach by pooling funds to maximize effectiveness and efficiency. A portion of the funds will be used to hire a consulting firm to design and facilitate the engagement process between the participating local authorities and First Nations.

Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee Framework

The Board endorsed the [RDCK Accessibility Framework](#) which will be used as a reference in the development of the RDCK Accessibility Plan. The RDCK is committed to building a community that is truly diverse, equitable, inclusive and accessible. These objectives will be achieved through strategic initiatives and meaningful actions aimed at ensuring every resident can participate fully and equally. The next steps are to identify the priorities and steps required to create a comprehensive three-year accessibility plan and to establish a feedback mechanism for the public to provide experiences related to accessibility.

Director's Reports

RDCK Directors provide monthly reports outlining what they have been working on. [Click here](#) to read the November 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, [click here](#).

Discretionary Grants

[AREA A](#)

East Shore Circle of Friends Society – New Signage	\$900
East Shore Kootenay Lake Community Health Society – Community Consultation	\$1,000

[AREA E](#)

The Dance Umbrella Society – Day of the Dead	\$150
Procter-Harrop Senior Centre Branch 118 – Christmas Dinner	\$300

[AREA G](#)

Salmo District Arts Council – Stage 2 Infrastructure Planning	\$5,000
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[AREA H](#)

Crescent Valley Firefighters Foundation – Halloween Fireworks	\$750
Taghum Hall Society – Contra Dances	\$200

[AREA I](#)

Mount Sentinel Secondary School – Breakfast for Learning	\$1,000
Selkirk College Foundation – Steps for Success Campaign	\$2,500

AREA J

Castlegar Sculpturewalk – Night of Fire 2024	\$1,000
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VILLAGE OF SLOCAN

WE Graham Community Service Society – Food Bank Garden Bed	\$500
Spirit of Slocan Committee – Christmas Tree Light-Up	\$52.50

Community Development Grants

AREA H

W.E. Graham Community Service Society – Christmas Hampers	\$4,000
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AREA I

Castlegar & District Recreation Department – Santa Clause School Visits	\$1,500
Kootenay Lake Hospital Foundation – Ultrasound System Purchase	\$1,000
SHSS Safe Grad 2025	\$2,500

AREA J

Castlegar & District Recreation Department – Santa Clause School Visits	\$1,500
Kootenay Gallery of Art, History, and Science Society – Gallery Relocation Project	\$50,000
Ootischenia Improvement District – Waterloo Park Hydrant Remediation	\$42,000

AREA K

Edgewood Community Internet Society – Fuel Coverage for Internet & CBC at Goat Mountain	\$1,000
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VILLAGE OF SALMO

The Corporation of the Village of Salmo – Tarp System	\$4,426.28
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VILLAGE OF SLOCAN

Treehugger Retreats and Events Society – Winter Carnival	\$603
WE Graham Community Service Society – Holiday Hampers	\$1,000

Recreation Commission No. 4 – Nakusp & Area K

Arrow Lakes Gymnastics Club	\$9,000
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