



Board Highlights

January 16, 2025

Inland Ferries in the RDCK

The Board approved the writing of two letters regarding inland ferry service. The first to be sent on behalf of the RDCK Board to the Minister of Transportation and Transit requesting the BC Government implement, meaningful consultation, automatic standing, hearings in impacted communities, and prioritize the mental health and welfare impacts on BC residents while considering the needs of physically isolated communities before it can disrupt access for BC resident's access to essential services they rely upon for their health, safety, and welfare.

The second letter will be sent on behalf of the RDCK Board to the Premier of British Columbia and Minister of Transportation and Transit acknowledging that the Province legislate that inland ferry services are categorized as essential services for residents of BC, and further, the current essential service orders for daily sailings of the Kootenay Lake, Glade, and Harrop-Procter ferries does not meet the needs of those communities, and that a new determination be made on the minimum number and frequency of daily sailings required to maintain each crossing.

Resource Recovery Facility Regulatory Bylaw

The Board adopted a new Resource Recovery Facility Regulatory Bylaw which includes a 10% increase on all tipping fees at RDCK landfills and transfer stations, effective February 1, 2025. As waste management becomes more complex, capital and operating costs, which include fuel, labour, insurance, interest on borrowing repayment, and more stringent regulatory requirements, continue to increase. Additionally, sufficient reserve funds are required to minimize future borrowing costs and fund a number of long-term projects such as landfill upgrades and infrastructure replacement.

The RDCK is committed towards operating "user pay" facilities, meaning those who generate waste pay for its disposal. The purpose of this is to financially incentivize diversion.

The bylaw also has made changes to promote diversion of organic waste to composting facilities, through the acceptance of compostable plastic bag liners, produced from biomass, for their environmental benefits and competitive pricing.

Resource Recovery System Efficiency Study

In 2024, the RDCK undertook a [system efficiency study \(pg.169\)](#) to gain a better understanding of the costs of managing specific waste materials, as well as to identify options for improving cost effectiveness and equitability across the region. The study identified existing tipping fees were not sufficient to cover the current cost of disposal for most materials. As a result, the shortfall has been made up through taxation, which impacts everyone regardless of individual waste generation and diversion efforts. The study recommended increasing

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tipping fees, as well as the closure of some Satellite facilities. Winlaw Recycling Depot will be closed some time in 2025. The closure will save \$33,382 on an annual basis while still providing residents a high level of service.

Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Organics Collection Pilot Program

The Board approved proposed subsidies and support for the Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional organics diversion pilot program in and around the City of Nelson. This includes a reduction in commercial organics tipping fee, education and training support for participating businesses, development of a communications plan to promote and support the pilot, and rebates for the first 25 participating businesses.

Director's Reports

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

Harrop Procter Ferry Society – Ferry 24/7 \$2,000

AREA H

Slocan Park Community Hall Society – Winter Carnival \$1,200

AREA J

Stanley Humphries Secondary School – Graduation 2025 Scholarship/Bursary Program \$3,000

AREA K

Edgewood Volunteer Fire Department Society – Local Burn Pile Cleanup \$950

Community Development Grants

AREA D

Kootenay Emergency Response Physicians Association – Essential Operations Support Grant \$5,000

AREA E

RDCK – 2024 Contribution \$3,000

AREA F

Six Mile Water Users Community – Water Line Replacement \$8,000

AREA G

Salmo and District Chamber of Commerce – Douglas Fir Beetle Abatement \$5,000

AREA I

Castlegar and District Hospital Foundation – Light up the Hospital \$1,000

Tarrys Firehall Social Club – Annual Appreciation Dinner \$1,500

AREA K

Arrow Lakes Cross Country Ski Club – Volunteer Ski Trail Groomer Training \$800

Burton and Edgewood Elementary School (Arrow Lakes School District) – Summit Lake Skiing \$3,975

Fauquier Care Society – Fauquier Cares Evening Social \$800

VILLAGE OF SLOCAN

Chanterelles Choir – Youth Choir \$1,700