



Board Highlights

June 15, 2023

Electoral Area F Local Conservation Fund – Alternative Approval Process

The Board directed staff to proceed with obtaining approval of the electors in Electoral Area F for the adoption of the Electoral Area F Local Conservation Fund Service Establishment Amendment. The Local Conservation Fund provides funding for projects that benefit conservation in the rural areas around Kootenay Lake and the Slocan Valley. Approval is to be obtained through the Alternative Approval Process (AAP). The Board obtains approval if fewer than 10% of eligible electors in the area covered by the AAP submit elector response forms in opposition of the particular matter. If approval of the electors is obtained, Electoral Area F will be a full participant in the Local Conservation Fund Service at a cost of \$15 per parcel of land to be collected annually. [Click here](#) to learn more about the RDCK Local Conservation Fund.

RDCK Climate Actions

The Board approved additional resources to support communication and engagement related to RDCK Climate Actions. These funds will go towards putting on events, advertising, consultant support and hiring a one-year contract position to support the communication and engagement process. As well, the RDCK is launching an online public engagement platform to create a hub to share ideas, provide feedback and ask questions on projects and initiatives within the RDCK.

The community open houses will be re-scheduled for this fall from which staff will collate all information and learning. Residents are encouraged to continue to provide their feedback over the summer to climateaction@rdck.bc.ca. The Board allocated up to \$121,700 for this initiative.

For more information about the RDCK Climate Action Plan go to www.rdck.ca/climateaction.

Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee

The Board received an initial draft of the Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee (RAAC) bylaw for discussion and input from municipalities within the RDCK.

In June 2021, the Accessible British Columbia Act was enacted with the purpose of establishing a framework for government and organizations to work with people with disabilities and the broader community to identify, remove and prevent barriers to accessibility. Local governments must establish a committee, create a plan and have a mechanism for providing feedback. The RAAC will advise the RDCK and provide input and recommendations on the development of the accessibility plan. By removing barriers, accessibility encourages public engagement and may provide new opportunities within programs, services, initiatives or facilities for individuals interacting with the RDCK.

For more information

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

Emergency Operations Centre support for Lower Kootenay Band

The Board directed staff to draft a service agreement to support the Lower Kootenay Band residents during an active emergency by providing Emergency Operations support. The type of support requested by the Lower Kootenay Band includes helping with a declaration of a State of Local Emergency and issuing, maintaining, and rescinding Evacuation Alerts and Orders.

Moratorium extended for acquisition of new RDCK water systems

The Board extended the moratorium on the acquisition of water and wastewater systems until June 30, 2024. As well, the Board direct staff to present updated plans, policies and acceptance matrices as required, to the Water Services Committee on or before the end of June 2024 with the intent to lift the moratorium at that time.

Since August 2011, the RDCK suspended intake of acquisitions from new water and wastewater systems due to the significant demands placed on staff. However, over the years staffing levels have increased and the water group has been restructured to handle a manageable growth rate in the future.

West Kootenay Transit fare free days

West Kootenay Transit free days were approved by the Board and include; Local, Provincial and Federal election days, Earth Day, Go by Bike Week, Clean Air Day and Seniors Day. No fees will be collected for any riders on these days. As well, the Board direct staff to introduce an in-lieu option on the closest day to a West Kootenay Transit free day, for areas that do not have the service on that day.

Growing Communities Fund Allocation

The Board approve the allocation of \$3,925,000 from the Growing Communities Funds. This allocation of funds will enable each service to reduce taxation directly, or indirectly by reducing borrowing, reducing the use of reserve funds or freeing up other grants for other purposes.

The Provincial Government's Growing Communities Fund provides a one-time total of \$1 billion in grants distributed among all of BC's local governments. The grants support the delivery of infrastructure projects necessary to enable community growth.

Service	Description	Amount
S231	Recreation Commission No.8	150,000
S209	Recreation Facility-Area A (Riondel)	150,000
S291	Fire Response - West Creston	150,000
S101	Rural Administration	25,000
S156	Emergency Communications 911	125,000
S129	Fire Protection-Areas A and C (Wynndel, Lakeview)	92,034
S130	Fire Protection-Area B (Canyon Lister)	105,584
S134	Fire Protection-Area F (North Shore)	144,982
S136	Fire Protection-Area G (Ymir)	131,206
S137	Fire Protection-Area I (Tarrys, Pass Creek)	126,745

S141	Fire Protection-Area E (Balfour, Harrop)	230,235
S142	Fire Protection-Areas H and I (Slocan Valley)	180,330
S145	Fire Protection-Area J (Ootischenia)	73,885
A117	Recycling Program – Central Subregion	142,875
A120	Organics Program – Central Subregion	30,402
A120	Organics Program – West Subregion	38,693
S186	Refuse Disposal (East Subregion)	115,399
S187	Refuse Disposal (Central Subregion)	100,849
S188	Refuse Disposal (West Subregion)	336,782
S222	Arena (Castlegar Complex)-Castlegar and Areas I and J	203,000
S227	Aquatic Centre-Castlegar and Areas J and I	38,668
S224	Recreation Facility-Creston and Areas B, C and Area A	241,664
S226	Recreation Facility-Nelson and Areas F and Defined E	241,668
S202	Regional Parks-Nelson, Salmo and Areas E, F and G	35,235
S221	Community Facility Recreation & Parks-Kaslo and Area D	94,211
S205	Regional Parks-Area A	25,554
S241	Water Utility-Area A (Riondel)	17,191
S243	Water Utility-Area B (Lister)	33,892
S248	Water Utility-Area F (Duhamel Creek)	84,624
S250	Water Utility-Area B (Erickson)	90,811
S252	Water Utility-Area K (Burton)	72,715
S253	Water Utility-Area K (Edgewood)	10,754
S254	Water Utility-Area K (Fauquier)	55,931
S255	Water Utility-Area E (Balfour)	95,469
S256	Water Utility-Area J (West Robson)	83,637
S259	Water Utility-Area D (Woodbury)	49,976
	Totals - \$	3,925,000

Assent Vote – Firefighting equipment

The Board direct staff to prepare a loan authorization bylaw for five RDCK fire departments for critical life-saving equipment or infrastructure. After public consultation, voter approval will be undertaken by means of referendum.

West Creston Fire Response (Area C) – Construct fire hall and replace frontline water tender and fire engine. Prepare a loan authorization bylaw in the amount of \$2,129,000.

Balfour Harrop Fire Department (Area E) – Replace frontline engine. Prepare loan authorization bylaw in the amount of \$750,000.

North Shore Fire Department (Area F) – Replace frontline engine. Prepare loan authorization bylaw in the amount of \$750,000.

Tarrys Fire Department (Area I) – Replace frontline engine. Prepare loan authorization bylaw in the amount of \$750,000.

Winlaw Fire Department (Area H) – Replace frontline engine. Prepare loan authorization bylaw in the amount of \$750,000.

Director's Reports

RDCK Directors provide monthly reports outlining what they have been working on. [Click here](#) to read the June reports in the Board minutes (agenda item 4.4, pg. 200).

Discretionary Grants

AREA B

Canyon Community Association – Canada Day \$999

AREA E

Balfour Seniors Branch #120 – Computer \$515

AREA F

Nelson and District Chamber of Commerce – Canada Day Regional Celebration \$1,000
Bonnington Regional Park Society – Community Summer Events \$2,300

AREA G

Renascence Arts and Sustainability Society – 11th Annual Tiny Lights Festival Infrastructure \$4,000

AREA I

BC Backcountry Hunters and Anglers – Backcountry clean up \$500

AREA K

Nakusp and Area Youth Society – New Youth Centre \$2,500

Community Development Grants

AREA B

Goat River Residents Association – July Celebration \$3,000

AREA D

Lardeau Valley Opportunity Links Society – Lardeau Valley Grid Stability \$50,000

AREA E

Balfour Seniors Branch #120 – Seniors assistance \$1,612.50
Nelson and District Chamber of Commerce – Canada Day Regional Celebration \$1,000

AREA F

Beasley Rescue Society – Rope Rescue Training Initiative \$3,500
Taghum Community Society – Creative Spaces \$4,000

AREA H

Slocan Valley Outriders Association – Perimeter Fencing for Safety and Emergencies \$2,000

AREA I

Shoreacres Community Cemetery – Upgrade to grounds \$5,300

SLOCAN

Village of Slocan – W.E. Graham Community Service Society Garden \$500

Village of Slocan – Trails Society \$1,500

Community Works Fund

AREA A

Riondel Board Club – Marina Entrance West Wall \$10,000

AREA D

Kaslo infoNet Society – Kootenay Lake Fibre Loop & Last Mile Boat Access \$50,000

AREA G

Salmo Pool Mechanical Upgrade \$20,000

AREA K

Abandoned Edgewood Wells Retrofit \$20,000

Recreation Commission No.6 – New Denver, Silverton and Area H

Sandon Historical Society (Sandon Trails Historic Signage Project) \$1,275

Slocan Solution Society (Shakespeare by the Shore) \$750

Slocan Solution Society (Valhalla Community Choir) \$500