



**Regional District of Central Kootenay**  
**COMMUNITY SUSTAINABLE LIVING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Open Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.  
RDCK Hybrid Meeting

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chair W. Popoff	Electoral Area H	In-person
Director G. Jackman	Electoral Area A	In-person
Director R. Tierney	Electoral Area B	In-Person
Director K. Vandenberghe	Electoral Area C	
Director A. Watson	Electoral Area D	
Director T. Newell	Electoral Area F	In-Person
Director H. Cunningham	Electoral Area G	
Director A. Davidoff	Electoral Area I	
Director H. Hanegraaf	Electoral Area J	
Director T. Weatherhead	Electoral Area K	In-person
Director C. Ferguson	Village of Silverton	In-person
Director S. Hewat	Village of Kaslo	

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

Director C. Graham	Electoral Area E
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**STAFF PRESENT**

Y. Malloff	CFO, General Manager of Finance IT, E.D.
S. Sudan	General Manager of Development and Community Sustainability Services
D. Sequin	Manager of Community Sustainability
P. Marshall-Smith	Sustainability Planner
S. Kindred	Administrative Assistant, Development & Community Sustainability Services

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**1. WEBEX REMOTE MEETING INFO**

To promote openness, transparency and provide accessibility to the public we provide the ability to attend all RDCK meetings in-person or remote (hybrid model).

**Meeting Time:**

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

1:00 PM | (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada) | 2 hrs

**Join by Video:**

<https://nelsonho.webex.com/nelsonho/j.php?MTID=m5e4b374372d91726879efe4a6fdfbb42>

**Join by Phone:**

+1-604-449-3026,,27726215670## Canada Toll (Vancouver)

**Meeting Number (access code): 2772 621 5670**

**Meeting Password:** tUBwnncD922

**In-Person Location:**

RDCK Boardroom | 202 Lakeside Drive | Nelson, BC

**2. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Popoff called the meeting to order at 1:27 p.m. due to technical issues.

**3. TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT**

We acknowledge and respect the indigenous peoples within whose traditional lands we are meeting today.

**4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved and seconded,

And Resolved:

The Agenda for the December 12, 2023 Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

**Carried**

**5. RECEIPT OF MINUTES**

The October 17, 2023 Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee minutes, have been received.

**6. STAFF REPORTS**

**6.1 FOR INFORMATION: UPDATE ON SUSTAINABILITY SERVICE PROJECTS AND AREAS OF ACTIVITY**

The Staff Report dated December 12, 2023 from Paris Marshall Smith, Sustainability Planner, has been received.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

### 7.1 CSLAC 2024 FUNDING REQUESTS

The Committee Report dated November 20, 2023 from Paris Marshall Smith, Sustainability Planner, has been received.

*NOTE: The following documents from October's CSLAC Meeting are added for additional information:*

- *2023-10-17 CSLAC Project Funding*
- *2022-11-10 Committee Report: Living Lakes Ground Water Monitoring*
  - *Att1: Evaluation for Project Initiation*
  - *Att2: Columbia Basin Groundwater Monitoring Program presentation*
- *2023-09-26 Committee Report: Elk Root Conservation Regenerative Educational Community Food Gardens*
  - *Att1: Evaluation for Project Initiation*
  - *Att2: Elk Root Conservation Project Overview*
- *2022-11-10 Committee Report: Kootenay Lake Watershed Monitoring Program*
  - *Att 1: Evaluation for Project Initiation*
  - *Att 2: Kootenay Lake Watershed Monitoring Program Overview*

Moved and seconded,

#### **MOTION ONLY**

That the Board direct staff to include payment from the annual grant allocation of \$25,000 in Community Sustainable Living Service S105, in the 2024 budget for the following projects:

1. Columbia Basin Groundwater Monitoring Program - Living Lakes: \$8,333
2. Kootenay Lake Watershed Monitoring Program (KLWMP) - Friends of Kootenay Lake: \$8,333
3. Regenerative Educational Community Food Garden - Elk Root Conservation: \$8,333

AND FURTHER, this funding is approved in principle and will not be provided until April 1, 2024 after budget approval.

Moved and seconded,

And Resolved:

#### **AMENDMENT ONLY**

That the foregoing motion being:

*That the Board direct staff to include payment from the annual grant allocation of \$25,000 in Community Sustainable Living Service S105, in the 2024 budget for the following projects:*

1. *Columbia Basin Groundwater Monitoring Program - Living Lakes: \$8,333*
2. *Kootenay Lake Watershed Monitoring Program (KLWMP) - Friends of Kootenay Lake: \$8,333*
3. *Regenerative Educational Community Food Garden - Elk Root Conservation: \$8,333*

*AND FURTHER, this funding is approved in principle and will not be provided until April 1, 2024 after budget approval.*

Be amended to include “placeholders in” replacing the words “payment from”; the addition of the word “draft” before 2024, and removing the entire AND FURTHER, thus reading:

*That the Board direct staff to include **placeholders in** the annual grant allocation of \$25,000 in Community Sustainable Living Service S105, in the **draft** 2024 budget for the following projects:*

1. *Columbia Basin Groundwater Monitoring Program - Living Lakes: \$8,333*
2. *Kootenay Lake Watershed Monitoring Program (KLWMP) - Friends of Kootenay Lake: \$8,333*
3. *Regenerative Educational Community Food Garden - Elk Root Conservation: \$8,333*

**Carried**

Moved and seconded,

And Resolved:

**MAIN MOTION**

That the Board direct staff to include placeholders in the annual grant allocation of \$25,000 in Community Sustainable Living Service S105, in the draft 2024 budget for the following projects:

1. Columbia Basin Groundwater Monitoring Program - Living Lakes: \$8,333
2. Kootenay Lake Watershed Monitoring Program (KLWMP) - Friends of Kootenay Lake: \$8,333
3. Regenerative Educational Community Food Garden - Elk Root Conservation: \$8,333

**Carried**

**DIRECTOR ABSENT/PRESENT** Director Davidoff left the meeting at 2:04 p.m. and Director Hanegraaf joined the meeting at 2:16 p.m.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**8.1 FOR DISCUSSION: ELK ROOT CONSERVATION LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Staff provided a verbal update.

Moved and seconded,

And Resolved that it be recommended to the Board:

That the Board submit a Letter of Support for Elk Root Conservation's application to Investment Agriculture Foundation for food storage and distribution infrastructure.

AND FURTHER, that this application recognizes the regional effort to establish food hubs across the RDCK.

**Carried**

**RECESS/RECONVENED** The meeting recessed at 2:47 p.m. for a break and reconvened at 2:52 p.m.

**8.2 FOR DISCUSSION: KOOTENAY LAKE PARTNERSHIP-UBCM FUNDING COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY (C2C) GRANT**

Staff provided a verbal update.

Director Watson provided direction to staff to include the following recommendation on the Board addenda, ``That the Board direct staff to submit a funding application to UBCM Community to Community (C2C) for Kootenay Lake Partnership 2024 strategic planning`` and also attached the C2C application as information.

**8.3 FOR DISCUSSION: CONFIRM 2024 CSLAC MEETING DATES**

The Committee to confirm the following dates for 2024:

- February 13, 2024
- April 16, 2024
- June 11, 2024
- August 13, 2024
- October 15, 2024
- December 10, 2024

**9. PUBLIC TIME**

The Chair called for questions from the public and members of the media at 3:05 p.m.

**10. NEXT MEETING**

The next Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved and seconded,  
And Resolved:

The Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

**Carried**

Approved by

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Walter Popoff, Chair



December 13, 2023

Investment Agriculture Foundation

To Whom it May Concern:

**RE: Elk Root Conservation Farm Society's (ERC) application to the Investment Agriculture Foundation's Food Storage, Distribution and Retail Program**

On behalf of the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) Board of Directors, I would like to express our support for Elk Root Conservation Farm Society's (ERC) application to the Investment Agriculture Foundation's Food Storage, Distribution and Retail Program.

Our ongoing commitment is evident through our support of various initiatives, such as the Central Kootenay Food Policy Council, the Kootenay Boundary Farms Advisors program, and our advocacy for the changes to meat inspection and licensing systems, all aimed at bolstering support for our local producers. However, it is clear that there remain challenges faced by numerous producers lacking sufficient infrastructure for processing and distributing food. Therefore, the RDCK continues to advocate for a regional network of food hubs to ensure equitable access for all producers and processors. The proposed project will significantly augment food storage, processing, and distribution capacity within the Slokan Valley. Accordingly, the RDCK supports this application as a critical step towards advancing the establishment of food hubs in our region.

We understand that ERC's envisioned food hub is not solely focused on enhancing local farmers' access across the region. It will also build partnerships with educational institutions and other organizations to address the needs of the most vulnerable. Additionally, we are encouraged by the prospect of providing space for individuals to reconnect with the land, acquire vital food-growing skills, and both produce and access nutrient dense foods.

In conclusion, the RDCK supports Elk Root Conservation Farm Society's (ERC) application to the Investment Agriculture Foundation's Food Storage, Distribution and Retail Program as an important step towards creating a more resilient and inclusive food systems within our region.

Sincerely,

Aimee Watson  
Chair, RDCK Board

**Elk Root Conservation REGIONAL FOOD STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION HUB –  
background material to accompany request for Letter of Support from RDCK Board**

**Elk Root Conservation Regional Food Storage and Distribution Hub project description:**

The **Elk Root Conservation** Regional Food Storage and Distribution Hub project aims to develop infrastructure and facilities to store locally grown food year round and distribute it throughout the region. This will include constructing Food Storage & Processing Facilities, and a Farm Gate Distribution & Retail Building complete with: i) varying levels of cold storage (refrigerated to frozen); ii) temperature and humidity regulated curing rooms; iii) storage rooms including racking, shelving and equipment such as pallet jack and/or fork lift; iv) work spaces with processing, preservation, and packaging machinery and equipment; and v) rural retail space. We plan to install electric upgrades to operate the storage, processing and distribution facilities. Included in this construction will be a solar-power energy system with back-up battery storage and/or generator. We want to ensure proper food storage and distribution in the events of severe weather including wind, snowstorms, wildfires, heat waves, etc. that frequently interrupts power supply to our rural area and can disrupt supply chains. We estimate the timeline for design, build permitting, and construction to be February 1, 2024 - November 30, 2025.

On the distribution side of our project, these facilities will also include EV charging stations and electric equipment charging stations. In addition, we will purchase 2 EV cargo vans. One van will be equipped with an electric refrigeration unit, insulation, and solar charging kit to ensure proper cold storage and transportation during extreme hot or cold weather. This will also provide us with additional off-grid cold storage and back-up battery capacity in the event of power disruption as outlined in the previous paragraph. The van will be primarily used to deliver food to individuals in our community who have barriers to transportation and accessibility, as well as to local retailers. In addition, we will be collecting produce from other local food producers and transporting it to the ERC Regional Food Storage & Distribution Hub, where it can then be processed and redistributed to people in need. We aim to acquire the vehicles by Spring 2024.

**ERC Community Food Hub Project:**

PARTNERS: (these are financial partners i.e. funders)

1. LFIF - Federal Government - confirmed
2. United Way - pending
3. CleanBC Go Electric Rebates - provincial government - confirmed
4. iMHZEV: Incentives for Medium- and Heavy-duty Zero-Emission Vehicles - federal government - confirmed
5. Elk Root Conservation Farm Society - confirmed
6. SC Carts - confirmed
7. Rad Bikes - electric bike sponsorship for delivery (just invited us to partner, exact sponsorship to be confirmed )



SUPPORTERS - RDCK in the only unconfirmed letter of support - all others have or have confirmed they are writing letters.

1. Local Government - Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK)
2. RDCK - Community Sustainable Living Advisory Committee (CSLAC)
3. Central Kootenay Food Policy Council
4. Lower Columbia Initiatives Corporation
5. Kootenay Boundary & Farm Advisors (KBFA)
6. School District 8 (SD8)
7. Circle of Indigenous Nations Society (COINS)
8. Evergreen Market
9. The Kootenay Co-op
10. Linden Lane Farms