



Media Release

Date: June 15, 2021

For immediate release

RDCK Community Services to move safely into Step 2 of BC's Restart plan

Nelson, BC: The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) Community Services team continues to align its reopening strategy with BC's Restart plan. With Step 2 of the Restart beginning today, RDCK Community Services will be expanding some aquatic and recreation programming while prioritizing the safety of staff and scaling up operations gradually.

"The last 16 months have been a challenge for our entire community, but we are anticipating the opportunity to provide more services as the Province continues to unveil its restart plan," said Joe Chirico, RDCK General Manager of Community Services. "While our community centres and programs have been available at some capacity since July 27, 2020, we are excited to bring more people back into our facilities and centres to enjoy more recreation opportunities."

The goal is for the RDCK to continue to expand program and service offerings gradually through the summer and fall in response to public demand and available staff resources, and to remain flexible and responsive to staffing levels and provincial direction. A safe and gradual re-opening will allow the time needed for staff to reopen, reorganize and prepare spaces that may have been modified over the previous months.

"Since last summer and fall, our community centres and recreation facilities have been open for recreational, fitness and ice programming that met or exceeded all provincial health guidance," said Chirico. "In Step 2, we will continue to align with provincial guidelines for a safe restart. I would like to thank the people in our communities for their patience and understanding as we move forward, and our hard-working staff for their dedication to safe and fun experiences for our customers."

Recreation customers are encouraged to visit www.rdck.ca/recreation to explore current program offerings and learn more about a safe return to recreation. More information about specific changes to programming will be released in the coming days.

Incorporated in 1965, the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is a local government that serves 60,000 residents in 11 electoral areas and nine member municipalities. The RDCK provides more than 160 services, including community facilities, fire protection and emergency services, grants, planning and land use, regional parks, resource recovery and handling, transit, water services and much more. For more information about the RDCK, visit www.rdck.ca.

For further information, please contact:

Joe Chirico

General Manager of Community Services

Regional District of Central Kootenay

Tel: 250-352-8158

Email: jchirico@rdck.bc.ca

For media enquiries:

Maria Hypponen

Marketing and Communications Lead, Community Services

Regional District of Central Kootenay

Email: mhypponen@rdck.bc.ca