



Media Release

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For immediate release

RDCK seeks electoral approval for new library financial aid service in Electoral Area E

Nelson, BC: The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) will seek approval of the electors within Electoral Area E to establish the *Electoral Area E Library Financial Aid Service Bylaw*. If adopted, the bylaw will establish a financial aid service in Electoral Area E for the purpose of funding the Nelson Public Library. Approval will be sought through the Alternative Approval Process (AAP).

Currently, residents of Electoral Area E are required to pay a subscription fee of \$90 per family or \$45 per individual for a Nelson Public Library membership. If the new bylaw is approved, residents of Electoral Area E will receive free membership like residents of the City of Nelson, Electoral Area F, and defined portions of Electoral Area H.

“The Nelson Municipal Library is a valuable resource which provides members of our community access to a wide range of services, including an extensive library catalogue, opportunities for kids and teens to learn and explore, a large number of online courses for adults, and a tech hub, featuring a recording and photography studio,” said Ramona Faust, RDCK Director of Electoral Area E. “Currently there are 330 youth memberships which are grant supported. This new service will contribute to the overall literacy of our community and ensure sustainable funding for years to come.”

If the new bylaw is approved, the proposed requisition amount for 2023 would be \$106,138. An average residential property in Electoral Area E with an assessed value in land and improvements of \$483,312 would expect to pay \$35.37 for library services.

Under Section 86 of the *Community Charter*, eligible electors within the service area who are opposed to the new bylaw may petition against the adoption by signing an Electoral Response Form. At least 10% of electors must petition against the proposal prior to 4:30pm on September 5, 2022. Electors who support the proposal should not sign the form.

For more information, including the Electoral Response Form, service area map, and more information about the process, please visit www.rdck.ca/AreaELibrary

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.

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