

Media Release

June 1, 2023 For immediate release

Salmo pool renovation underway

Nelson, BC: Major renovations to upgrade the Salmo outdoor pool mechanical room has officially begun. The project, which is slated to take approximately six weeks at the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) facility, is a complete overall of the mechanical room which includes; two new high efficiency boilers, an additional sand filter, new plumbing, and a new chemical feeding system. North Mountain Construction and KB Plumbing are the contractors on the project.

"These improvements are critical to ensuring the long term viability of the Salmo pool, which is an important community facility during the summer," said Diana Lockwood, RDCK Board Vice-Chair and Salmo and Area G Recreation Commission Chair. "This project keeps the swimming pool operational for recreational use, as well as maintaining its status as the hub to learn valuable water safety skills."

With the previous mechanical system at end of life, this upgrade will improve safety for staff working in the mechanical room. For the pool itself, it will have improved overall circulation and increased filtration, which will result in cleaner water. The pool will still use chlorine based disinfection. Pursuant to the Public Health Act, all public pools must have residual chlorine in the water.

In February of 2021 the RDCK received a comprehensive assessment of the pool from Cover Architectural Collaborative, Rocky Point engineering and Master Pools, which included multiple phases of work. This current work will complete the pool mechanical upgrade identified in Phase One of the plan. This phase will also include, as funding becomes available, the pool basin, decks and drains replacement/upgrades. Phase Two of the project is the renovation of the existing change room building.

Originally scheduled to open June 4, the pool will now be CLOSED for the entire month of June. The opening day for the 2023 season is subject to mechanical equipment availability and is tentatively scheduled for early July. Information on swimming lessons this summer at the Salmo pool will be released mid-June.

This project is funded by Columbia Basin Trust, the Village of Salmo, Electoral Area G grants, Salmo Valley Swimming Pool Society, and the RDCK Salmo and Area G Recreation Services.

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 <u>www.rdck.ca</u>.

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For further information, please contact:

Joe Chirico General Manager of Community Services Regional District of Central Kootenay Tel: 250.352.8158 Email: <u>jchirico@rdck.bc.ca</u>

For media enquiries:

Dan Elliott Communications Coordinator Regional District of Central Kootenay Tel: 250.354.3476 Email: <u>delliott@rdck.bc.ca</u>