



Board Highlights

February 15, 2024

RDCK Budget – Public Budget Information Session Schedule

As part of the annual budget process, the RDCK will be hosting public budget information sessions for all its Municipalities and Electoral Areas. The RDCK invites the public to join for a breakdown of the financial landscape and to understand what goes into the development of the 2024-2028 RDCK Financial Plan. [Read the 2024-2028 RDCK Draft Financial Plan.](#)

All meetings will be available to attend in-person or online. Click on the links below for information on how to join virtually.

Sub Region	Date and Time (Local)	Location
Salmo & Area G	Thursday, February 22 6:00 pm PST (hybrid)	Salmo Village Chambers, 423 Davies Avenue
Kaslo & Area D	Monday, February 26 6:00 pm PST (hybrid)	Kaslo Council Chambers, 413 4 th Street
Slocan & Area H	Tuesday, February 27 6:00 pm PST (hybrid)	Slocan Park Hall, 3036 Highway 6
New Denver, Silverton, & Area H	Wednesday, February 28 6:00 pm PST (hybrid)	Bosun Hall, 710 Bellevue Street
Nakusp & Area K	Monday, March 4 6:00 pm PST (hybrid)	Nakusp Emergency Services Building, 300 8 th Avenue NW
East Shore – Area A North	Tuesday, March 5 6:00 pm MST (hybrid)	Riondel Community Centre, 1417-1421 Eastman Avenue
Castlegar, Area I & J	Monday, March 11 6:00 pm PST (hybrid)	Castlegar & District Community Complex, 2101 6 th Avenue
Nelson, Area E & F	Tuesday, March 12 6:00 pm PST (hybrid)	RDCK Board Room, 202 Lakeside Drive
Creston, Area A, B & C	Wednesday, March 13 6:00 pm MST (hybrid)	Creston & District Community Complex, 312 19 th Avenue N
RDCK Regular Board Meeting Financial Plan Adoption	Thursday, March 21 9:00 am PST (hybrid)	RDCK Board Room, 202 Lakeside Drive

Curbside collection referendum ballot question

On May 11, 2024, the RDCK will hold two separate referendums to determine if electors are in favour of the establishment of curbside collection service in their respective area. The Board approved the following ballot questions for each referendum.

For more information

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

In a defined portion of Electoral Area J the question for voters will be:

Are you in favour of the Regional District of Central Kootenay adopting Defined Area J Curbside Collection Service Establishment Bylaw No. 2934, 2023, which will permit the Regional District to establish a curbside collection service for defined portions of Electoral Area J; which if approved will result in an annual requisition not to exceed \$406,818.39 based on a cost per household of \$283.06.

For more information about the referendum, including how to register to vote, service maps, advance voting, and upcoming public information sessions go to www.rdck.ca/JCurbside.

In defined portions of Electoral Area F and H the question for voters will be:

Are you in favour of the Regional District of Central Kootenay adopting Defined Areas F & H Curbside Collection Service Establishment Bylaw No. 2933, 2023, which will permit the Regional District to establish a three-stream curbside collection service with waste, organics and recycling for defined portions of Electoral Areas F & H; which if approved will result in an annual requisition not to exceed \$596,235.28 based on a cost per household of \$280.02.

For more information about the referendum, including how to register to vote, service maps, advance voting, and upcoming public information sessions go to www.rdck.ca/FHCurbside.

Draft Climate Action Plan Community Feedback

From April to October 2023, the RDCK engaged with the public to receive feedback on its draft Climate Action Plan. During this time, the RDCK held 20 open houses, six dialogue circles, six webinars, utilized its public engagement platform (<http://engage.rdck.ca>), received emails, letters, phone calls, as well as having countless informal conversations with residents. The key themes of the feedback included:

- Concerns with the engagement process, communications, and affordability;
- Desires for freedom of choice, a local perspective, and support for farmers;
- Cautions around building regulations and electric vehicles; and
- Interest in improved transit/active transportation, emergency preparedness, water stewardship, renewable energy, and grid resilience.

[Click here](#) for a full breakdown of the public engagement process.

Moving forward the Board approved staff to solicit additional feedback from the Directors via survey and from there staff will use all feedback to identify different possible Climate Action Plan versions, which they will provide to the Board for direction.

Emergency and Disaster Management Act

In November 2023, the Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA) was adopted by the Province of BC, replacing the Emergency Program Act. The goal of EDMA is to reflect the realities of the modern world and shifts focusing on emergency response to the four phases of Emergency Management: mitigation, preparation,

response, and recovery. As part of the phased implementation, the Province was seeking feedback from local governments.

While EDMA brings important changes to emergency management in BC, the RDCK Board of Directors and Staff have concerns about increasing demands on local authorities. The Board approved staff sending a second letter to the Premier of British Columbia, the Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, and the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy expressing its deepening concern to the Province on its Emergency and Disaster Management Act and related Regulation for Local Authorities; including its concerns over funding and the cost to the tax payer, as well as addressing residents’ concerns. The letter will also be copied to all 27 Regional Districts, municipalities in the RDCK, and MLAs for the RDCK.

- [February 2024 Board Report](#)
- [Letter to Premier Eby and the Honourable Bowinn Ma](#)
- [December 2023 Board Report](#)

Local Conservation Fund

The Board approved \$129,976.85 in grant funds for the Local Conservation Fund to be spread among eight different projects. The fund provides grants to support local conservation efforts in Electoral Areas A, D, E, and H focused on the conservation of water and aquatic systems, as well as wildlife and habitat. Here are the eight projects:

PROJECT	PROPONENT	AMOUNT
Enhancing bat habitat and monitoring populations in the West Kootenays	Wildlife Conservation Society of Canada	\$22,865
Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solution	Lardeau Valley Opportunity Links	\$13,800
Creation and protection of anthropogenic bat habitat in the RDCK region	Okanagan Nation Alliance	\$18,095
Kootenay BroomBusters – A Community Led Pulling Together Program	Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society	\$9,316.85
Slocan Valley Pollinator Highway Project: Phase 1	Elk Root Conservation Farm Society	\$18,000
Crooked Horn Farm: Phase 2	BC Wildlife Federation	\$20,000
Snk’ mip Marsh Sanctuary habitat enhancement and invasive plant management	Valhalla Foundation for Ecology	\$14,400
North Slocan Bull Trout Conservation Project	Slocan Lake Stewardship Society	\$13,500

Director's Reports

RDCK Directors provide monthly reports outlining what they have been working on. [Click here](#) to read the February reports in the Board minutes.

RDCK Quarterly Report

For the latest RDCK Quarterly Report, which details the current projects and initiatives of the RDCK, please [follow the link](#).

Discretionary Grants

[AREA B](#)

Creston Ladies Iron Maiden – Iron Maiden Golf Tournament \$500

[AREA H](#)

New Denver Hospice Society – Seniors Gathering and Learn the Movements of Qi Gong \$1,000

[AREA K](#)

Nakusp Rod & Gun Club – Wildfire Mitigation, Rifle Range \$1,200

[SLOCAN](#)

Village of Slocan – Christmas Tree Light-Up \$58.81

Village of Slocan – Kootenay Animal Assistance Program (KAAP) \$300

Community Development Grants

[AREA D](#)

Kaslo and Area Senior Citizens Society – Supporting Senior Citizens \$4,500

Kaslo Housing Society – Winter in the Forest Festival \$1,500

Lardeau Valley Opportunity LINKS Society – Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions \$5,000

[AREA F](#)

North Shore Fire Department – North Shore Fire Department Social Club Initiatives \$4,000

[AREA G](#)

Okanagan Nation Alliance – Fish in Schools \$500

[AREA H](#)

Slocan Valley Community Legacy Society – Get Your Just Desserts \$2,500

Winlaw Hall Association – Heat Pump \$5,000

[AREA I](#)

Kootenay Gallery of Art, History, and Science Society – Soup for the Cultured Soul 2024 \$1,500

[AREA J](#)

Renata Development Society – Infrastructure Support \$500

AREA K

Okanagan Nation Alliance – Fish in Schools \$1,500

CRESTON

Town of Creston – Dwight & Rosamond Moore Community Wetland \$15,838

SLOCAN

Village of Slocan – SV Youth Choir \$600

Village of Slocan – Winter Carnival \$600

Community Works Fund

AREA D

Ainsworth Sewer System Corporation – Ainsworth Sewer Outfall and Upgrades \$100,000