



Board Highlights

February 20, 2025

2025-2029 Draft Financial Plan

The current draft of this year's financial plan is showing an average taxation increase of 6.5%, although actual changes vary widely based on property location. For example, the RDCK portion of Village of Slocan taxes are projected to decrease by 1.8%, while Electoral Area D is showing a 14% increase. Further changes to the Financial Plan are expected as there are ongoing budget reviews and discussions with Directors, staff, and at the committee level, as well as public engagement budget meetings throughout the region.

The budget process will conclude at the March 20 Open Board Meeting where Directors will have a final opportunity to discuss, modify, and consider adoption of the budget.

Establishment of Local Conservation Fund Committee

The Board adopted Bylaw 2975: Local Conservation Fund Committee to establish a formal committee to review the proposed projects for local conservation funding. The establishment of the committee formalizes a practice previously conducted by those RDCK Directors whose Electoral Areas participate in the Local Conservation Service. Creating an official committee structure improves consistency with other RDCK service governance, ensuring proper public notice of meetings and opportunity for the public to attend.

Originally established in 2014, the Local Conservation Fund is collected in Electoral Areas A, D, E, F, and H. It provides funding for projects that benefit conservation in the rural areas around Kootenay Lake and the Slocan Valley. The fund is financed by an annual parcel tax of \$15 in each of the participating Electoral Areas and applies to all parcels in the service area. Since 2016 the fund has distributed over \$700,000 towards local conservation projects.

Community Readiness Partnership

The Board approved the RDCK enter into a two-year contribution agreement with Columbia Basin Trust to augment rural emergency management mitigation and preparedness capacity. The intent of the Community Readiness Partnership is to address gaps in funding initiatives that strengthen emergency preparedness, increase regional collaboration, and improve response capabilities in rural communities. Over the two years, the RDCK will receive \$230,000 in funding which will go towards equipment purchases (vehicles, generators, trailer), training, extending the reach of existing community-based outreach initiatives such as the Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Plans, and renovations or improvements to emergency operation centres.

For more information

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

Inland Ferry Services Resolution

The Board Submitted a resolution regarding inland ferry services for consideration at the 2025 Association of Kootenay Boundary Local Governments (AKBLG) annual general meeting. Each year regional districts can submit resolutions to the AKBLG meeting for consideration, discussion and voting on by membership. The narrowed list will be presented to the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) and ultimately sent to the Legislative Assembly of BC for consideration by the provincial legislature.

The resolution put forward by the Board calls for the Province of BC to recognize that all ferry services within the province are necessary to the health, safety, and welfare of all the residents and should be considered when predetermining minimum inland ferry service levels on a site by site basis, and that the UBCM work with the affected areas and the Provincial Government to find a solution to ensure that rights of all British Columbia residents are protected equally on the Coast and the Interior of British Columbia.

Sue Big Oil resolution defeated

The Board voted against joining the Sue Big Oil class action lawsuit. Of the 20 Board of Directors, 16 opposed the motion. Sue Big Oil asks local governments to allocate at least \$1 per resident, with the goal of raising \$500,000 to get a class action lawsuit certified. During a lengthy conversation, the majority of Directors agreed they could not support taking a dollar from people who are not voluntarily signing up for a lawsuit.

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](#).

RDCK Board Meeting Video Recording

To view a recording of this month's meetings, click on a link below.

- [RDCK Board Meeting February 20 – Part 1](#)
- [RDCK Board Meeting February 20 – Part 2](#)
- [RDCK Special Budget Board Meeting February 21](#)

Discretionary Grants

AREA A

Kootenay Region – BC/YT Section – 2025 Kootenay Region Figure Skating Championships

\$500

AREA B

Canyon Community Association – Community Celebration Spud Night	\$1,000
Kootenay Region – BC/YT Section – 2025 Kootenay Region Figure Skating Championships	\$600
Creston Valley Minor Hockey Association – U15 Provincials	\$2,500

AREA C

Kootenay Region – BC/YT Section – 2025 Kootenay Region Figure Skating Championships	\$250
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AREA E

LV Rogers Secondary School – LV Rogers 2025 Grad	\$1,000
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AREA F

North Shore Fire Department – First Responder Scope Expansion Project	\$4,005
North Shore Fire Department Social Club – NSFD Social Events and Community Development	\$4,000
LV Rogers Secondary School – LV Rogers 2025 Grad	\$1,200
Nelson Road Kings – 2025 Queen City Cruise	\$1,500

AREA H

Slocan Valley Community Legacy Society – Volunteer Recognition	\$450
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Community Development Grants

AREA B

Erickson Community Association – ECA Meeting and Hall Rental Expenses	\$2,500
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AREA D

Kaslo Fire Department – Area D Medical First Responder Establishment	\$25,000
Kaslo and Area Senior Citizens Society – Support for Kaslo and Area D Seniors	\$4,500

AREA E

West Shore Leisure Advancement Society – Snapdragons Arts and Nature Club	\$2,000
Community Futures Central Kootenay – Happipad	\$500

AREA F

Community Futures Central Kootenay – Happipad	\$1,500
Okanagan Nation Alliance – Fish in Schools	\$1,000

AREA G

Okanagan Nation Alliance - Fish in Schools	\$1,000
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AREA H

Okanagan Nation Alliance - Fish in Schools	\$1,500
Lucerne Parent Advisory Committee – Summit Lake Skiing	\$3,000

AREA I

Okanagan Nation Alliance – Fish in Schools	\$1,250
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AREA J

Castlegar and District Chamber of Commerce – West Kootenay Trade Show	\$2,000
Kootenay Gallery of Art, History and Science Society – Soup for the Cultured Soul 2025	\$2,200
Poupore Improvement District – Replacement pump and building	\$12,000
Castlegar and District Hospital Foundation – Light up	\$2,500
Okanagan Nation Alliance – Fish in Schools	\$1,500

AREA K

Okanagan Nation Alliance – Fish in Schools	\$1,500
Bayview Residents Association – Bayview Fire Shed – Insurance, Hydro, and Maintenance	\$2,300

VILLAGE OF NAKUSP

Village of Nakusp – Accessibility Plan Development	\$9,100
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Community Works

AREA A

East Shore Connectivity – Fibre Optic Installation	\$15,000
Town of Creston – Creston Education Centre	\$30,250

AREA B

Town of Creston – Creston Education Centre	\$30,250
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AREA C

Town of Creston – Creston Education Centre	\$30,250
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