



Community Recovery

Information Bulletin

RDCK Community Recovery Information Bulletin – February 28, 2025

Following the wildfire events of 2024, the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) remains committed to supporting our communities in the recovery process. Guided by the principle of “Build Back Better,” we continue to engage with residents, community organizations, and government partners to ensure recovery efforts address the diverse needs of those affected.

In February, we focused on expanding community engagement and collaboration to better understand the evolving needs of residents. Our key activities this month included:

- **Community Reflection Sessions:** We have been arranging community reflection sessions as an opportunity for residents to share their experiences and help shape future recovery initiatives. Invitations have been mailed directly to affected residents to encourage participation.
- **Online Engagement Platform:** To provide an avenue for residents to share their personal experiences and needs, ahead of our scheduled in person reflection sessions, we have set up an online engagement platform. This platform allows individuals to contribute their perspectives and highlight areas where additional support is still needed.
- **Ongoing Collaboration with NGO Partners:** We continue to work closely with our non-governmental organization (NGO) partners to address unmet needs in the community. These partnerships are vital in ensuring that essential resources and support reach those who need them most.
- **Direct Resident Engagement:** Our team remains available to connect with residents who have reached out with questions, compliments, and concerns. These one-on-one conversations help us better understand individual circumstances and ensure that concerns are addressed in a timely manner.
- **BC Wildfire Service Rehabilitation Planning:** We have been engaged with the BC Wildfire Service to learn more about their rehabilitation plans. Understanding their strategies for land recovery allows us to align community recovery efforts with broader environmental restoration initiatives while considering the cultural and social needs of the local communities.

- **Economic Resiliency Efforts:** We attended the Nakusp and Area Economic Resiliency Forum, hosted by Selkirk College and Community Futures Central Kootenay. Together, we are working on the development of an economic response plan to support local businesses and workforce recovery. We expect to use this plan as a template for other communities in our district to easily enable the development of economic recovery plans for themselves.

Looking Ahead

As we move forward, we will continue to build on these efforts, ensuring that recovery initiatives are informed by the voices of our residents and the expertise of our partners. We remain deeply grateful for the ongoing support and dedication of community members, organizations, and government agencies who are working together to restore and strengthen our communities.

We will continue to provide monthly updates on our progress. These updates, along with other recovery resources, can be found on our website at [RDCK Emergency Management – Community Recovery Resources](#).

For further information regarding our community recovery planning, please contact Ian Briscoe, Emergency Program Coordinator with the RDCK, ibriscoe@rdck.bc.ca.