



## REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY

# CASTLEGAR & DISTRICT RECREATION COMMISSION OPEN MEETING MINUTES

4:00 p.m.

February 3, 2026

To promote openness, transparency and provide accessibility to the public we provide the ability to attend all RDCK meetings in-person or remote (hybrid model).

### COMMISSION MEMBERS

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Commissioner Member A. Davidoff             | Director Area I   |
| Commissioner Member M. McFaddin             | City of Castlegar |
| Commissioner Member B. Bogle                | City of Castlegar |
| Commissioner Member S. Heaton-Sherstobitoff | City of Castlegar |
| Commissioner Member H. Hanegraaf            | Director Area J   |

### STAFF

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Joe Chirico    | Staff   |
| Craig Stanley  | Regional Manager – Operations & Asset Manager |
| Trisha Davison | General Manager of Community Services         |
| Cary Gaynor    | Regional Parks and Trails Manager             |
| Stuart Horn    | RDCK CAO                                      |
| Jenna Chapman  | Meeting Coordinator                           |

**5 out of 5 voting Commission members were present – quorum was met.**

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bogle called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

#### 2. TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We acknowledge and respect the Indigenous peoples within whose traditional lands we are meeting today.

#### 3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**MOVED** and seconded,  
AND Resolved:

The Agenda for the February 3, 2026 Castlegar & District Recreation Commission meeting, be adopted as circulated.

**Carried**

The Commission presented a Round Table of Recognition to **Joe Chirico**, General Manager of Community Services. Commissioners spoke extensively about the meaningful and lasting impact Joe has had on the community, expressing sincere appreciation for his steadfast dedication and exemplary service. They acknowledged his significant contributions in enhancing the quality of life throughout the Region and noted that his leadership and commitment will leave a distinguished and enduring legacy.

#### **4. RECEIPT OF MINUTES**

The January 6, 2026, Castlegar & District Recreation Commission meeting minutes, have been received.

#### **5. DELEGATE**

**5.1** There are no Delegates scheduled for this Commission meeting

#### **6. STAFF REPORTS**

##### **6.1 Castlegar & District Community Complex Facility Update**

Craig Stanley, Regional Manager of Operations and Asset Management provided the Commission with a detailed overview of the Castlegar & Community Complex Facility update report with the following key notable discussion pieces:

- Breakfast with Santa drew 125 attendees with strong support from Castlegar Rebels volunteers and positive feedback on new children's activity stations.
- Public Skates, sponsored by Stella Vista, regularly reached the 125-skater maximum.
- Fitness classes across all areas continue to be full, driving the need for more instructors.
- Preparations are underway for BC Winter Games short-track speed skating, with ice markings completed.
- Recruitment is underway for aquafit and fitness instructors, lifeguards, and a recreation monitor.
- Pool hours remain reduced compared to 2019, with a goal to reopen Thursday mornings before July 2026.

##### **6.2 Castlegar & District Programming Update**

Tia Wayling, Regional Programming Manager provided a detailed overview of the Castlegar & District Programming Update including:

- Instructor shortages reduced the total number of pre-registered fitness programs by 14%, directly impacting service delivery.
- Despite this, attendance for fitness offerings included with daily admission increased by 26%, indicating strong demand that current staffing cannot fully support.
- Expand aquatics offerings and continue staff certification development.
- Standardize fitness program outcomes; grow instructor base.

- Increase youth program capacity; optimize ice allocation.
- Develop strategies to address admission declines and rental gaps.
- Revenue exceeded budgets across Recreation, Arena, Fitness, and Aquatics (104%–116% utilization).
- Better alignment with expense budgeting compared to 2024.

### **6.3 Customer Experience Project and Next Steps**

Trisha Davison, General Manager of Community Services, provided a high-level report on the Customer Experience Project Next Steps with the following key notable discussion items:

- The baseline survey received 1,635 total responses, with 415 (25.4%) from Castlegar & District Community Complex, a significant data set reflecting strong community engagement.
- High satisfaction with Staff interactions providing a welcoming Environment
- Strengthen communication consistency across all platforms.
- Improve aquatics capacity management and expectation-setting.
- Increase cleaning/check frequency during peak times.
- Develop tone and service recovery coaching for high pressure moments

### **6.4 2026 – 2030 Financial Plan**

Joe Chirico, RDCK Staff, provided the Commission with a detailed overview of the 2026 – 2030 Financial Plan, including the following key notable discussion items:

- 2026 is a financially intensive year requiring a diversified funding strategy.
- Long-term capital funding is stabilized, reducing future taxation volatility.
- Operational pressures, particularly salary costs and reduced surpluses, will continue to influence budget flexibility.
- S222 faces rising capital and operating demands, while S227 experiences reduced capital needs but persistent operational challenges.

#### **6.4.1 2026 – 2030 Financial Plan S227 and S226**

Joe Chirico, Staff provided a detail overview of the 2026 -20300 Financial Plan for Service S222 and Service S227.

#### **6.4.2 2026 – 2030 Financial Plan Scenarios**

There were no scenarios provided at this Commission meeting.

### **6.5 Castlegar & District Community Complex Expansion Update**

Trisha Davison, General Manager of Community Services provided the Commission with a detailed overview of the Castlegar & District Community Complex Expansion project with the following key notable discussion items:

- The referendum must follow formal legislative processes and will require coordinated support from multiple RDCK departments.
- Aligning with the 2026 general election is the most cost-effective option.
- A standalone referendum would cost approximately \$40,000.00.
- Staff note the referendum was already anticipated for 2026 and is reflected in departmental workplans, minimizing new resource impacts.

- Aligning the referendum with the election:
  - Ensures efficient use of financial and staff resources.
  - Provides a clear, transparent process for engaging the community.

Moved and seconded,  
**MOTION ONLY**

That the Castlegar & District Recreation Commission support holding a referendum related to the expansion of the Castlegar & District Community Complex with the addition of a second sheet of ice and walking track at the time of local election in October 2026.

Moved and seconded,  
And Resolved:  
**AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION**

That the foregoing motion being:

Be amended to include “conditional on the City of Castlegar and Area J repaying the \$280,000 in design/build costs allocated to this project from S222 regardless of the referendum outcome, with the reimbursement recorded as revenue in the 2026 S222 budget and the 2026-2030 Financial Plan”, thus reading:

*That the Castlegar & District Recreation Commission support holding a referendum related to the expansion of the Castlegar & District Community Complex with the addition of a second sheet of ice and walking track at the time of location election in October 2026 conditional on the City of Castlegar and Area J repaying the \$280,000 in design/build costs allocated to this project from S222 regardless of the referendum outcome, with the reimbursement recorded as revenue in the 2026 S222 budget and the 2026-2030 Financial Plan.*

**Defeated**

Moved and seconded,  
And Resolved:  
**MAIN MOTION**

That the Castlegar & District Recreation Commission support holding a referendum related to the expansion of the Castlegar & District Community Complex with the addition of a second sheet of ice and walking track at the time of local election in October 2026.

**Carried**

## **7 OLD BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Castlegar Cricket**

The Commission and Staff discussed the potential of having a cricket pitch at the Pass Creek Regional Park including:

- In the process of meeting with the club and will be having a site visit
- Staff to bring information back to the next Castlegar & District Recreation Commission
- Commission strongly supports more usage at the Pass Creek Regional Park

## 7.2 Kootenay Rockies Disc Golf Society

The Commission to discussed the potential of Disc Golf at the Pass Creek Regional Park.

**Moved** and seconded,  
AND Resolved:

That the Commission provide a Letter of Support to the Kootenay Rockies Disc Golf Society to support their Society to obtain funding from a Columbia Basin Trust Grant and further for the Commission to discuss how they can put the Kootenay Rockies Disc Golf request into their workplan.

**Carried**

## 8 PUBLIC TIME

The Chair will call for questions from the public at 6:18 p.m.

One member of the public, Patrick Audet with the Kootenay Rockies Disc Golf Society, thanked the Commission for their approval in principle.

## 9 NEXT MEETING

The next Castlegar & District Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2026 at 2:00p.m.

## 10 ADJOURNMENT

**MOVED** and seconded,  
AND Resolved:

The Castlegar & District Recreation Commission meeting be adjourned at 6:19p.m.

**Carried**

## Digitally Approved

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B. Bogle, Chair

**\*If there are recommendations that need to go to the Board of Directors please add them to the list below and forward to Angela Lund, [alund@rdck.bc.ca](mailto:alund@rdck.bc.ca) to be put on the Board agenda.**

## RECOMMENDATION(S) TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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1. n/a

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE PROVIDED FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY AND WILL BE CONSIDERED AT ITS APPROPRIATE MEETING AS STATED.**

***Future Castlegar & District Recreation Commission Meetings***

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1. That the Castlegar & District Recreation Commission support holding a referendum related to the expansion of the Castlegar & District Community Complex with the addition of a second sheet of ice and walking track at the time of local election in October 2026.
2. That the Commission provide a Letter of Support to the Kootenay Rockies Disc Golf Society to support their Society to obtain funding from a Columbia Basin Trust Grant and further for the Commission to discuss how they can put the Kootenay Rockies Disc Golf request into their workplan.