



Board Highlights

February 19, 2026

Road Rescue Service Expansion

Effective immediately, the RDCK volunteer fire departments in Beasley (Electoral Area F), Ootischenia (Electoral Area J), and Robson (Electoral Area J) will now provide auto extrication service. Each department has the necessary tools, certified personnel, and demonstrated capability to safely conduct auto extrication within its own protection area. Overall, this will strengthen regional resilience by ensuring each department can deliver essential services within its own area, as well as improve response time and reduce out of area deployments from neighbouring departments.

Local Conservation Fund

The Board approved \$139,972 in grant funds for the Local Conservation Fund to be spread among nine different projects. The Local Conservation Fund is funded through a \$15 parcel tax and provides grants to support local conservation efforts in Electoral Areas A, D, E, F, and H focused on the conservation of water and aquatic systems, as well as wildlife and habitat. Here are the nine projects:

PROJECT	PROPONENT	AMOUNT
Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions	Lardeau Valley Opportunity LINKS	\$15,000
Bat Roost Enhancement and Activity Monitoring in the West Kootenays	Wildlife Conservation Society Canada	\$24,955
Kootenay Nature for Neighbourhoods Program	Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society	\$14,624
Harrop Wetlands Project	Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society	\$13,000
Slocan Valley Pollinator Highway Project: Phase 1 Year 3	Elk Root Conservation Farm Society	\$18,393
Construction and Conservation of Artificial Bat Roosts in the West Kootenays	Okanagan Nation Alliance	\$15,000
Water Monitoring for Climate Resilience in the RDCK	Living Lakes Canada	\$15,000

For more information

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

Advancing Wetland Stewardship & Restoration in the Kootenays	BC Wildlife Federation	\$14,000
Planning for the Future: Watershed Security in a Changing Climate	West Kootenay Watershed Collaborative Society	\$10,000

Ootischenia Landfill Upgrades

The Board approved the preferred conceptual layout for upgrading the Ootischenia Landfill. Considered one of the RDCK’s primary regional waste management and disposal facilities, the potential to expand the facility would help to alleviate traffic congestion, long customer wait times, improper disposal of waste, and a reduced desire to properly divert recyclable materials. The approved conceptual layout includes upgrades to the transfer area, the addition of a second scale, a separate entrance for recycling traffic, plus a larger tipping area with full size roll off bins which will provide better traffic flow, increased safety, scalability, and capacity to accommodate future expansion.

Ymir Transfer Station and Satellite Recycling Depot Closure

The Board approved the permanent closure of the Ymir Transfer Station and Satellite Recycling Depot effective December 31, 2026. Based on recommendations from the [2024 System Efficiency Study](#) and staff studying traffic data and providing operational feedback, the facility provides only limited waste management options, is open just one day a week, and the cost to operate the facility is double what the average annual tipping fee revenue is, which means the difference is made up through taxation. Further, the site’s bin wall needs repairs or replacement, which could cost up to \$200,000.

Residents in Electoral Area G have a comparable distance to waste management facilities as other rural residents across the RDCK, and better access than many rural areas in the RDCK based on the higher than average operating hours at the nearest facilities. Further discussion about the closure will occur at the upcoming Joint Resource Recovery Committee meeting in March, after the Board directed an extension to the closure to the end of the year.

HomeSave Program

The RDCK signed a memorandum of understanding with the City of Nelson for the purpose of establishing roles, responsibilities, and governance for the delivery of the HomeSave Program. Formerly known as the Regional Energy Efficiency Program (REEP), the HomeSave Program is a regionally focused residential energy efficiency initiative in the RDCK that supports homeowners across the region in reducing energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, and household energy costs through retrofits, incentives, and technical guidance. The new program is expected to roll out the first week of March.

New Arena & Indoor Walking Track Development Procurement - Castlegar

The Board approved entering into a professional services agreement with HCMA Architecture and Design for \$180,000 to develop an owner’s statement of requirements for the design/build of a new arena with an indoor walking track in Castlegar. The development of a new arena and indoor walking track was identified as a public

priority through the Reimagining Recreation Engagement Project and will need elector assent (referendum for the City of Castlegar and Electoral Area J) to continue beyond the design phase. The goal is to select a preferred proponent to build the new facility for \$15,000,000 of maximum funding from the RDCK before the voter assent is to be held during the October 2026 municipal and RDCK elections.

RDCK Quarterly Report

The RDCK Quarterly Report provides a condensed summary of active projects and initiatives within the RDCK. The report includes a clear and concise understanding of each project and its connection to the Board's strategic priorities. [Click here](#) to view the latest quarterly report, including the most recently completed projects.

[Click here](#) to view the quarterly report page on the RDCK website.

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 Board Meeting Video Recording

To view a recording of this month's meetings, [click here](#).

Discretionary Grants

[AREA B](#)

Diverse Family Roots – Riondel R3SET	\$500
Kitchener Valley Recreation and Fire Protection Society – Chairs for Hall	\$2,500
Mountain Land Management – Bountiful Community Rodeo Hall Expansion	\$10,000

[AREA E](#)

LV Rogers Secondary School – LVR Grad Events Fundraiser	\$1,000
Proctor-Harrop Seniors Association Br 118 – To increase community involvement	\$1,000

[AREA F](#)

Balfour Recreation Commission – Ping Pong Table	\$2,000
Leecrest Improvement District – Curb Stop Replacement Trial	\$1,500
LV Rogers Secondary School – LVR Grad Events Fundraiser	\$1,200

[AREA G](#)

Nelson Nordic Ski Club – East Busk Trail Enhancement	\$5,000
Salmo and District Chamber of Commerce – Douglas Fir Beetle Abatement	\$3,500

[AREA H](#)

Kootenay Wellness Foundation – Evolve – Community Dance Event	\$500
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[AREA I](#)

Glade Recreation Commission – Glade Easter	\$500
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AREA J

Castlegar Minor Hockey Association – The Road to Provincial Champions \$2,000

AREA K

Arrow Park Community Association – Infrastructure and liability support \$4,420

Community Development Grants

AREA A

West Kootenay Watershed Collaborative Society – Making Waves: World Water Day Symposium \$500

AREA B

Centennial Valley Minor Baseball Association – Centennial Park Baseball Field Renovation \$10,000

Rykerts Irrigation District – Solar power, internet, solenoid valve, and depth sensor installation \$5,000

AREA D

Lardeau Valley Historical Society – Lardeau Valley Museum Roof Project \$5,000

West Kootenay Watershed Collaborative Society – Making Waves: World Water Day Symposium \$500

AREA E

Balfour and District Senior Citizens' Association Branch No. 120 – Meals & Social Activities \$999

Balfour and District Senior Citizens' Association Branch No. 120 – Seniors Assistance \$1,600

Balfour and District Senior Citizens' Association Branch No. 120 – Seniors Christmas Dinner \$1,700

AREA F

Okanagan Nation Alliance – Fish in Schools \$1,000

West Kootenay Watershed Collaborative Society – Making Waves: World Water Day Symposium \$500

AREA G

Okanagan Nation Alliance – Fish in Schools \$1,000

AREA H

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

WE Graham Community School PAC – Grade 7/8 Field Trip to Bamfield Research Station \$5,000

West Kootenay Watershed Collaborative Society – Making Waves: World Water Day Symposium \$500

AREA I

Castlegar & District Chamber of Commerce – West Kootenay Trade Show 2026 \$1,500

Diverse Family Roots – Riondel R3SET 2026 \$500

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

West Kootenay Watershed Collaborative Society – Making Waves: World Water Day Symposium \$500

AREA J

Castlegar & District Chamber of Commerce – West Kootenay Trade Show 2026 \$2,500

Diverse Family Roots – Riondel R3SET 2026 \$500

Okanagan Nation Alliance – Fish in Schools \$2,000

Regional District of Central Kootenay – Robson Fire Department Sidewalk Replacement \$13,500

AREA K

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

VILLAGE OF NAKUSP

Village of Nakusp – Nakusp Hot Springs Accommodation Expansion Project – Planning Phase \$20,000

Community Works

AREA H

South Slokan Water System – Booster Pump and Media Replacement \$22,000

AREA H

Campbell Field Outdoor Reimagination Project \$1,000,000

AREA I

Doukhobor Discovery Centre – Efficiency and Emissions Reduction \$12,550

Recreation Commission No. 4 – Electoral Area K & Village of Nakusp

Arrow Lakes Cross Country Ski Club \$1.698.34