



Regional District of Central Kootenay
NELSON, SALMO, E, F, AND G REGIONAL PARKS COMMISSION
Open Meeting Addenda

Date: Wednesday, September 9, 2026
Time: 9:00 am
Location: Nelson & District Community Complex 305 Hall St., Nelson, BC

Directors will have the opportunity to participate in the meeting electronically. Proceedings are open to the public.

Pages

1. ZOOM REMOTE MEETING INFO

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).

Meeting Time:

9:00a.m. PDT

Join by Video:

<https://rdck-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/94689831356?pwd=Zp1UfnY6wVRO9Zk4fVci6iheDw1mCv.1>

Join by Phone:

1 833 958 1164 Canada Toll-free

*6 to unmute or mute

*9 to raise or lower your hand

Meeting ID: 946 8983 1356

Meeting Password: 672792

In-Person Location: Nelson & District Complex - Multipurpose Room - 305 Hall Street, Nelson

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Page called the meeting to order at [Time] a.m.

3. TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

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

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION:

The Agenda for the September 9, 2026 Nelson, Salmo, E, F and G Regional Parks Commission meeting be adopted as circulated.

5. RECEIPT OF MINUTES

4 - 8

The July 22, 2026 Nelson, Salmo, E, F and G Regional Parks Commission minutes, have been received.

6. DELEGATE

There are no Delegates scheduled for this Commission meeting.

7. STAFF REPORTS

7.1 Blewett Community Society Delegation Follow Up

9 - 10

The Commission Report dated July 22, 2026 from Trisha Davison, General Manager of Community Services, re: Blewett Community Society Delegation Follow Up, has been received.

7.2 TAWKROC - CIC Bluffs Request

11 - 18

The Commission Report dated September 9, 2026 from Mark Crowe, Regional Park Planner, re: TAWKROC - CIC Bluffs Request, has been received.

7.3 Nelson Cycling Club - Morning Mountain Project

19 - 24

The Commission Report dated September 9, 2026 from Trisha Davison, General Manager of Community Services, re: Nelson Cycling Club - Morning Mountain Project: Community Works Funding Ineligibility Determination has been received.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board approve an amendment to the 2026 Financial Plan from the Nelson, Salmo and Electoral Areas E, F and G Recreation Commission S202 to increase Grants by \$5,719.20 and increase transfer from reserves by \$5,719.20 for a grant to the Nelson Cycling Club; and,

THAT the Board approve an amendment to the 2026 Financial Plan from the Nelson, Salmo and Electoral Areas E, F and G Recreation Commission S202 to increase Transfer to Other Service by \$8,578.80 and increase transfer from reserves by \$8,578.80 to repay Community Works Funds for the Nelson Cycling Club project.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.1 Morning Mountain Skating Rink Letter of Support** 25
E-mail dated August 24, 2026 from Erin Raggett re: Morning Mountain Skating Rink Letter of Support has been received.
- 8.2 Morning Mountain Skating Risk - Support Letter** 26
E-mail dated August 24, 2026 from Shannon Lythoge re: Morning Mountain Skating Risk - Support Letter has been received.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- 9.1 Nelson Nordic Ski Club Project**
Craig Stanley, Regional Manager of Operations & Asset Management to provide the Commission with a verbal update, re: Nelson Nordic Ski Club Project has been received.

10. PUBLIC TIME

The Chair will call for questions from the public and members of the media at _____ p.m.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next Nelson, Salmo, E, F and G Regional Parks Commission meeting is scheduled for November 25, 2026 at 9:00a.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

RECOMMENDATION:

The Nelson, Salmo, E, F and G Regional Parks Commission meeting be adjourned at [Time].



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY

NELSON, SALMO, AREAS E, F AND G REGIONAL PARKS COMMISSION OPEN MEETING MINUTES

10:30 a.m.
July 22, 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 K. Page	City of Nelson
Commissioner D. Lockwood	Village of Salmo
Commissioner C. Graham	Area E

MEMBERS ABSENT

Commissioner T. Newell	Area F
Commissioner H. Cunningham	Area G

STAFF

Trisha Davison	General Manager – Community Services
Craig Stanley	Regional Manager – Operations & Asset Management
Cary Gaynor	Regional Parks Manager
Mark Crowe	Regional Parks Planner
Alana Jenkins	Meeting Coordinator

3 out of 5 voting Commission/Committee members were present – quorum was met.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Page called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.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 July 22, 2026 Nelson, Salmo, Areas E, F and G Regional Parks Commission meeting, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

4. RECEIPT OF MINUTES

The June 10, 2026 Nelson, Salmo, Areas E, F and G Regional Parks Commission minutes, have been received.

5. DELEGATE

There are no Delegates scheduled for this Commission meeting.

6. STAFF REPORTS

6.1 TAWKROC – CIC Bluffs Request

The Commission Report dated July 22, 2026, from Mark Crowe, Regional Park Planner, re: TAWKROC - CIC Bluff Requests, has been received.

Key discussion items included:

- The potential implications of delegating management of specialized recreation assets to competent user groups.
- Ongoing staff efforts to better manage delegation requests and clearly identify Commission priorities.
- The ability to quantify the in-kind contributions of TAWKROC.
- Future climbing access if the proposal does not proceed.
- The location of the CIC Bluffs and potential for collaboration with the proposed upgraded indoor climbing facility.

MOVED and seconded,
AND Resolved:

That the Commission directs staff to bring forward a proposed agreement for consideration at the September 9, 2026, Commission meeting that outlines the delegated management responsibilities for the CIC Bluffs climbing area without an ownership transfer.

Carried

6.2 Delegation Follow-Up: Nelson Nordic Ski Club

The Commission Report dated July 22, 2026, from Craig Stanley, Regional Manager of Operations and Asset Management, re: Delegation Follow-Up: Nelson Nordic Ski Club, has been received.

Key discussion items included:

- The feasibility and timeline of the request.
- Confirmation the request will not impact the previously approved budget or workplan.
- How the restriction of dogs would be enforced.

MOVED and seconded,
AND Resolved:

That the Commission directs staff to liaise with the Nelson Nordic Ski Club to start the process of implementing changes to the operations and maintenance of the GNT to facilitate grooming of the ski trail.

Carried

6.3 Delegation Follow-Up: Blewett Community Society

The Commission Report dated July 22, 2026 from Trisha Davison, General Manager of Community Services, re: Delegation Follow-Up: Blewett Community Society, has been received.

MOVED and seconded,
AND Resolved:

That the Commission Report, Delegation Follow-up: Blewett Community Society be referred to the September 9, 2026 Nelson, Salmo, Areas E, F and G Regional Park Commission meeting.

Carried

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Nelson Cycling Club – Letter of Support

The e-mail dated June 9, 2026 from the Nelson Cycling Club, re: A Letter of Support has been received.

MOVED and seconded,
AND Resolved:

That the Nelson, Salmo, Areas E, F and G Regional Parks Commission send a letter of support to the Nelson Cycling Club for grant funding purposes.

Carried

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Blewett Community Society Proposal

The Rink Development Proposal at Morning Mountain dated June 18, 2026 from Lukas Armstrong, President of the Blewett Community Society has been received.

8.2 Letter from Nelson Cycling Club

The Letter dated June 29, 2026 from Wendy Lewis, Manager of Nelson Cycling Club, on behalf of the Nelson Cycling Club Board of Directors has been received.

8.3 Nelson Nordic Ski Club

The letter dated April 23, 2026 from John Bowden, General Manager of the Nelson Nordic

Ski Club has been received.

8.4 Morning Mountain Rink Development

The letter dated July 17, 2022 from Will Tait sharing encouragement for the proposed rink development at Morning Mountain has been received.

9. PUBLIC TIME

The Chair called for questions from the public at 11:09 a.m.

No comments were received.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next Nelson, Salmo, E, F and G Regional Parks Commission meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and seconded,
AND Resolved:

The Nelson, Salmo, E, F and G Regional Parks Commission meeting be adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Carried

K. Page, Chair

RECOMMENDATION(S) TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. N/A

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

Future Nelson, Salmo, E, F and G Regional Parks Commission Meetings

1. *That the Commission directs staff to bring forward a proposed agreement for consideration at the September 9, 2026, Commission meeting that outlines the delegated management responsibilities for the CIC Bluffs climbing area without an ownership transfer.*
2. *That the Commission directs staff to liaise with the Nelson Nordic Ski Club to start the process of implementing changes to the operations and maintenance of the GNT to facilitate grooming of the ski trail.*
3. *That the Commission Report, Delegation Follow-up: Blewett Community Society be referred to the September 9, 2026 Nelson, Salmo, Areas E, F and G Regional Park Commission meeting.*
4. *That the Nelson, Salmo, Areas E, F and G Regional Parks Commission send a letter of support to*

the Nelson Cycling Club for grant funding purposes.



Commission Report – For Information

July 22, 2026

Delegation Follow-up: Blewett Community Society

Author:	Trisha Davison, General Manager of Community Services
File Reference:	01-0520-50
Electoral Area/Municipality:	City of Nelson, Area E and Area F
Services Impacted	S202 - Regional Parks Nelson, Salmo, E, F, G

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek direction from Commission on the appropriate follow-up action to the Blewett Community Society proposal to upgrade the existing seasonal ice rink at Morning Mountain into a permanent four-season facility incorporating a refrigerated ice surface, permanent rink boards and a roof structure.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND UPDATE

Background

On June 10, 2026, representatives of the Blewett Community Society appeared as a delegation before the Commission regarding the future of the Morning Mountain outdoor rink facility. The Society subsequently provided a written proposal to the RDCK Board requesting support in principle for the continued use of the existing rink site and the exploration of a permanent facility.

The Society advises that the existing rink was established in 2017 through a partnership involving the Blewett Community Society and Selkirk College and has operated with support from community funding sources and RDCK Electoral Area grants. The Society notes that the facility has become a valued recreation amenity but that increasingly variable winter weather is reducing the reliability and duration of the skating season.

The proposal contemplates upgrading the existing seasonal rink into a permanent four-season recreation facility that could include refrigerated ice, permanent rink boards, and a roof structure. The Society indicates that an in-principle statement regarding continued use of the site is needed before it proceeds with detailed design work, fundraising, grant applications, and further project development.

Considerations

At present, the Commission has not considered the feasibility, financial implications, governance model, ownership structure, operating responsibilities, insurance requirements, or long-term maintenance obligations associated with the proposal. For approximately nine (9) months of the year, the site in question is primarily used as a mountain bike location since 1996. Changes to the site would need to consider impacts to other activities and users.

While the Society is requesting support in principle for continued use of the site, any future redevelopment proposal would likely require further analysis and discussion regarding:

- RDCK ownership and land use considerations;
- Long-term tenure or site-use arrangements;
- Capital funding requirements and funding sources;
- Operating and maintenance responsibilities;
- Insurance and risk management considerations;
- Impacts on other users of the Morning Mountain recreation area;
- Community and stakeholder engagement requirements; and
- Alignment with existing recreation service priorities, approved work plans, and other recreation infrastructure projects.

The Society has indicated its willingness to lead fundraising, community consultation, partnership development, and project planning should it receive support to continue exploring the concept.

Project Prioritization

While the proposal presents a potential opportunity to enhance recreation services in the Blewett area, the Commission is currently managing a number of recreation, parks, and facility initiatives that are competing for finite staff time, funding capacity, and organizational resources. Should the Commission wish staff to undertake further work on this proposal, staff would report back on the project's relative priority within existing work plans and recreation infrastructure priorities, as well as any implications for other planned projects and initiatives.

Commission Options

1. Receive as Information: That the Commission receive the Information Report titled *Blewett Community Society Proposal for Morning Mountain Rink Development* for information and direct staff to take no further action at this time.
2. Staff Review: That the Commission direct staff to undertake a preliminary review of the Blewett Community Society proposal regarding the Morning Mountain rink site and report back to the Commission with analysis and options for consideration at a future meeting.

3.0 NEXT STEPS AND TIMELINE

The next steps will be dependent on the direction provided to staff from Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

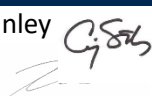


Trisha Davison, General Manager of Community Services

CONCURRENCE

Regional Manager, Operations & Asset Management – Craig Stanley

Regional Manager, Recreation & Client Services – Kristi Calder





Commission Report – For Information

September 9, 2026

TAWKROC – CIC Bluffs Request – Report #2

Author:	Mark Crowe, Regional Park Planner
File Reference:	7015-20
Electoral Area/Municipality:	Nelson, Salmo, E, F, G
Services Impacted	S202 - Regional Parks Nelson, Salmo, E, F, G

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise the Commission that staff intend to work with Association of West Kootenay Rock Climbers (TAWKROC) as directed as the July 22, 2026 Commission meeting. The desired goal is to work out a draft agreement that will outline options for the Regional District to retain ownership and high-level oversight of the CIC Bluffs climbing area while delegating day-to-day management and stewardship of the climbing resource to the Association of West Kootenay Rock Climbers (TAWKROC).

2.0 BACKGROUND AND UPDATE

July 22, 2026 Nelson, Salmo, Areas E, F and G Regional Parks Commission meeting:

That the Commission directs staff to bring forward a proposed agreement for consideration at the September 9, 2026, Commission meeting that outlines the delegated management responsibilities for the CIC Bluffs climbing area without an ownership transfer.

Staff wish to clarify that, despite the recommendation directing staff to bring forward a proposed agreement for consideration at the September 9, 2026 Commission meeting, the agreement will not be ready for that meeting.

At the previous meeting the following was discussed:

- The potential implications of delegating management of specialized recreation assets to competent user
- Ongoing staff efforts to better manage delegation requests and clearly identify Commission priorities.
- The ability to quantify the in-kind contributions of TAWKROC.
- Future climbing access if the proposal does not proceed.
- The location of the CIC Bluffs
- The potential for collaboration with the proposed upgraded indoor climbing facility.

Staff have since followed up on the location of the CIC Bluffs and TAWKROC have provided a letter of support regarding opportunities for collaboration with the proposed upgraded indoor climbing facility. Additional information regarding these matters is provided in Attachments A and B to this report. The remaining discussion items will be addressed in future reports to Commission.

Background

At the June 10, 2025 Commission meeting, Yann Troutet, representing the Association of West Kootenay Rock Climbers (TAWKROC), presented a request that the Commission consider formalizing recreational climbing use on Regional District owned properties commonly known as the CIC Bluffs. Commission discussion at that time focused on potential traffic, public safety, and insurance considerations.

3.0 NEXT STEPS AND TIMELINE

Staff are continuing work on a proposed agreement outlining the delegated management responsibilities for the CIC Bluffs climbing area without an ownership transfer and will update the Commission at the November meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Crowe

Mark Crowe
Regional Park Planner

CONCURRENCE

Trisha Davison – General Manager of Community Services 
Kristi Calder – Regional Manager of Recreation & Client Services
Craig Stanley – Regional Manager Operations & Asset Management

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – TAWKROC Map of CIC Bluff Climbing Area
Attachment B – Cube Climbing Centre Letter of Support

Attachment A – Mapping of CIC Bluff Climbing Area from TAWKROC (Figure 1-3)

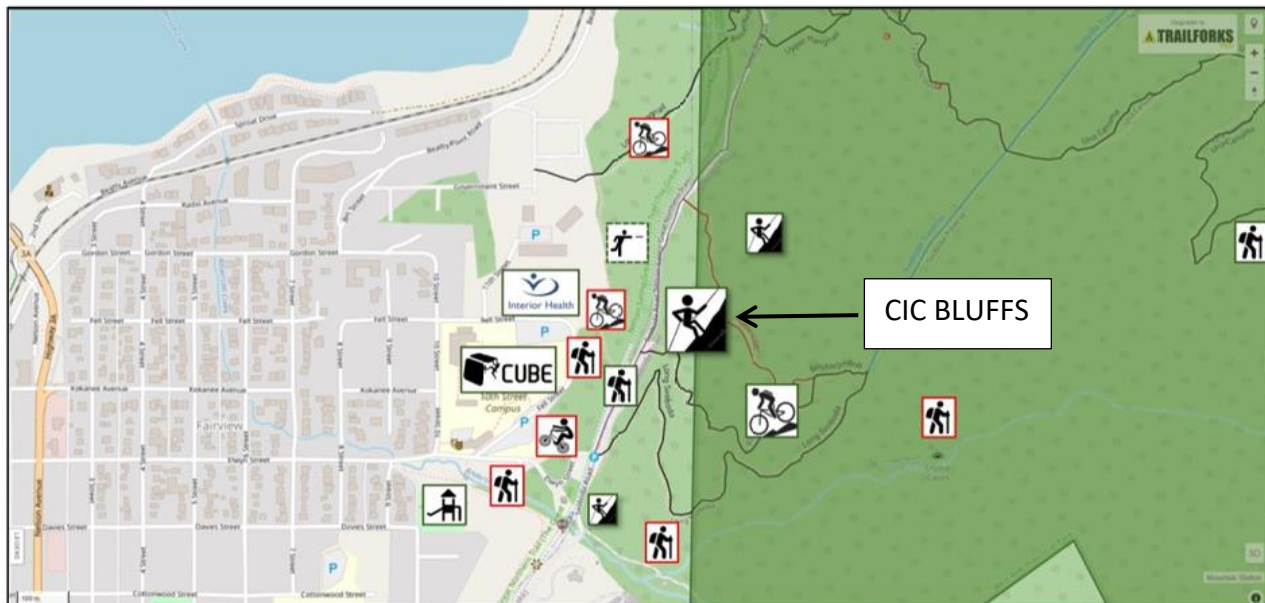


Figure 1: The wooded lands above Nelson’s Fairview neighbourhood are host to a number of *managed* and *unmanaged* outdoor recreation uses. The Interior Health (IHA) facility under construction and the planned expansion of the *Cube* indoor climbing center offer opportunities to integrate the neighbouring natural areas with these valuable community assets.

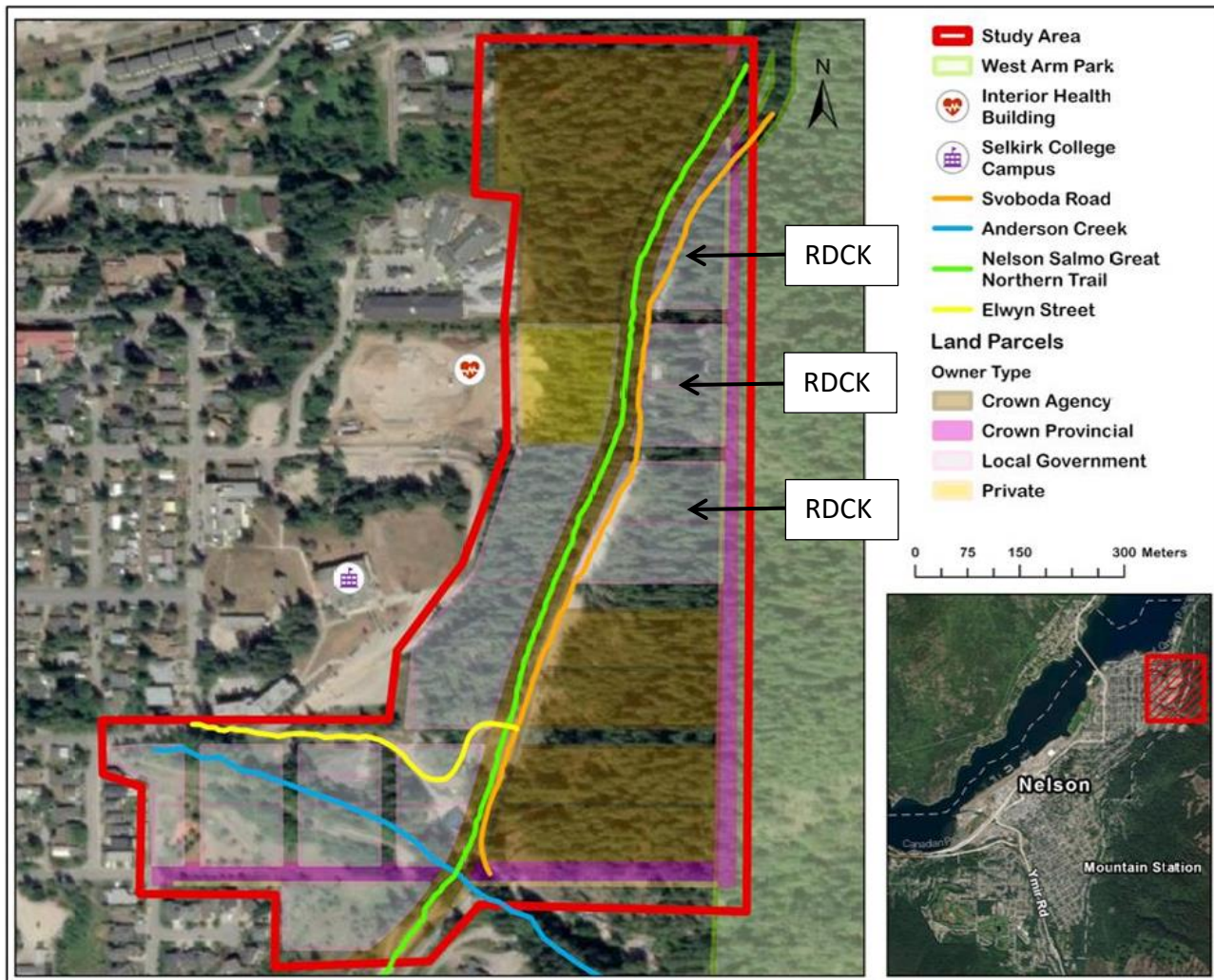


Figure 2: Key features and ownership type for the unmanaged properties surrounding the Svoboda Road Trailhead, in Nelson B.C. (source: Cabral-Lawrence, 2025)

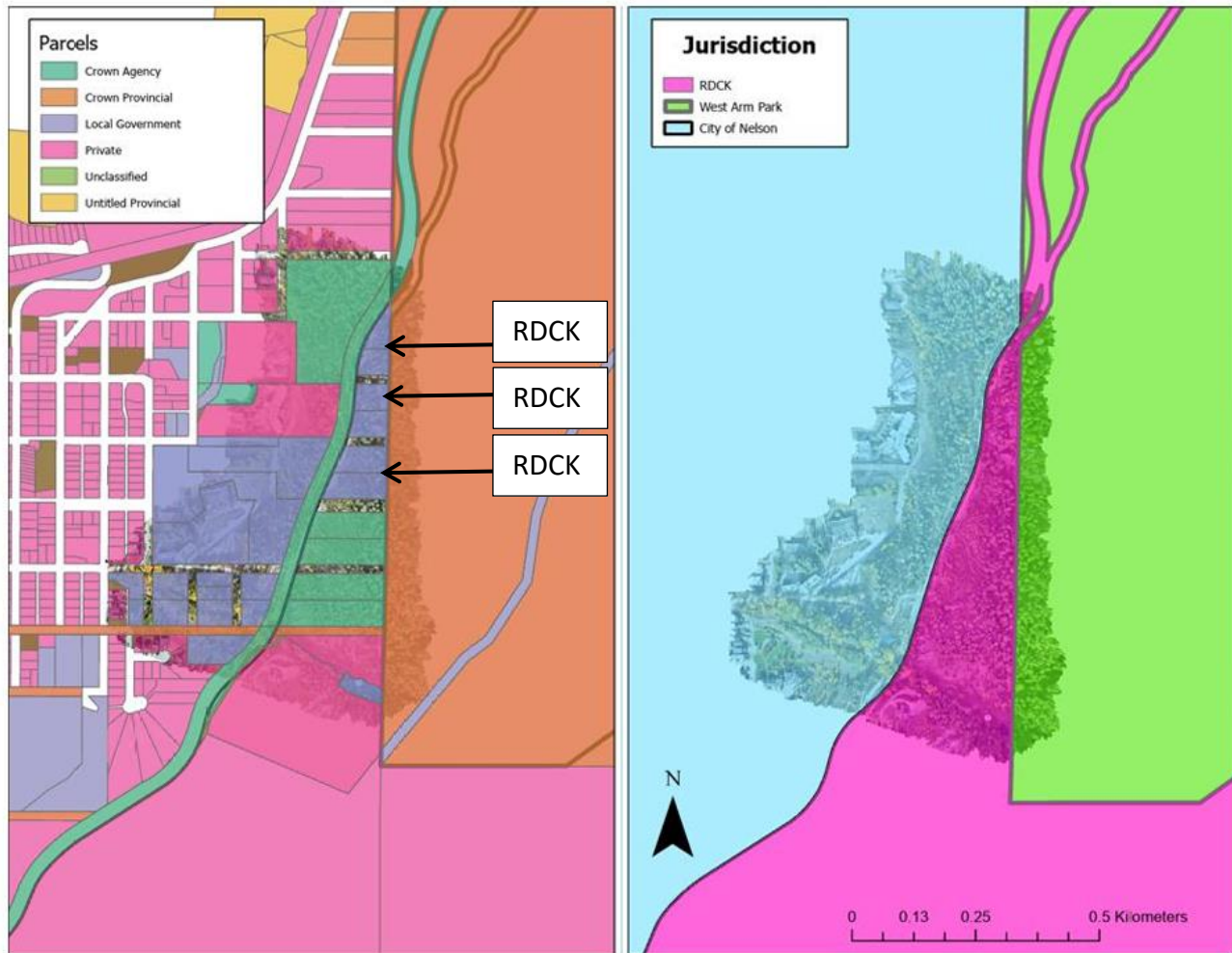


Figure 3: Parcel limits and main jurisdictions; the study area is indicated by the background orthophoto. (source: Hervochon, 2025)

Attachment B –Cube Climbing Centre Letter of Support



Kootenay Climbing Association
The Cube Climbing Centre
820 Tenth St.
Nelson, BC, V1L 3C7
Tel.: 250-352-2808
www.cubeclimbing.com

Regional District of Central Kootenay
590 202 Lakeside Drive,
Nelson BC
V1L 5R4

September 2, 2026

Attention: Cheryl Graham, Director, Electoral Area E cgraham@rdck.bc.ca

Re: *CIC Bluffs*: Rock Climbing Resources and Opportunities¹

This letter is to express that *The Kootenay Climbing Association* – the organization that manages *The Cube Climbing Centre* in Nelson B.C. - values the potential rock-climbing opportunities that exist on the hillside located immediately above the existing climbing gym in the Fairview area of Nelson (and the planned larger Olympic-calibre Cube 2.0 Climbing Centre). We are writing to you specifically regarding the historic rock-climbing areas known as the *CIC Bluffs*, located on properties gifted to the RDCK from the Sisters of St. Ann ca. 2015.

Access to the climbing areas under RDCK ownership has never been formalized. Yet, these form core of a scenic climbing experience that is uniquely within walking or riding distance of the local population and visiting tourists.

Alongside the obvious benefits to the local climbing community and for visiting tourists, a formal access agreement would open opportunities for the Cube climbing gym to expand its outdoor rock-climbing programs (Summer Camps for youth, adult programs, etc.). In addition, this would create a unique destination, combining both indoor and outdoor climbing opportunities.

We understand that the RDCK is in the initial stages of discussing a possible agreement with The Association of West Kootenay Rock Climbers (TAWKROC) pertaining to climbing access for the *CIC Bluffs*. TAWKROC and the KCA are entirely distinct organizations, but we wish to hereby express our support for TAWKROC's efforts in this regard.

Moving forward, the KCA would consider collaboration efforts on this project given the possible benefits to our gym operations. For more on this, please see Attachment A.

Thanks for your consideration regarding ensuring the *CIC Bluffs* are made formally available for rock climbing.

Sincerely,

Shawn Tasker,
President, Kootenay Climbing Association
Email: stasker40@gmail.com
cell: 250-551-4566

CC:

Mark Crowe, Regional Parks Planner; mcrowe@rdck.bc.ca ;
Kristi Calder, Regional Manager of Recreation & Client Services; kcalder@rdck.bc.ca ;
Craig Stanley, Regional Manager of Operations and Asset Management; cstanley@rdck.bc.ca ; and
Cary Gaynor, Regional Parks and Trails Manager; cgaynor@rdck.bc.ca)

¹This letter is a follow-up to a support letter we gave TAWKROC (The Association of West Kootenay Rock Climbers) in June 2025.

*[see updated version of that letter in Attachment B]

Community - Climbing - Culture - Climate



ATTACHMENT A:

Collaborations to date and likely in the future include:

While the main mandate of the Kootenay Climbing Association is to provide and maintain an indoor climbing facility, namely the Cube climbing gym (and the planned, newly designed Olympic-calibre Cube 2.0 facility), we do also run outdoor programs (outdoor camps and instructional sessions) that use bluffs within walking distance from the gym.

From a KCA/Cube perspective, previous and potential efforts and collaborations that have or could occur on the CIC bluffs include:

- this (now RDCK-owned) climbing area is equipped with thousands of dollars of permanent fixed climbing gear installed by the climbing community over the last 3+ decades
- similarly, hundreds of hours of climbing community time have been invested in route development and maintenance along with early trail building efforts.
- the Cube has some capacity to ensure ongoing support/collaboration through simple things like annual site inspections/maintenance on local outdoor bluffs that it uses as part of its business (for outdoor camps and instructional sessions)
- the area has historically lent itself well to instruction from private businesses (Summit Mountain Guides) and others (e.g. LVR's ATLAS Program), both of which could likely be called upon for regular long-term collaborations as well.
- there is a history of Search and Rescue Training at this location, formalizing this use could also involve regular collaborations with (and possible contributions from) SAR.
- Once access is clear, hiking groups will likely be interested in helping with the various scenic trails through the area

Additional note: a new West Kootenay climbing guidebook is planned for the near future, which will certainly raise the profile of the region's climbing and attract more visitors and tourist dollars to the area; leveraging this for effective communication around the local climbing areas is a unique opportunity.



ATTACHMENT B :

***Updated background information from the previous KCA/Cube letter given to TAWKROC:**

The Kootenay Climbing Association (KCA) is a non-profit that was established in February 2012 by a diverse group of residents to meet the needs of the climbing community after the closure of Nelson's former climbing gym. The KCA established the Cube Climbing Center in 2015 and has been successfully operating this indoor climbing facility ever since.

The Cube is fast exceeding its current capacity, and our Association has big plans for a vastly expanded gym, to be built immediately next to our current location. To date we have been awarded close to \$ 1,000,000 for final design and fund raising, etc. We have also raised over \$ 1,000,000 of in-kind contributions and personal Patron investments. We are currently completing our final design and building permit applications while we proceed along funding avenues to begin construction soon. This will be an Olympic-calibre facility.

Our vision is to build a community climbing hub in a burgeoning new neighborhood adjacent to Selkirk College's 10th Street Campus. The natural backdrop of our project's location is a huge asset in this regard. Remarkably, our current (and planned) gym locations are a stone's throw away from the places that first saw the emergence of rock climbing around Nelson: the *CIC Bluffs*. An integration of our indoor climbing facility with this outdoor climbing destination would create an exceptionally original asset, well grounded in the identity and true mountain culture of our community.

With over 80 established routes, the *CIC Bluffs* offer a variety of climbing styles and a broad range of difficulty levels, with many options for beginner and novice climbers. Our new Cube 2.0 gym will attract more local and tourist climbers, along with larger competitions and the local economic impact associated with these increases in visitation.

The *CIC Bluffs* serve as an anchor point for local climbing that has a lower carbon footprint and is attractive to climbing community members when they have limited time or the weather is uncertain and they can have the option of climbing indoors if it starts to rain.

In recent years, the KCA has begun running summer climbing camps for youth. The nearby presence of actual rock-climbing destinations provides a perfect blend of options to run such camps, and we have recently expanded our outdoor offerings to include school and adult groups as well. Based out of the Cube Climbing Center, our Association of Canadian Mountain Guides (ACMG) certified instructor run camps can easily take advantage of the short walking distance to the crags – and back - to offer an excellent progression of activities, in any weather conditions.

There is currently no real established point of access for the *CIC Bluffs*, and although recent improvements have been effective, the trail network through the climbing bluffs remains a work in progress. Similarly, the network of footpaths up from our location to the Svoboda Road parking area is only an informal access.

The Association of West Kootenay Rock Climbers (TAWKROC) is our region's chapter of the Climbers Access Society of BC. Their mission is to promote, improve and secure public access to rock climbing areas in the West Kootenay. TAWKROC has been successful in securing two rock-climbing areas in Castlegar and is very well positioned to partner with the RDCK to ensure the management of such enjoyable and scenic rock-climbing areas as the *CIC Bluffs*.

This letter continues to express the KCA's full support for TAWKROC's continued efforts toward securing the *CIC Bluffs* as the community asset that it promises to become.

Community - Climbing - Culture - Climate



Commission Report

September 9, 2026

Nelson Cycling Club Morning Mountain Project: Community Works Funding Ineligibility Determination

Author: Trisha Davison, General Manager of Community Services
File Reference: 01-0520-50
Electoral Area/Municipality: City of Nelson, Village of Salmo, Area E & Area F
Services Impacted S202

1.0 STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board approve an amendment to the 2026 Financial Plan from the Nelson, Salmo and Electoral Areas E, F and G Recreation Commission S202 to increase Grants by \$5,719.20 and increase transfer from reserves by \$5,719.20 for a grant to the Nelson Cycling Club; and,

THAT the Board approve an amendment to the 2026 Financial Plan from the Nelson, Salmo and Electoral Areas E, F and G Recreation Commission S202 to increase Transfer to Other Service by \$8,578.80 and increase transfer from reserves by \$8,578.80 to repay Community Works Funds for the Nelson Cycling Club project.

2.0 BACKGROUND/HISTORY

In 2024, the RDCK Board approved a Community Works Fund grant of \$28,596 for the Nelson Cycling Club's "Enhancing the Trails" project. The project focused on capital improvements within the Morning Mountain trail network and related trail connectivity improvements.

The project included:

- Resurfacing and reconstruction of portions of the Turnstyles flow trail.
- Resurfacing and safety improvements to the Lefty flow trail.
- Trail connectivity improvements associated with Morning Mountain Regional Park.
- Environmental sustainability and erosion control measures designed to improve trail longevity and reduce maintenance requirements.

The project was completed in accordance with the approved funding agreement, however a subsequent UBCM audit determined that the project did not meet Community Works Fund eligibility criteria. This determination was unrelated to project delivery or compliance by the Nelson Cycling Club.

3.0 PROBLEM OR OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

The Community Works Funding that was approved totaled \$28,596. To date, \$22,876.80 has been paid to the Nelson Cycling Club using Community Works Funds. The final payment (\$5,719.20) to the Nelson Cycling Club

has not been paid. The Nelson Cycling Club did not receive the remaining balance of the funds even though the project was completed as approved.

Following completion, UBCM audited the project and determined that the work was not eligible under Community Works Fund criteria. The result was that UBCM removed \$28,596 from the RDCK's Community Works Fund allocation.

The RDCK subsequently submitted an appeal with additional information provided by the Nelson Cycling Club; however, the appeal was denied.

As the project was completed in good faith under a Board-approved funding agreement and the Nelson Cycling Club fulfilled its obligations, staff have explored alternative funding sources to replace the Community Works Fund allocation.

Several options were considered:

1. Utilize Electoral Area E and Area F grant funding streams.
2. Utilize Service S202 funding, recognizing that the Morning Mountain trail system is part of the recreation service benefiting the broader service area.
3. Utilize a funding from both S202 and Area E and F grant funding streams.
4. Deny replacement funding.

The challenge facing the RDCK is identifying an alternate funding source for a Board-approved project that has been completed and delivered, while recognizing that Community Works Funds can no longer be used for this purpose.

3.1 Alignment to Board Strategic Plan

This recommendation aligns with the RDCK Strategic Plan objective of supporting recreation and community wellbeing through sustainable recreation infrastructure and partnerships. Morning Mountain is a significant regional recreational asset that contributes to community health, outdoor recreation opportunities, tourism, and quality of life. Supporting completion of the funding commitment maintains the RDCK's relationship with a valued community partner.

3.2 Legislative Considerations

The Community Works Fund program is governed through the administrative agreement between UBCM and participating local governments. As UBCM has determined the project to be ineligible, Community Works Funds cannot be used to fund the remaining project expenses.

3.3 What Are the Risks

Risks associated with this issue include:

- Reputational risk to the RDCK if a community organization is negatively impacted by a funding eligibility determination that occurred after Board approval.
- Financial risk associated with identifying replacement funding sources.
- Relationship risk with the Nelson Cycling Club, a significant recreation partner that contributes substantially to trail development and maintenance within the region.
- Potential precedent concerns regarding future funding decisions where a project is later determined to be ineligible by an external funding agency.

4.0 PROPOSED SOLUTION

Staff recommend that replacement funding be provided through a shared-cost model involving Service S202 and Community Development Grants from Electoral Areas E and F. This approach recognizes the regional recreational benefit provided by the Morning Mountain trail network while also acknowledging the direct benefit to Electoral Areas E and F. The proposed solution ensures the Nelson Cycling Club receives the funding that was originally approved by Board while addressing the Community Works Fund ineligibility determination.

4.1 Financial Considerations of the Proposed Solution

There are two financial considerations:

1. There is a requirement to pay back the Community Works Funds that were already provided for this project. This amount total \$22,876.80.
2. There is an outstanding amount of \$5,719.20 owing to the Nelson Cycling Club.

Directors for Electoral Areas E and F have discussed a shared funding approach whereby Service S202 would contribute approximately 50% of the required replacement funding, with Electoral Areas E and F supporting the remaining balance through grant funding.

This approach recognizes both the regional recreation benefit provided by the Morning Mountain trail network and the specific benefit realized by Electoral Areas E and F.

The proposed funding allocation is:

- Service S202: \$14,298
- Electoral Area E Community Development Grant: \$7,149
- Electoral Area F Community Development Grant: \$7,149

Total Funding payable to the Nelson Cycling Club would be \$28,596.

The proposed funding arrangement would fully replace the Community Works Fund allocation that has been deemed ineligible while allowing the Community Works Fund balances for Electoral Areas E and F to be restored.

4.2 Risks with the Proposed Solution

The primary risk associated with the proposed solution is the use of alternate funding sources for an expense that was not originally budgeted within those programs. However, the recommended approach minimizes impacts by distributing costs between multiple funding sources and recognizes the regional benefits of the project.

4.3 Resource Allocation and Workplan Impact

There are no significant staff resource or workplan impacts associated with implementing the proposed recommendation.

4.4 Public Benefit and Stakeholder Engagement of Proposed Solution

The Nelson Cycling Club is an excellent community partner. It is important they are made whole and not left with a significant financial expense they were not expecting and were not responsible for.

4.5 Leveraging Technology

Not applicable.

4.5 Measuring Success

Not applicable.

5.0 ALTERNATIVE SOLUTION(S)

There are two alternative solutions:

- Alternate Option 1: Fund the entire amount of \$28,596 through S202.
- Alternate Option 2: Advise the Nelson Cycling Club that no further funding will be provided.

5.1 Financial Considerations of the Alternative Solution(s)

Alternate Option 1: As this is not a budgeted expense in 2026, additional funding would need to be drawn from reserves.

Alternate Option 2: Not applicable.

5.2 Risks with the Alternative Solution(s)

Alternate Option 1: There is not a significant financial risk.

Alternate Option 2: By not providing the balance of funding owing to the NCC, it would put the club in an unfavorable financial situation.

5.3 Resource Allocation and Workplan Impact

Not applicable.

5.4 Public Benefit and Stakeholder Engagement of Proposed Solution

For the benefit of continuing to have a positive relationship with the NCC, it is important that a solution be found to make this organization whole so they can continue to provide services to the community that are not otherwise provided.

5.5 Measuring Success

Not applicable.

6.0 OPTIONS CONSIDERED BUT NOT PRESENTED

There are no other options that were considered and not presented.

7.0 OPTIONS SUMMARY

Option 1 (Recommended)

Support a shared funding model with Service S202 contributing \$14,298 and Electoral Areas E and F each contributing approximately \$7,149 through Community Development Grants.

Option 2

Fund the entire amount through Service S202.

Option 3

Decline replacement funding and advise the Nelson Cycling Club that no further funding will be provided.

8.0 RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board approve an amendment to the 2026 Financial Plan from the Nelson, Salmo and Electoral Areas E, F and G Recreation Commission S202 to increase Grants by \$5,719.20 and increase transfer from reserves by \$5,719.20 for a grant to the Nelson Cycling Club; and,

THAT the Board approve an amendment to the 2026 Financial Plan from the Nelson, Salmo and Electoral Areas E, F and G Recreation Commission S202 to increase Transfer to Other Service by \$8,578.80 and increase transfer from reserves by \$8,578.80 to repay Community Works Funds for the Nelson Cycling Club project.

Respectfully submitted,



Trisha Davison, General Manager of Community Services

CONCURRENCE

Senior Manager of Corporate Administration – Mike Morrison

General Manager of IT, Procurement and Finance – Yev Malloff

Regional Manager of Operations & Asset Management – Craig Stanley

September 4, 2026

E-mail – Trisha Davison

Commissioners,

In the agenda package, you will find the report titled "*Nelson Cycling Club Morning Mountain Project: Community Works Funding Ineligibility Determination.*"

As outlined in Section 4.1, the report includes a proposed funding allocation to support the repayment requirement. Please note that the allocation from the Electoral Areas E and F Community Development Funds was approved by the Board at its August meeting. This approval was required in advance of the Commission's consideration of this report due to election-related timelines and grant approval requirements.

While the Community Development Fund contribution has already been approved and can be considered secured, the Commission retains the ability to determine how it wishes to fund the remaining balance.

I apologize that the report does not clearly indicate that the Community Development Fund allocation was recently approved.

By copy, I will ask Jenna to add this email as an addendum to the report.

Trisha Davison| General Manager, Community Services

Phone: 778-460-5238| **Cell:** 250.608.5125

Together we Connect, Play & Thrive!

August 24, 2026 E-mail

Good afternoon

I recently heard about the proposal for improvements to the morning mountain skating rink to allow increased opportunities for free, outdoor skating. I wanted to share my support for this proposal - I have enjoyed outdoor skating with my kids for years, but it seems to be getting more and more difficult to find places we can skate in the winter. The NDCC has fairly limited public skating, and the weather has not allowed us to build a rink in our yard over the past several winters. The outdoor rinks in Bonnington and Lions Park have also been challenged by our warming winter weather. It sounds as though the proposed ice rink at Morning Mountain addresses some of the challenges - the covered ice surface and a chiller to keep the ice frozen for longer periods of time seem like a great idea!

Thank you!

Erin J. Raggett

August 24, 2026 E-mail

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to the ice rink located on Morning Mountain in Blewett. Skating and ice sports in the outdoors is a quintessential Canadian activity that fewer children and youth have been able to take advantage of than previous generations, primarily due to the effects of climate change - to say nothing of the adults that also enjoy this activity! The proposal which includes a chiller to keep the ice frozen for a longer period of time will help to sustain this enriching family activity and I would strongly encourage Parks to consider this proposal favourably.

Many thanks,

Shannon Lythgoe