



# RDEK Board Highlights

## October 2023

### COLUMBIA VALLEY ZONING BYLAW

The Board authorized a public hearing on the proposed Columbia Valley Zoning Bylaw. The new Bylaw will replace the current zoning bylaw for Electoral Areas F & G. For more information, visit:

<https://engage.rdek.bc.ca/cvzoningbylaw>

**Contact:** Michele Bates, GM Development & Protective Services  
250-489-0312 | [mbates@rdek.bc.ca](mailto:mbates@rdek.bc.ca)

### ELKO FIRE HALL EXPANSION

The Board has approved up to \$300,000 in Community Works Funds for an expansion to the Elko Fire Hall. The expansion will add approximately 1300 square feet to the hall, increasing apparatus housing capacity, increasing storage and ensuring proper facilities (such as washrooms and showers) for firefighters. The RDEK is grateful to Canfor, who has offered to donate the dimensional lumber needed for the expansion.

**Contact:** Christina Carbrey, Protective Services Manager  
250-489-2791 | [ccarbrey@rdek.bc.ca](mailto:ccarbrey@rdek.bc.ca)

### AREA G PROJECTS TO BE INCLUDED IN CONNECTIVITY INITIATIVE

The Board has amended its Community Works Funds grant to Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation to undertake broadband connectivity projects from \$678,372 to \$553,483 to reflect a revision to the number of homes that will be connected through CBBC's connectivity project and to include 65 households in Area G that had previously not been part of the project scope.

**Contact:** Shawn Tomlin, CAO  
250-489-2791 | [stomlin@rdek.bc.ca](mailto:stomlin@rdek.bc.ca)

### FUNDING FOR KEY CITY THEATRE UPGRADE PROJECT

Community Works Funds of \$100,000 have been granted to the Key City Theatre for the Front Entrance and Exterior Upgrade Project.

**Contact:** Rob Gay, RDEK Board Chair  
250-489-4242 | [director.gay@rdek.bc.ca](mailto:director.gay@rdek.bc.ca)

### GRANT FOR WATER MONITORING PROGRAM IN SOUTH COUNTRY

A grant of \$26,400 has been approved from the Electoral Area B Economic Development Service to CLEAR Society for the development of a water monitoring program in the South Country.

**Contact:** Stan Doehle, Electoral Area B Director  
250-278-7000 | [director.doehle@rdek.bc.ca](mailto:director.doehle@rdek.bc.ca)

### BURTON LAKE ALR EXCLUSION APPLICATION

The Board refused authorizing the submission of the Earthrite Industries Exclusion application to the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) in the Burton Lake area. Support from the RDEK is a requirement of the exclusion application process as required by the Provincial ALR General Regulation.

250-489-0312 | [mbates@rdek.bc.ca](mailto:mbates@rdek.bc.ca)

### STODDART BOULEVARD ROAD CLOSURE

The Board did not support a road closure referral from the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure for a portion of Stoddart Boulevard in the Calberley Beach area of Lake Windermere. The Board also identified an interest in discussion with the Ministry on the alternative option of transferring ownership to the RDEK for future consideration as a Columbia Valley park.

**Contact:** Michele Bates, GM Development & Protective Services  
250-489-0312 | [mbates@rdek.bc.ca](mailto:mbates@rdek.bc.ca)

### AREA G LIBRARY BOARD REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED

Norm Ayers has been appointed as an Electoral Area G representative on the Invermere Public Library Board for a two-year term ending in October 2025.

**Contact:** Tina Hlushak, Corporate Services Manager  
250-489-2791 | [thlushak@rdek.bc.ca](mailto:thlushak@rdek.bc.ca)

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### APPLICATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK PLANNING GRANTS

An application will be submitted to the BC Active Transportation Network Planning Grant for \$50,000 to support Phase 2 of the Fernie Valley Paved Trail planning. Phase 1, which included 4km of paved trail, was completed in the summer of 2022 and the Fernie Trails Alliance is currently fundraising to complete an additional 3.5km of paved trail through Phase 2. Once complete, the trail will connect the City of Fernie to Fernie Alpine Resort via this safe, multi-use pathway. In addition, the RDEK will be applying for a \$500,000 grant to develop a paved trail along Highway 3 in Jaffray. The South Country Trails and Recreation Association has asked the RDEK to apply for the grant to improve the existing gravel path and develop missing sections to ensure a safe, multi-use transportation corridor off the highway.

**Contact: Kevin Paterson**, GM Engineering & Environmental Services  
250-489-2791 | [kpateron@rdek.bc.ca](mailto:kpateron@rdek.bc.ca)

### COMMUNITY ENERGY MANAGER FUNDING APPROVED

The RDEK will participate in funding the Community Energy Manager program up to a maximum of \$50,000 per year for two years. The RDEK Community Energy Manager has been a highly successful program over the past 10 years. It is currently funded 50% by BC Hydro and 50% by the RDEK and supports regional and municipal climate and energy projects across the East Kootenay.

**Contact: Michele Bates**, GM Development & Protective Services  
250-489-0312 | [mbates@rdek.bc.ca](mailto:mbates@rdek.bc.ca)

### DISCRETIONARY GRANTS IN AID (DGIA)

- The Canadian Mental Health Association for the Kootenays will receive \$1,000 from the Electoral Area B, \$3,250 from the Electoral Area C, and \$1,000 from the Electoral Area E DGIA accounts for its Essential Items Project.
- The City of Cranbrook will receive \$3,500 from the Electoral Area C DGIA account for its Mosquito Control Program.
- The Wardner Community Association will receive \$1,545 for the Wardner Cemetery Liability Insurance.

**Contacts: Stan Doehle**, Electoral Area B Director  
250-278-7000 | [director.doehle@rdek.bc.ca](mailto:director.doehle@rdek.bc.ca)

**Rob Gay**, Electoral Area C Director  
250-489-4242 | [director.gay@rdek.bc.ca](mailto:director.gay@rdek.bc.ca)

**Jane Walter**, Electoral Area E Director  
250-427-2577 | [director.walter@rdek.bc.ca](mailto:director.walter@rdek.bc.ca)

## TOWN HALL MEETINGS

We will be hosting Town Hall Meetings and celebrating our Electoral Area Volunteers of the Year in Electoral Areas A, E, F and G over the coming weeks as follows:

- **Area F – Monday, October 23** – CV Chamber Lions Hall
- **Area G – Thursday, November 2** – Edgewater Community Hall
- **Area A – Tuesday, November 7** – Hosmer Community Hall
- **Area E – November 14** – Wasa Community Hall

All meetings will start at 7:00pm with the Volunteer of the Year celebration, with the Town Halls to follow at 7:30pm.

For a full list of the agenda / presentation topics at each meeting along with full meeting details, please visit:

[https://www.rdek.bc.ca/meetings\\_events/publichearings/](https://www.rdek.bc.ca/meetings_events/publichearings/)

## NEXT BOARD MEETINGS

### November 9, 2023

RDEK Committee Meetings TBA

### November 10, 2023

RDEK Board Meeting 9:00 AM

Kootenay East Regional Hospital District Meeting 11:30 AM

**HIGHLIGHTS is a monthly publication.** The Regional Board meets the second Friday of each month (subject to periodic change) at the RDEK office in Cranbrook. Board Meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact Loree Ducek at [lducek@rdek.bc.ca](mailto:lducek@rdek.bc.ca) or visit [www.rdek.bc.ca](http://www.rdek.bc.ca)