

RDEK Board Highlights

January 2025



WINDERMERE BYLAWS PROCEED TO PUBLIC HEARING

The Board authorized a public hearing for two bylaws for properties in the Bench Road area of Windermere. The Board considered the proposed density, water and sewer servicing and potential traffic impacts of the proposed land use proposal for limited new commercial and mixed density residential development. The public hearing to allow for public comment on the proposed Bylaws will be held on January 29 via Zoom and requires pre-registration for all attendees.

Contact: Karen MacLeod, Planning Supervisor
250-489-2791 | kmacleod@rdek.bc.ca

FUNDING APPLICATION FOR ESS MODERNIZATION PROJECT

A grant application for \$200,000 will be submitted to Union of BC Municipalities under the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (Emergency Support Services Equipment and Training) to fund the East Kootenay ESS Modernization Project. If approved, the funding will be used to enhance training opportunities for ESS volunteers, support volunteer recruitment and recognition, purchase emergency supplies for use during emergencies and create a storage space for supplies.

Contact: Christina Carbrey, Protective Services Manager
250-489-2791 | ccarbrey@rdek.bc.ca

APPLICATION TO BE SUBMITTED TO WILDSAFE BC

The RDEK will submit an application to the 2025 WildSafe BC Program to provide a Community Coordinator in Electoral Areas F and G; and approved a program contribution fee of \$5,000 from the Discretionary Grants-in-Aid Service (\$4,375 from Area F and \$625 from Area G).

Contact: Susan Clovechok, Electoral Area F Director
250-270-9314 | director.clovechok@rdek.bc.ca
Roberta Schnider, Electoral Area G Director
250-688-0314 | director.schnider@rdek.bc.ca

LOCAL CONSERVATION FUND PROJECT FUNDING APPROVED

The following projects have been approved for funding under the Columbia Valley Local Conservation Fund for 2025:

- Conservation of Biodiversity in Columbia Valley - \$20,000
- Enhancing Bat Habitat and Monitoring Populations in the Columbia Valley - \$24,955
- Environmental Restoration of Brewer Creek Trail - \$8,184
- Hydrological Modeling of Wilmer/Boulder Creek Watersheds for Sustainable Water Management - \$20,000
- Lake Windermere Monitoring and Education - \$16,000
- Re imagining the Ties that Bind Wildlife Conservation to Farming - \$6,000

The following projects were also approved for multi-year funding:

- Columbia Headwaters Monitoring and Education: Columbia Lake Project: Year 2 of 2 - \$15,000
- Kootenay River Headwater Restoration: Year 1 of 3 - \$20,000
- Strategic Invasive Plant Control of Leafy Spurge: Year 1 of 3 - \$12,750

Contact: Al Miller, Columbia Valley Services Committee Chair
250-342-9281 | mayor@invermere.net

RESOLUTIONS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION

The Board will bring forward three resolutions for consideration at the 2025 Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments Annual General Meeting related to the following topics:

- Collection of fines by transfer to property taxes
- Capital costs for RCMP
- Standardized wake surfing regulation

In addition, a resolution will be submitted to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) for consideration at its 2025 March Board Meeting calling on the FCM to urge Transport Canada to develop science-based criteria where wake surfing would threaten lake or ecosystem health and that standardized federal regulations be developed and implemented.

Contact: Rob Gay, RDEK Board Chair
250-489-8620 | director.gay@rdek.bc.ca

Highlights are continued on following page >>

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DISCRETIONARY GRANTS-IN-AID (DGIA)

- The Cranbrook Community Forest Society will receive \$6,000 from the Electoral Area C DGIA account for its Trail Maintenance Program.
- The Cranbrook Minor Hockey Association will receive \$1,500 from the Electoral Area C DGIA account and \$500 from the Electoral Area E DGIA account for the U15 Tier 3 Provincial Championships.
- The Groundswell Network Society will receive \$1,570 from the Electoral Area F DGIA account and \$500 from the Electoral Area G account for operational costs for the Garden of Lights initiative.
- The Kimberley Curling Club will receive \$1,000 from the Electoral Area E DGIA account to offset costs for hosting the 2025 U18 & High School Curling Championships.
- Summit Community Services Society will receive \$1,000 from the Electoral Area C and \$1,000 from the Electoral Area E DGIA accounts to help bring an accredited Facility Dog to the Community Based Victim Services Team. The team's previous dog, West, retired last year.

Contacts: Rob Gay, Electoral Area C Director

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Jane Walter, Electoral Area E Director

250-427-2577 | director.walter@rdek.bc.ca

Susan Clovechok, Electoral Area F Director

250-270-9314 | director.clovechok@rdek.bc.ca

Roberta Schnider, Electoral Area G Director

250-688-0314 | director.schnider@rdek.bc.ca

STR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Short Term Rental Temporary Use Permit Applications under staff delegated and RDEK Board consideration are posted on the [Meetings & Notices](#) page of the RDEK website.

BYLAW AMENDMENTS

Bylaw Amendments requiring public hearing and those not requiring a public hearing are posted on the [Meetings & Notices](#) page of the RDEK website.

NEXT BOARD MEETINGS

February 12, 2024	TBA
Special Budget Meeting - Five Year Financial Plan	
February 13, 2024	TBA
RDEK Committee Meetings	
February 14, 2024	9:00 AM
RDEK Board Meeting	

To view all the upcoming meetings and notices, visit the [Meetings & Notices](http://www.rdek.bc.ca) page on www.rdek.bc.ca

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING - FEBRUARY 12

The RDEK Board of Directors will be reviewing the DRAFT 2025-2029 Five-Year Financial Plan during a special day of meetings focused solely on the budget on Wednesday, February 12. The meeting time and agenda will be published on the regular Meetings & Agendas page on www.rdek.bc.ca. The meeting is open to the public and will be live streamed via Zoom for those who cannot attend in person.

2025 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2025 Electoral Area Volunteer of the Year Awards. If you know an amazing volunteer who lives in an RDEK Electoral Area and makes a difference through their kindness and volunteerism, nominate them by Noon, Feb. 4/25 here: engage.rdek.bc.ca/volunteer

COLD SPRING CREEK DEBRIS FLOW MITIGATION PROJECT UPDATE INFORMATION MEETING - January 28, 2025 @2pm

The RDEK will be hosting an information meeting via Zoom on January 28 starting at 2:00pm to provide an update on the project, which is nearing completion. For more information and to access the meeting link: engage.rdek.bc.ca/debris

SHORT TERM RENTAL NEW FEES IN PLACE

Effective January 1, the application fees for Short Term Rental Temporary Use Permits have increased. To learn more about the new fees or access the hotline for concerns or complaints, visit www.rdek.bc.ca/str