

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE RDEK BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2010

20 Year Service Award Presented

Darlene Lewis was presented with a service award in recognition of her 20 years with the RDEK. Darlene is currently the Accounting/Payroll Clerk in the Finance Department.

Contact: *Shawn Tomlin* 250-489-2791
CFO

5 Year Financial Plan Adopted

The Regional District of East Kootenay has adopted its Financial Plan for the years 2010-2014. Operating revenue and expenses for 2010 are set at \$29.7 million, up from just over \$26.5 million in 2009. Some of the larger items contributing to the \$3 million increase include the final closure of the Fernie Landfill and a number of water and sewer projects in the Columbia Valley. In spite of the overall increase in the 2010 budget, residents of the RDEK will be affected differently, depending on the municipality or electoral area in which they live. On average, rural residential properties in the RDEK will see approximately a 2.8% overall increase in their tax levy. Tax calculations are expected to be complete by early-April when 2010 revised assessed values are available.

Contact: *Shawn Tomlin* 250-489-2791
CFO

Area C Considers Contribution to Memorial Arena Upgrade

Eligible electors in Electoral Area C will be voting in June on whether they support Area C contributing up to \$1.25 million to an upgrade project at the Memorial Arena. A public information meeting outlining the project and potential tax implications will be held at the end of April or early May and will be well advertised.

Contact: *Rob Gay* 250-489-4242
Electoral Area C Director

Upper Elk Valley Fire Agreement Signed

The Vice Chair and CAO have signed the agreement with the District of Sparwood for the provision of fire protection services to the Upper Elk Valley Fire Protection Service Area for the term March 22, 2010 to December 31, 2014.

Contact: *Dan McNeill* 250-489-2791
Manager of Building & Protective Services

Local Conservation Fund Projects Approved

Over \$80,000 will be allocated to projects in the Upper Columbia Valley this year after the RDEK Board approved the first projects for the newly established Columbia Valley Local Conservation Fund. The Board approved 8 projects and \$83,550 in funding. A total of \$99,250 was unallocated and will be available for future projects, land acquisitions, and conservation covenants on private land should such opportunities present themselves. The next proposal call is expected to go out this fall. To learn more about the Fund, go to www.ekcp.ca.

Contact: *Gerry Taft* 250-342-9281
Chair, Columbia Valley Directors Committee

Sale of Fireworks Regulation Bylaw

The Board has given three readings to a regulatory bylaw related to the sale of fireworks in the rural portions of the RDEK. Once approved, the regulatory bylaw would provide the Board with the ability to assess and control the sale of fireworks. The Regulation Bylaw is just the first step in the process and has now been submitted to the Ministry for required approvals.

Contact: *Shannon Moskal* 250-489-2791
Community Services Manager

Baynes Lake Seniors Housing Project Moves Forward

The RDEK has signed an agreement to sell one lot to the Provincial Rental Housing Corporation for the development of the Baynes Lake Seniors Housing Complex. The RDEK will retain ownership of a second adjacent lot, which will be used for amenities and outdoor space for the Housing Complex.

Contact: *Heath Slee* 250-887-3483
Electoral Area B Director

Selective Logging Set to Begin this Spring in Elk Valley Regional Park

Following a survey of dangerous and mountain pine beetle affected trees in Elk Valley Regional Park, the RDEK will be conducting a selective logging and beetle proofing program in the park this spring.

Contact: *Kevin Paterson* 250-489-2791
Environmental Services Manager

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Timber Ridge Bylaws Adopted

The Timber Ridge Water System Loan Authorization and Service Establishment Amendment Bylaws have been adopted. Adoption of both Bylaws is required for the Timber Ridge Water System Upgrade to proceed.

Contact: *Brian Funke* 250-489-2791
Engineering Services Manager

RDEK Supports Reconciliation Sculpture

The RDEK will be contributing \$15,000 toward the Reconciliation Sculpture to be located at the Canadian Rockies International Airport. The Sculpture has been created by a local artisan in partnership with the City of Cranbrook and Ktunaxa Nation Council and will be located in front of the airport terminal building.

Contact: *Lee-Ann Crane* 250-489-2791
CAO

Board Comes Out In Support of Alternate Route for CV Transmission Project

A letter will be sent to the BC Transmission Corporation in regard to the Columbia Valley Transmission Project advising that the RDEK does not support the multiple crossing over Toby Creek Canyon as it will impact the goat licks and further advising that the alternate route as presented could be supported.

Contact: *Gerry Wilkie* 250-489-2791
Electoral Area G Director

Permit Fees to be Waived for Rural Participants in East Kootenay Wood Stove Exchange Program

The fees will be waived for wood burning appliance permits for rural participants in the 2010 East Kootenay Wood Stove Exchange Program.

Contact: *Dan McNeill* 250-489-2791
Manager of Building & Protective Services

Wasa Public Hearing

The Board gave 1st and 2nd reading to Bylaw 2207 to amend the Wasa and Area Land Use Bylaw to facilitate a rural residential subdivision at 7034 Lazy Lake Road. The amendment will rezone a 19.5 ha property to permit its subdivision into approximately eighteen 2ha lots. The public hearing will be held March 30th at the Wasa Community Centre.

Contact: *Andrew McLeod* 250-489-2791
Manager of Planning & Development Services

Upper Elk Valley Public Hearing

The Board gave 1st and 2nd reading to Bylaw 2210 to amend the Elk Valley Zoning Bylaw to create two 2.0ha lots on the Lower Elk Valley Road. The public hearing will be held March 24 in Sparwood.

Contact: *Andrew McLeod* 250-489-2791
Manager of Planning & Development Services

Columbia Valley Public Hearings

Fairmont Hot Springs Resort has applied to rezone 15.4ha of property adjacent to the Fairmont airstrip for light industrial land uses. The proposed zoning amendment is consistent with the Fairmont Hot Springs Area OCP. The Board gave 1st and 2nd reading to Bylaw 2206 and authorized a public hearing for March 22 in Fairmont.

The Board also authorized a public hearing to consider proposed amendments to the Lake Windermere OCP and the Upper Columbia Valley Zoning Bylaw to correct a long standing non-conforming use at 2280 Ruault Road on the west side of Lake Windermere. The proposed amendments will enable the creation of three 1.0ha lots, each with an existing dwelling. The public hearing for Bylaws 2208 and 2209 will be held at the Windermere Community Hall on March 22.

Discretionary Grants in Aid Funding (DGIA)

The Kimberley Pipe Band will receive \$5500 from Electoral Areas A, B, C, and E in the following amounts:

Area A	\$500
Area B	\$1000
Area C	\$2000
Area E	\$2000

The funds will help the pipe band with travel expenses to attend the 2010 Royal Nova Scotia Tattoo .

Contact: *Mike Sosnowski* 250-423-1029

Electoral Area A Director

Heath Slee 250-887-3483

Electoral Area B Director

Rob Gay 250-489-4242

Electoral Area C Director

Norm Walter 250-427-2577

Electoral Area E Director

Volunteer Kootenays will receive \$200 from the Electoral Area C DGIA account to go towards their 5th Annual Community Volunteer Awards Dinner on April 22, 2010.

Contact: *Rob Gay* 250-489-4242

Electoral Area C Director

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Discretionary Grants in Aid (DGIA) - Continued

The Columbia Valley Community Forest initiative will receive a total of \$1500 for the Public Interaction and Education Program. A total of \$1000 will come from the Area F DGIA account, while the remaining \$500 will come from the Area G DGIA account.

Contact: *Wendy Booth* 250-345-6155
Electoral Area F Director

Gerry Wilkie 250-347-9841
Electoral Area G Director

Fairmont Hot Springs Citizens on Patrol will receive \$500 for 10 km/hr signs to be erected in the Mud Lake area.

Contact: *Wendy Booth* 250-345-6155
Electoral Area F Director

NEXT MEETINGS

Thursday April 8, 2010
Committee Meetings TBA

Friday April 9, 2010
Regional District of East Kootenay Board Meeting 9:00 am

Other RDEK Happenings

March 22, 2010

4:00pm—Fairmont Hot Springs Resort, Birch Room
Public Hearing for Bylaw 2206 Upper Columbia Valley Zoning Bylaw No. 900 Amendment Bylaw No. 245, 2010 (Fairmont/Fairmont Hot Springs Resort Ltd).

March 22, 2010

7:00pm—Windermere Community Hall
Public Hearing for Bylaw 2208 Lake Windermere Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 2061 Amendment Bylaw No. 7, 2010 (Rushmere/Ruault)

- and -

Public Hearing for Bylaw 2209 Upper Columbia Valley Zoning Bylaw No. 900 Amendment Bylaw No. 246, 2010 (Rushmere/Ruault)

March 24, 2010

4:00pm—Causeway Bay Hotel, Red Cedar Room
Public Hearing for Bylaw 2210 Elk Valley Zoning Bylaw No. 829 Amendment Bylaw No. 51, 2010 (Sparwood Rural/Cook)

March 30, 2010

7:00pm—Wasa Community Centre
Public Hearing for Bylaw 2207 Wasa-Ta Ta Creek-Skookumchuck-Sheep Creek Land Use Bylaw No. 1625 Amendment Bylaw No. 14, 2010 (Wasa/Fiorentino, Roberts, Hoglund)



The Eddie Mountain Memorial Arena has temporarily closed its doors for a major upgrade project. Our contractor, Western Recreation, specializes in this type of work and will be on site this month to begin thawing the ice surface and ground beneath the arena.

Once the prep work has been completed, the slab will be broken apart and removed to prepare for the new slab surface. The project will also include installation of a specialized lift that will provide wheelchair access to the upper mezzanine.

The \$840,000 project has received \$375,000 in funding through the Towns for Tomorrow Program and an additional \$215,000 Recreation Infrastructure Canada Grant through Western Economic Diversification Canada. Work is expected to be complete by early August.

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