

Board Highlights

H_ l s_pw 2023

A general overview of discussion items & major decisions from the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary (RDKB) Board of Directors meeting held on Wednesday, H_ l s_py 29, 2025.

The next board meeting will be held on **Wednesday**, **February 12, 2025** at 11a.m. online via Teams.

January 29

Delegation

Grow and Connect: Kootenay-Boundary Distribution Pilot Re: South Kootenay Agriculture Strategy

Rebecca Richards presented on food (in)security in the RDKB, highlighting that food costs in rural communities are 2–3 times higher. Strengthening food resiliency requires localizing supply chains and improving communication for emergency preparedness. Transportation and distribution challenges are also limiting business growth.

The RDKB is addressing food security through the South Kootenay Agriculture Strategy and the Boundary Area Agriculture and Food Plan. The Grow and Connect initiative will support both by enhancing distribution networks for retailers, producers, and carriers, with backing from local businesses.

Ms. Richards demonstrated the Grow and Connect Interior software, which includes a business directory, load and route posting, and order tracking features. Community information sessions will be held across the RDKB to introduce these tools.

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Regional District of Kootenay Boundary

New Funding Opportunity for Floodplain Mapping in the Boundary

RDKB staff will submit a grant application for $400,000 to the Disaster Resilience and Innovation Funding (DRIF) Program to support floodplain mapping in the Boundary Region. If successful, the contract to update the floodplain maps for the Boundary Region's remaining high priority river reaches will be awarded to Northwest Hydraulic Consultants (NHC) Ltd.

Special Event Permit Request for Local Significance - AltiTunes, Electoral Area E/West Boundary

The request to designate portions of District Lots for the 2025 "AltiTunes" event at Big White Ski Resort, as municipally significant, was supported.

Mosquito Control Contract – Recommendation to Award

The contract for services associated with the Mosquito Control Programs in Area C – Christina Lake and Area D Grand Forks Rural/Grand Forks were awarded to Morrow BioScience Ltd for a one-year term (February 15, 2025 – December 31, 2025).

McKelvey Creek Landfill Operations – Recommendation to Extend

The contract for services associated with the provision of daily operations at the McKelvey Creek Landfill will be extended for a three-year term (June 1, 2025 – May 31, 2028) with GFL Environmental Inc.

Approval for Area B Recreation Grants:

Trail Wildlife Association - steel stands and targets: $4,000
West Kootenay Marksmen - steel stands and targets at Casino Range 3: $4,500

Grants-in-Aid

The following grants-in-aid were approved:

Electoral Area A

Trail & District Arts Council – Steinway rebuild: $2,000

Beaver Valley X – Country Ski Club – supplies for club social: $250

Living Lakes Canada – Hydrology Station at Bubbles: $500

Living Lakes Canada - Hydrology Station at Wetland: $500

Electoral Area B/Lower Columbia - Old Glory

Trail & District Arts Council – Steinway rebuild: $2,000

Electoral Area C/Christina Lake

Big Effort Foundation – pilot program for neurodivergent swimming lessons: $5,000

Electoral Area E/West Boundary

Baldy Mountain Community Association – protective clothing: $2,934.34
Beaverdell Community Club – Christmas dinner: $500