

Board Highlights

June 2025

A general overview of discussion items & major decisions from the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary (RDKB) Board of Directors meeting. The next board meeting will be held in Grand Forks on **Wednesday, July 30, 2025** at 1:00 p.m. and online via Teams.

Advocacy Issues for Upcoming UBCM Convention

The Board directed staff to request meetings with Provincial ministers to discuss the following issues at the Union of BC Municipalities convention this September:

- Meeting with Premier Eby regarding Provincial downloading and the Fire Underwriters Survey
- Ask the Province to lobby the Fire Underwriters Survey, in partnership with local governments and the Fire Chiefs' Association, regarding fire insurance and fire apparatus replacement requirements (Minister Begg, Public Safety)
- Extend hours of Provincial Parks

Teck Metals: Re: Update on Trail Operations and Taxation

Representatives from Teck Trail Operations provided an update on economic challenges facing the zinc smelting industry, including global supply issues and recent staff layoffs. They emphasized efforts to reduce costs and expressed concern about the high property taxes paid by Teck, the RDKB's largest taxpayer. While acknowledging the financial pressures of infrastructure upgrades like the Columbia Pollution Control Centre, Teck asked the Board to consider their position during future budget discussions. Staff noted that the RDKB does not control the mill rate.

Cooling and Warming Centre Policy

Staff were directed to to review the RDKB's Cooling and Warming Centre policy for alignment with the Emergency and Disaster Management Act and to bring this to the July Board meeting.

Community Works Fund Application: Grand Forks ATV Club

The Board approved a $25,025 allocation from the Community Works Fund for the Grand Forks ATV Club to support sign installation and a new trail brochure for the Trails of the North Fork. The Board confirmed the project aligns with regional or municipal priorities and does not take precedence over local government-owned initiatives.

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Regional District of Kootenay Boundary

Village of Warfield Grant Application

The Board directed staff to send a letter to the Village of Warfield in support of its application for a $350,000 Disaster Resilience and Innovating Funding program grant for drainage issues in Annable.

Area B Recreation Grant

The Board approved an Area B Recreation Grant in the amount of $6,100.00 to Seven Summits Centre for Learning for the Year Start Retreat.

Grants-in-Aid

The following grants-in-aid were approved:

Area A:

Beaver Valley Thriving Communities Society – summer event at Mountain Soul Winery: $2,000 Lower Columbia Affordable Housing Society – garden beds at Blizzard Mountain Place: $5,000

Area B/Lower Columbia-Old Glory:

Oasis Recreation Society - purchase a rechargeable snow blower: $1,500
Casino Recreation Society - community appreciation BBQ - $1,425

Area E/West Boundary:

Grand Forks Border Bruins Hockey Club – learn to skate: $2,000
Boundary Community Partners Association – volunteer appreciation event: $1,500
Trails to the Boundary Society – 3 chainsaw certifications: $900
Midway Public Library – access to membership initiative: $8,000

These highlights exclude confidential information such as business negotiations, personnel issues and legal matters. For full meeting agenda minutes visit rdkb.civicweb.net. For a list of upcoming board meetings, visit rdkb.com. For other information or to request the Teams board meeting links , please contact Anitra Winje, our Corporate Officer at 250-368-0225 or corporate@rdkb.com.

Picture Credit: Peter Kalasz and Tina Bryan Photography