

RDKB BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

September 9, 2026

A general overview of discussion items and decision from the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary (RDKB) Board of Directors meeting. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. in the Trail Board Room or online via Teams videoconferencing.

2026 Workplan Update and Proposed Projects for 2027

The Board received an update on 2026 work plans for the following services: General Government, Building Inspection, Emergency Preparedness, Regional Solid Waste Management, and Big White Refuse. Additionally, the Directors learned of proposed projects for 2027. These reports help the Board during its budget deliberations and assist staff with time management, department planning and resource allocation.

Amalgamation Study Request

The City of Trail and the Village of Warfield requested RDKB staff participation in the Trail-Warfield Amalgamation Study. The Board granted this approval.

2027 Permissive Tax Exemptions

The Board adopted its 2027 Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw, which exempted 14 organizations around the region from paying taxes. The aim of permissive tax exemptions is to support community organizations, which further the RDKB Board's objectives and priorities to enhance the quality of life for residents (economic, social/cultural, recreational and educational).

UBCM Convention

RDKB Directors will be in Vancouver the week of September 14th for the annual Union of BC Municipalities Convention. This event brings together local government officials and staff, Provincial politicians and bureaucrats, and industry leaders. The convention enables leaders to network, share best practices, discuss current and emerging trends, debate policies, and advocate for community issues.

RDKB representives will meet with Premier Eby to discuss concerns over Provincial downloading, and Minister Christine Boyle to discuss Community Works Funding.

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Regional District of Kootenay Boundary

Advocating for the Columbia and Western Rail Trail

The Board endorsed sending a letter to the Minister of Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship from Christina Gateway, Christina Lake Tourism, Christina Lake Trail Alliance and the BC Powersports Dealers Association regarding the management of the Columbia and Western Rail Trail.

The Board had passed a resolution in 2025 which stated:

Given the economic, social, cultural, and historical importance of the Columbia and Western Rail Trail, [that] the Board send a letter to the Province of BC urging it to reverse its decision to designate the Columbia and Western Rail Trail as a non-status rail grade and to work with user groups and other ministries, both Federal and provincial, to identify, mitigate and proactively manage safety concerns.

The RDKB Board continues to lobby the Province of BC to maintain the Trail so that residents and visitors can continue to use and enjoy it well into the future.

Area B Recreation Grant

Trail Wildlife Association - to purchase firefighting equipment for the TWA clubhouse and ranges - $5,000

Accessibility Grant

The Board allocated $1,000 from the RDKB's Accessibility Committee SPARC grant to assist the Boundary Metis Community Association with its Pow Wow on October 2 and 3, 2026 in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Grants-in-Aid

Area C/Christina Lake:

- Christina Gateway Community Development Assn – volunteer appreciation event - $5,000
- Christina Lake Firefighters Society - Halloween fireworks display - $3,500
- Moody Quilters of Christina Lake - costs to hold quilt conference - $1,500
- Phoenix Foundation of Boundary Communities - delivery of Vital Signs Report - $2,000

Area D/Rural Grand Forks:

- Phoenix Foundation of Boundary Communities - delivery of Vital Signs Report - $2,000

Area E/West Boundary:

- Phoenix Foundation of Boundary Communities -delivery of Vital Signs report - $2,000
- Midway Community Association – skating skills camp/learn to skate program - $1,215
- Rock Creek Women's Institute – Food Safe courses - $138
- Trails to the Boundary Society – Boundary Heritage website - $4,000
- Big White Mountain Community Development Association - new flooring for the ELC - $4,500