



AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2020

CALL TO ORDER:

INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS: - Resolution required to add late items, if any

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: - Resolution to adopt the Agenda for the January 28, 2020, Regular Meeting

MINUTES:

- Resolution to adopt the Minutes of the January 14, 2020, Regular Meeting
- Resolution to adopt the Minutes of the January 21, 2020, Committee of the Whole Meeting

PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS: - Nil

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: -

OLD BUSINESS: - Nil

CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION:

- Resolution to receive the following items for information:
 - Re: 5G Protests (*Norbert Duerichen, New Denver*)
 - Consultations on amending Species at Risk (*Canadian Wildlife Service - Celina Willis, Conservation Project Development Officer*)
 - Chamber of Commerce Strategic Plan (*Slocan Valley Chamber of Commerce - Jessica Rayner, Manager*)
 - ASTA Survey (*Arrow Slocan Tourism Association - Megan Chadwick, Executive Director*)
 - Support for Postal Banking (*Village of Canal Flats - Sylvie Hoobanoff, Corporate Officer*)

STAFF REPORTS:

- Resolution to receive the following items for information:
 - Slocan Valley Agricultural Action Plan (*Community Futures of Central Kootenay - Ron LeBlanc, Economic Development Coordinator*)

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Verbal Reports	-
Regional District of Central Kootenay	-
West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District	-
Recreation Commission #6	-
Economic Development Commission	-
Rosebery Parklands & Trail Commission	-
Treaty Advisory Committee	-
Fire Department Committee	-
Health Advisory Committee	-

NEW BUSINESS:

Jessica Rayner, Planning Assistant	-	New Denver Boundary Extension Area
Nancy Kalawsky, Grants Coordinator	-	CBT CIP 2020
New Denver Rescue Society - Mercedes Casley, Chairperson	-	Rescue Boat Donation
BC Conservation Foundation – Trina Radford, A/Regional Manager	-	2020 WildSafeBC Program
New Denver & Area Housing Society – Jan McMurray, Chair	-	Request for Letter of Support – Vancouver Foundation Investment Readiness Program (Affordable Housing Feasibility)

MOTION TO EXCLUDE:

- Moved by Councillor _____ and seconded that the public interest requires that, as per section 90(1) (l) of the *Community Charter*, persons other than members of Council and the CAO be excluded from the meeting as it pertains to the strategic planning discussions relating to the preparation of the Annual Report.

RECONVENE IN CAMERA:

- Moved by Councillor _____ and seconded that Council recess and reconvene in camera at _____ p.m.

RECONVENE IN OPEN MEETING:

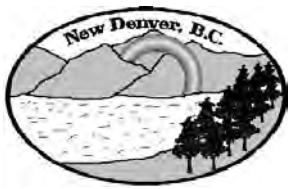
- Moved by Councillor _____ and seconded that Council reconvene in open meeting at _____ p.m.

**RESOLUTIONS BROUGHT
FORWARD FROM IN CAMERA:**

- Moved by Councillor _____ and seconded that Resolution# _____ be brought forward to the public portion of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Resolution to adjourn the meeting at ____ p.m.



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING

DATE: January 14, 2020
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers

PRESENT:

- Mayor Leonard Casley
- Councillor John Fyke
- Councillor Vern Gustafson
- Councillor Colin Moss
- Councillor Gerald Wagner
- Catherine Allaway, CAO
- Jessica Rayner, Community Planner
- Press: Valley Voice
- Guests: Nil

CALL TO ORDER:

INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- Nil

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

RESOLUTION #1

- Moved by Councillor Moss and seconded that the agenda for the January 14, 2020 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.
CARRIED

MINUTES:

RESOLUTION #2

- Moved by Councillor Wagner and seconded that the Minutes of the December 10, 2019 Regular Meeting be adopted as read.
CARRIED

PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS:

- Nil

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS:

- Nil

OLD BUSINESS:

- Nil

CORRESPONDENCE FOR
INFORMATION:

RESOLUTION #3

- Moved by Councillor Gustafson and seconded that the following correspondence be received for information:
 - RE: Emergency & Basic Services (*Art Joyce & Anne Champagne, New Denver*)

- Season's Greetings (CBT - *Johnny Strilaeff, President & CEO*)
 - RE: Notice of Application under the Water Sustainability Act (*Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development - Laurence Chaput-Desrochers, Water Stewardship Officer*)
 - Active Transportation Grant Announcement (*Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure*)
 - RE: Notice of AGM and First Call for Resolutions (AKBLG - *Ange Qualizza, Resolutions Chair*)
 - Emerging Economic Opportunities in the Columbia Headwaters Region Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (*Nadine Raynolds, Columbia Headwaters Program Manager*)
 - 2020 CIP/AAP Application Process RDCK – (*Nancy Kalawsky, Grants Coordinator*)
 - CKCA Arts & Culture Funding Programs (CKCA - *Lily Anderson, Projects and Communications*)
- CARRIED

STAFF REPORTS:

RESOLUTION #4

- Moved by Councillor Gustafson and seconded that the following reports be received for information:
 - WildSafeBC New Denver Annual Report 2019 (*WildSafeBC - Tammy White, New Denver Community Coordinator*)
 - Denver Siding Boundary Expansion Process (*Jessica Rayner, Community Planner*)
- CARRIED

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Verbal Reports

- Mayor Casley reported on his recent discussions with Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding visibility at the intersection of Hwy 31A and Hwy 6

Regional District of Central Kootenay

- Nil

West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District

- Nil

Recreation Commission #6

- Nil

Economic Development Commission

- Nil

- Rosebery Trails & Parklands Commission - Nil
- Treaty Advisory Committee - Nil
- Fire Department Committee - Draft minutes from the December 12, 2019 meeting were presented for information
- Health Advisory Committee - Nil

NEW BUSINESS:

- RESOLUTION #5**
Infrastructure Planning Grant Application - Moved by Councillor Gustafson and seconded that the Village of New Denver submit an application to the Infrastructure Planning Grant Program.
CARRIED

- RESOLUTION #6**
Young Canada Works Grant Application - Moved by Councillor Moss and seconded that the Village of New Denver submit applications to the Young Canada Works federal wage subsidy program for funding to hire up to three summer students for the NIMC 2020 operational season.
CARRIED

- RESOLUTION #7**
Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Grant Application - Moved by Councillor Wagner and seconded that the Village of New Denver supports application for Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Flood Risk Assessment, Mapping and Mitigation Planning, submitted by the RDCK on behalf of the Village of New Denver, and further supports the RDCK to manage the grant funds for the project.
CARRIED

- RESOLUTION #8**
Affordable Housing Project - Moved by Councillor Fyke and seconded that the Village of New Denver submit an application to CMHC for seed funding to assess the feasibility of developing 10 units of affordable housing on Lots 21-26, Block 51, DL549.
CARRIED

- RESOLUTION #9**
Fire Department Service Levels - Moved by Councillor Moss and seconded that the Service Level for the New Denver and Area Fire Department be set as Full Service.
CARRIED

- RESOLUTION #10**
ATACC Group Clinical Governance Fire & Rescue Service - Moved by Councillor Wagner and seconded that the New Denver & Area Fire Department's participation in the ATACC Group program be referred to the 2020 budget process.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

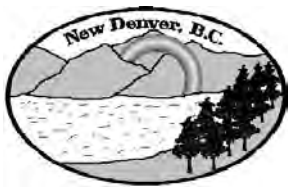
RESOLUTION #11

- Moved by Councillor Wagner and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

CARRIED

MAYOR CASLEY

CORPORATE OFFICER



MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

DATE: January 21 2020
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers

PRESENT:

- Mayor Leonard Casley
- Councillor John Fyke (via Skype)
- Councillor Colin Moss
- Councillor Gerald Wagner
- Catherine Allaway, CAO
- Jamie Grierson, Utility Operator
- Jessica Rayner, Community Planner
- Press: Nil
- Guests: Nil
- Regrets: Councillor Vern Gustafson

CALL TO ORDER:

- Mayor Casley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- Nil

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

RESOLUTION #12

- Moved by Councillor Moss and seconded that the agenda for the January 21, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adopted as presented.
CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

Village Snow Plowing Policies

- Council reviewed past and current snow plowing policies, and discussed possible modifications including changes to service levels and issues of legal liability. Staff is working on the development of revised policies to be presented to Council for their consideration.

Jamie Grierson left the meeting at 10:15 a.m.
Jessica Rayner joined the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Denver Siding Boundary Extension

- Council reviewed maps showing two options for the proposed boundary restructure, and discussed the relative merits of each.

RESOLUTION #13

- Moved by Councillor Moss and seconded that it be recommended to Council that the proposed boundary extension include lands located on the north side of Hwy 31A as well as Crown-owned parcels between

the cemetery and Carpenter Creek, as outlined option 2.

CARRIED

Jessica Rayner left the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Affordable Housing Project

- Staff provided an update on the current status of the affordable housing project. Council discussed the involvement of New Commons Development to move the project forward

ADJOURNMENT:

RESOLUTION #14

- Moved by Councillor Wagner and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

CARRIED

MAYOR CASLEY

CORPORATE OFFICER

From:
To: [New Denver](#)
Subject: Re: 5G Protests
Date: January 22, 2020 10:10:45 AM

Hello Mayor, council and Staff:

You may be aware that on January 25th there are protests against 5G in many municipalities worldwide. The closest one to us is in Vernon, BC. I have been recommended to pass the following resolution on to my municipality to make you aware what is happening with 5G. You should understand that in order to attain permission to install a 5G infrastructure the communications businesses are not required to apply to the municipalities for permission. the installation of 5G in New Denver will be undertaken without our permission and perhaps even without our knowledge. Following is the resolution drafted by the organizers of this world-wide protest.

Thanks,

Norbert

Resolution opposing the installation of a 5G wireless communications infrastructure:

A resolution calling upon all telecommunications companies and public utilities operating in New Denver, to cease the build-out of so-called "5G" wireless infrastructure until such technologies have been proven safe to human health and the environment through independent research and testing.

- Whereas the telecommunications industry is engaged in a massive deployment of microwave and millimeter-wave "small cell / microcell" antennas across the country to facilitate the next generation of wireless communications known as 5G, and
- Whereas this new technology uses existing wireless infrastructure and new types of radio-frequency (RF) microwave radiation to transmit large amounts of data, but requires significantly closer proximity to users, resulting in the dense deployment of antennas near residences, schools, and hospitals, and
- Whereas the deployment of 5G-enabled small cell / microcell antennas in our neighbourhoods raises serious questions regarding the potential health and environmental impacts of long-term exposure to untested RF microwave radiation frequencies, and
- Whereas no long-term safety testing has been conducted on new 5G wireless technologies and Health Canada has failed to update Safety Code 6, its human RF exposure guideline, despite being advised of its inadequacy by hundreds of medical and scientific experts from around the world, and
- Whereas telecommunications industry leaders have publicly admitted that they have not conducted any safety tests to determine the possible adverse health and environmental effects from exposure to RF microwave radiation emitted by 5G-enabled small cell / microcell antennas, and
- Whereas a significant body of published, peer-reviewed, independent science links exposure

to RF microwave radiation with serious environmental and biological harm, including increased risk of cancer, reproductive problems and neurological impairments, and

- Whereas populations especially at risk from this exposure include pregnant women, children, the elderly, and individuals with implanted medical devices, or cardiac or neurological problems, and

- Whereas Swiss Re, the second-largest re-insurance company in the world, called 5G a “high impact” liability risk due to health risks in its 2019 SONAR emerging risks report, and

- Whereas the theory that exposure to RF microwave radiation is harmless, which has been the underlying principle of all federal legislation and regulations regarding wireless technologies for more than twenty years, has now been proven false,

Now, therefore, be it Resolved, that New Denver calls upon all telecommunications companies and public utilities operating in (name of village, town or city) to cease and desist in the build-out of 5G-enabled small cell / microcell antennas until such technologies have been proven safe, beyond a reasonable doubt through independent research, and the public health and welfare can be assured.



January 22, 2020

RE: Consultation on amending Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act*

On October 9, 2019, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) submitted 56 assessments of species at risk to the federal Minister of the Environment.

On January 7, 2019, the Government of Canada posted the Ministerial Response Statements for these species on the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) Public Registry. The Government is now launching consultations on the potential amendment of Schedule 1, the List of Wildlife Species at Risk under SARA. The complete set of statements and the consultation path (normal or extended) for each species are available at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-act-accord-funding/listing-process/minister-environment-response-assessments-2019.html>.

Environment and Climate Change Canada is seeking comments on the proposed amendment of Schedule 1 resulting from assessments of 17 terrestrial species. Ten of the species included in this national consultation are found in British Columbia (BC). These are:

Carey's Small Limestone Moss: New listing as Endangered

- A moss known from three sites on Haida Gwaii

Dalton's Moss: New listing as Endangered

- A moss known from one site on Haida Gwaii

Drooping-leaved Beard-moss: New listing as Endangered

- A moss known from four sites on the west coast of Haida Gwaii

Columbia Quilwort: New listing as Endangered

- A plant found in extreme southern BC near Castlegar

Dwarf Hesperochiron: New listing as Endangered

- A perennial plant found a small area of southeastern BC

Hairy Paintbrush: New listing as Endangered

- An annual plant known from a single site between Salmo and Castlegar, in southern BC

Ute Ladies'-tresses: New listing as Endangered

- An orchid found from two locations in the south Okanagan Valley, BC

Hudsonian Godwit: New listing as Threatened

- A large Arctic-nesting shorebird that breeds in, and migrates through, northern BC

Yellow Scarab Hunter Wasp: New listing as Special Concern

- A large wasp found in the south Okanagan and Similkameen valleys of BC

Cryptic Paw Lichen: Reclassification from Special Concern to Threatened

- A lichen found in moist, old growth forests at lower elevations in BC

Fisheries and Oceans Canada will conduct consultations for 17 aquatic species eligible for addition to the list. Where authorized by a land claims agreement to perform functions in respect of an aquatic wildlife species, Environment and Climate Change Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada will consult the wildlife management board.

Additional information on the listing and consultation processes for terrestrial species is available in "Consultation on Amending the List of Species under the *Species at Risk Act* -Terrestrial Species". This document also includes a questionnaire that provides you guidance on the types of information and comments Environment and Climate Change Canada is seeking. It is posted on the SARA Public Registry at: <https://species-registry.canada.ca/index-en.html#/documents/3542>.

You are invited to submit comments on the potential impacts of amending the List of Wildlife Species at Risk according to these COSEWIC status assessments. Your comments will be considered and will inform the Minister's recommendation to Cabinet. Please provide comments by **May 7, 2020** for species under a normal consultation process and by **October 7, 2020** for species following an extended consultation process. Four terrestrial species, including the Hudsonian Godwit and the Cryptic Paw Lichen, will follow an extended consultation process. There will also be an opportunity to provide comments during the 30-day public consultation period associated with pre-publication in *Canada Gazette* Part I. More detailed information on individual species is included in the COSEWIC status reports, is available on the SARA Public Registry.

We encourage you to submit your comments to the SARA Public Registry at ec.registrelep-sararegistry.ec@canada.ca, or by answering the online survey included in Part 2 of the Consultation Document. You are also welcome to contact our regional office with any questions:

Regulatory Affairs
Canadian Wildlife Service / Pacific Region
Environment and Climate Change Canada
5421 Robertson Rd, RR1
Delta, BC V4K 3N2
ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca / Tel: 604-350-1900

Respectfully,



Randal Lake
Head, Regulatory Affairs Unit
Canadian Wildlife Service, Pacific Region
Environment and Climate Change Canada
5421 Robertson Rd, RR1
Delta, BC V4K 3N2



CONSULTATION ON AMENDING THE LIST OF SPECIES UNDER THE *SPECIES* *AT RISK ACT*

Terrestrial Species



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

Canada

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Photos:

Dwarf Hesperochiron © Ryan Batten

Hudsonian Godwit © Cameron Eckert

American Bubble Bee © Victoria MacPhail

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ADDITION OF SPECIES TO THE SPECIES AT RISK ACT

THE *SPECIES AT RISK ACT* AND THE LIST OF WILDLIFE SPECIES AT RISK

The Government of Canada is committed to preventing the disappearance of wildlife species at risk from our lands. As part of its strategy for realizing that commitment, on June 5, 2003, the Government of Canada proclaimed the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). Attached to the Act is Schedule 1, the list of the species provided for under SARA, also called the List of Wildlife Species at Risk. Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species on Schedule 1 benefit from the protection afforded by the prohibitions and from recovery planning requirements under SARA. Special Concern species benefit from its management planning requirements.

The policy “Timeline for amendments to Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act” has set standardized timelines for listing decisions. These new timelines mean that the Minister will seek to have the final decision made within 24 months. The 24 months begin with the date that the Minister receives a species’ status assessment from COSEWIC. This date is published in the response statement for each species. The Minister’s receives the COSEWIC Annual Report at the same time.

The response statement can be found on the SAR Registry, on the species’ page, in the documents section. The Timeline for amendments to Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act policy can be viewed on the SAR Public Registry at: https://wildlife-species.canada.ca/species-risk-registry/document/default_e.cfm?documentID=3203 and the COSEWIC Annual Report can be viewed at:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/committee-status-endangered-wildlife.html>.

The complete list of species currently on Schedule 1 can be viewed on the SAR Public Registry at: <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/s-15.3/page-17.html#h-435647>.

Species become eligible for addition to Schedule 1 once they have been assessed as being at risk by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). The decision to add a species to Schedule 1 is made by the Governor in Council further to a recommendation from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change. The Governor in Council is the formal executive body that gives legal effect to decisions that then have the force of law.

COSEWIC AND THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR IDENTIFYING SPECIES AT RISK

COSEWIC is recognized under SARA as the authority for assessing the status of wildlife species at risk. COSEWIC comprises experts on wildlife species at risk. Its members have backgrounds in the fields of biology, ecology, genetics, Indigenous traditional knowledge and other relevant fields. They come from various communities, including academia, Indigenous organizations, governments and non-governmental organizations.

COSEWIC gives priority to those species more likely to become extinct, and then commissions a status report for the evaluation of the species’ status. To be accepted, status reports must be peer-reviewed and approved by a subcommittee

of species specialists. In special circumstances, assessments can be done on an emergency basis. When the status report is complete, COSEWIC meets to examine it and discuss the species. COSEWIC then determines whether the species is at risk, and, if so, it then assesses the level of risk and assigns a conservation status.

TERMS USED TO DEFINE THE DEGREE OF RISK TO A SPECIES

The conservation status defines the degree of risk to a species. The terms used under SARA are Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened and Special Concern. Extirpated species are wildlife species that no longer occur in the wild in Canada but still exist elsewhere. Endangered species are wildlife species that are likely to soon become Extirpated or Extinct. Threatened species are likely to become Endangered if nothing is done to reverse the factors leading to their extirpation or extinction. The term Special Concern is used for wildlife species that may become Threatened or Endangered due to a combination of biological characteristics and threats. Once COSEWIC has assessed a species as Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened or Special Concern, it is eligible for inclusion on Schedule 1.

For more information on COSEWIC, visit the COSEWIC website at: www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/committee-status-endangered-wildlife.html.

TERRESTRIAL AND AQUATIC SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR SCHEDULE 1 AMENDMENTS

The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans conducts separate consultations for the aquatic species. For more information on the consultations for aquatic species, visit the Fisheries and Oceans Canada website at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

The Minister of Environment and Climate Change is conducting the consultations for all other species at risk.

Species at risk also occur in national parks or other lands administered by Parks Canada;

Parks Canada shares responsibility for these species with Environment and Climate Change Canada.

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE'S RESPONSE TO THE COSEWIC ASSESSMENT: THE RESPONSE STATEMENT

After COSEWIC has completed its assessment of a species, it provides it to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change. The Minister of Environment and Climate Change then has 90 days to post a response on the Species at Risk Public Registry, known as the response statement. The response statement provides information on the scope of any consultations and the timelines for action, to the extent possible. It identifies how long the consultations will be (whether they are “normal” or “extended”) by stating when the Minister will forward the assessment to the Governor in Council. Consultations for a group of species are launched with the posting of their response statements.

COMMENTS SOLICITED ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF SCHEDULE 1

The conservation of wildlife is a joint legal responsibility: one that is shared among the governments of Canada. But biodiversity will not be conserved by governments that act alone. The best way to secure the survival of species at risk and their habitats is through the active participation of all those concerned. SARA recognizes this, and that all Indigenous peoples and Canadians have a role to play in preventing the disappearance of wildlife species from our lands. The Government of Canada is inviting and encouraging you to become involved. One way that you can do so is by sharing your comments concerning the addition or reclassification of these terrestrial species.

Your comments are considered in relation to the potential consequences of whether or not a species is included on Schedule 1, and they are then used to inform the drafting of the Minister's proposed listing recommendations for each of these species.

THE SPECIES AT RISK ACT LISTING PROCESS AND CONSULTATION

The addition of a wildlife species at risk to Schedule 1 of SARA facilitates providing for its protection and conservation. To be effective, the listing process must be transparent and open. The species listing process under SARA is summarized in Figure 1.

THE PURPOSE OF CONSULTATIONS ON AMENDMENTS TO THE LIST

When COSEWIC assesses a wildlife species, it does so solely on the basis of the best available information relevant to the biological status of the species. COSEWIC then submits the assessment to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, who considers it when making the listing recommendation to the Governor in Council. The purpose of these consultations is to provide the Minister with a better understanding of the potential social and economic impacts of the proposed change to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk, and of the potential consequences of not adding a species to the List.

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT OF THE CONSULTATIONS: THE MINISTER'S RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL

The comments collected during the consultations inform the Governor in Council's consideration of the Minister's recommendations for listing species at risk. The Minister must recommend one of three courses of action. These are for the Governor in Council to accept the species assessment and modify Schedule 1 accordingly, not to add the species to Schedule 1, or to refer the species assessment back to COSEWIC for its further consideration (Figure 1).

NORMAL AND EXTENDED CONSULTATION PERIODS

Normal consultations meet the consultation needs for the listing of most species at risk. The consultations last between four and nine months (known respectively as normal and extended consultation paths). Longer consultations may be needed to ensure appropriate consultations. The reasons more time may be needed include, but are not limited to, ensuring appropriate engagement with Indigenous Peoples and complex socioeconomic analyses. Consultations are also required with wildlife management boards, which are authorized under land claims agreements for functions involving a wildlife species.

The extent of consultations needs to be proportional to the expected impact of a listing decision and the time that may be needed to consult. Under some circumstances, whether or not a species will be included on Schedule 1 could have significant and widespread impacts on the activities of some groups of people. It is essential that such stakeholders have the opportunity to inform the pending decision and, to the extent possible, to provide input on its potential consequences and to share ideas on how best to approach threats to the species. A longer period may also be required to consult appropriately with some groups. For example, consultations can take longer for groups that meet infrequently but that must be engaged on several occasions. For such reasons, extended consultations may be undertaken.

Occasionally, for reasons such as these, the timelines initially set out in the response statement may not be adequate. In such cases, if Governor in

Council does not receive the assessment at the time specified in the response statement, within one month another statement is to be published on the Registry describing. It will describe the reason(s) for the delay and set out next steps.

For both normal and extended consultations, once they are complete, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change forwards the species assessments to the Governor in Council for the government's formal receipt of the assessment. The Governor in Council then has nine months to come to a listing decision.

The consultation paths (normal or extended) for the terrestrial species eligible for an Amendment to Schedule 1" are announced when the Minister publishes the response statements.

No consultations are undertaken for species already on Schedule 1 and for which no change in status is being proposed.

FIGURE 1: THE SPECIES LISTING PROCESS UNDER SARA

1	The Minister of Environment and Climate Change receives species assessments from COSEWIC at least once per year.
2	The competent departments undertake internal review to determine the extent of public consultation and socio-economic analysis necessary to inform the listing decision.
3	Within 90 days of receipt of the species assessments prepared by COSEWIC, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change publishes a response statement on the SARA Public Registry that indicates how he or she intends to respond to the assessment and, to the extent possible, provides timelines for action.
4	Where appropriate, the competent departments undertake consultations and any other relevant analysis needed to prepare the advice for the Minister of Environment and Climate Change.
5	The Minister of Environment and Climate Change forwards the assessment to the Governor in Council for receipt. This generally occurs within twelve months of posting the response statement, unless further consultation is necessary.
6	Within nine months of receiving the assessment, the Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change may decide whether or not to list the species under Schedule 1 of SARA or refer the assessment back to COSEWIC for further information or consideration.
7	Once a species is added to Schedule 1, it benefits from the applicable provisions of SARA.

WHO IS CONSULTED, AND HOW

It is most important to consult with those who would be most affected by the proposed changes. There is protection that is immediately in place when a species that is Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened is added to Schedule 1 (for more details, see below, “Protection for listed Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species”). This immediate protection does not apply to species of Special Concern. The nature of the protection depends on the type of species, its conservation status, and where the species is found. Environment and Climate Change Canada takes this into account during the consultations; those who may be affected by the impacts of the automatic protections are contacted directly, others are encouraged to contribute through a variety of approaches.

Indigenous peoples known to have species at risk on their lands, for which changes to Schedule 1 are being considered, will be contacted. Their engagement is of particular significance, acknowledging their role in the management of the extensive traditional territories and the reserve and settlement lands.

A Wildlife Management Board is a group that has been established under a land claims agreement and is authorized by the agreement to perform functions in respect of wildlife species. Some eligible species at risk are found on lands where existing land claims agreements apply that give specific authority to a Wildlife Management Board. In such cases, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change will consult with the relevant board.

To encourage others to contribute and make the necessary information readily available, this document is distributed to known stakeholders and posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry. More extensive consultations may also be done through regional or community meetings or through a more targeted approach.

Environment and Climate Change Canada also sends notice of the consultations to identified

concerned groups and individuals who have made their interests known. These include, but are not limited to, industries, resource users, landowners and environmental non-governmental organizations.

In most cases, it is difficult for Environment and Climate Change Canada to fully examine the potential impacts of recovery actions when species are being considered for listing. Recovery actions for terrestrial species usually have not yet been comprehensively defined at the time of listing, so their impact cannot be fully understood. Once they are better understood, efforts are made to minimize adverse social and economic impacts of listing and to maximize the benefits. SARA requires that recovery measures be prepared in consultation with those considered to be directly affected by them.

In addition to the public, Environment and Climate Change Canada consults on listing with the governments of the provinces and territories with lead responsibility for the conservation and management of these wildlife species. Environment and Climate Change Canada also consults with other federal departments and agencies.

ROLE AND IMPACT OF PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS IN THE LISTING PROCESS

The results of the public consultations are of great significance to informing the process of listing species at risk. Environment and Climate Change Canada carefully reviews the comments it receives to gain a better understanding of the benefits and costs of changing the List.

The comments are then used to inform the Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement (RIAS). The RIAS is a report that summarizes the impact of a proposed regulatory change. It includes a description of the proposed change and an analysis of its expected impact, which takes into account the results of the public consultations. In developing the RIAS, the Government of Canada recognizes that Canada’s natural heritage is an integral part of our national identity and history and that wildlife in all its forms has value in and of itself.

The Government of Canada also recognizes that the absence of full scientific certainty is not a reason to postpone decisions to protect the environment.

A draft Order is then prepared, providing notice that a decision is being taken by the Governor in Council. The draft Order proposing to list all or some of the species under consideration is then published, along with the RIAS, in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I, for a comment period of 30 days.

The Minister of Environment and Climate Change will take into consideration comments and any additional information received following

publication of the draft Order and the RIAS in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I. The Minister then makes a final listing recommendation for each species to the Governor in Council. The Governor in Council next decides either to accept the species assessment and amend Schedule 1 accordingly; or not to add the species to Schedule 1; or to refer the species assessment back to COSEWIC for further information or consideration. The final decision is published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II, and on the Species at Risk Public Registry. If the Governor in Council decides to list a species, it is at this point that it becomes legally included on Schedule 1.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ADDITION OF A SPECIES TO SCHEDULE 1

The protection that comes into effect following the addition of a species to Schedule 1 depends upon a number of factors. These include the species' status under SARA, the type of species and where it occurs.

PROTECTION FOR LISTED EXTIRPATED, ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES

Responsibility for the conservation of wildlife is shared among the governments of Canada. SARA establishes legal protection for individuals as soon as a species is listed as Threatened, Endangered or Extirpated, and, in the case of Threatened and Endangered species, for their residences. This applies to species considered federal species or if they are found on federal land.

Federal species include migratory birds, as defined by the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, and aquatic species covered by the *Fisheries Act*. Federal land means land that belongs to the federal government, and the internal waters and territorial sea of Canada. It also means land set apart for the use and benefit of a band under the *Indian Act* (such as reserves). In the territories, the protection for species at risk on federal lands

applies only where they are on lands under the authority of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change or the Parks Canada Agency.

Migratory birds are protected by the *Migratory Birds Regulations*, under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, which strictly prohibits the harming of migratory birds and the disturbance or destruction of their nests and eggs. For more information, please refer to the Regulations for the complete list of prohibitions: https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.%2C_c._1035/index.html.

SARA's protection for individuals makes it an offence to kill, harm, harass, capture or take an individual of a species listed as Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened. It is also an offence to damage or destroy the residence of one or more individuals of an Endangered or Threatened species or an Extirpated species whose

reintroduction has been recommended by a recovery strategy. The Act also makes it an offence to possess, collect, buy, sell or trade an individual of a species that is Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened.

Species at risk that are neither aquatic nor protected under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, nor on federal lands, do not receive immediate protection upon listing under SARA. Instead, in most cases, the protection of terrestrial species on non-federal lands is the responsibility of the provinces and territories where they are found. The application of protections under SARA to a species at risk on non-federal lands requires that the Governor in Council make an order defining those lands. This can only occur when the Minister is of the opinion that the laws of the province or territory do not effectively protect the species. To put such an order in place, the Minister would then need to recommend the order be made to the Governor in Council. If the Governor in Council agrees to make the order, the prohibitions of SARA would then apply to the provincial or territorial lands specified by the order. The federal government would consult before making such an order.

RECOVERY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS FOR EXTIRPATED, ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES

Recovery planning results in the development of recovery strategies and action plans for Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened species. It involves the different levels of government responsible for the management of the species, depending on what type of species it is and where it occurs. These include federal, provincial and territorial governments as well as Wildlife Management Boards. Recovery strategies and action plans are also prepared in cooperation with directly affected Indigenous organizations. Landowners and other stakeholders directly affected by the recovery strategy are consulted to the extent possible.

Recovery strategies must be prepared for all Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species. They include measures to mitigate the known threats to the species and its habitat and set the population and distribution objectives. Other objectives can be included, such as stewardship, to conserve the species, or education, to increase public awareness. Recovery strategies must include a statement of the time frame for the development of one or more action plans that will state the measures necessary to implement the recovery strategy. To the extent possible, recovery strategies must also identify the critical habitat of the species, which is the habitat necessary for the survival or recovery of the species. If there is not enough information available to identify critical habitat, the recovery strategy includes a schedule of studies required for its identification. This schedule outlines what must be done to obtain the necessary information and by when it needs to be done. In such cases, critical habitat can be identified in a subsequent action plan.

Proposed recovery strategies for newly listed species are posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry to provide for public review and comment. For Endangered species, proposed recovery strategies are posted within one year of their addition to Schedule 1, and for Threatened or Extirpated species, within two years.

Once a recovery strategy has been posted as final, one or more action plans based on the recovery strategy must then be prepared. These include measures to address threats and achieve the population and distribution objectives. Action plans also complete the identification of the critical habitat where necessary and, to the extent possible, state measures that are proposed to protect it.

PERMITS AND AGREEMENTS

For terrestrial species listed on SARA Schedule 1 as Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change may authorize exceptions to the Act's prohibitions,

when and where they apply. The Minister can enter into agreements or issue permits only for one of three purposes: for research, for conservation activities, or if the effects to the species are incidental to the activity. Research must relate to the conservation of a species and be conducted by qualified scientists. Conservation activities must benefit a listed species or be required to enhance its chances of survival. All activities, including those that incidentally affect a listed species, its individuals, residences or critical habitat must also meet certain conditions. First, it must be established that all reasonable alternatives to the activity have been considered and the best solution has been adopted. Second, it must also be established that all feasible measures will be taken to minimize the impact of the activity on the listed species. Finally, it must be established that the activity will not jeopardize the survival or recovery of the species. Having issued a permit or agreement, the Minister must then include an explanation on the Species at Risk Public Registry of why the permit or agreement was issued.

PROTECTION FOR LISTED SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN

While immediate protection under SARA for species listed as Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened does not apply to species listed as Special Concern, any existing protections and prohibitions, such as those provided by the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* or the *Canada National Parks Act*, continue to be in force.

MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN

For species of Special Concern, management plans are to be prepared and made available on the Species at Risk Public Registry within three years of a species' addition to Schedule 1, allowing for public review and comment. Management plans include appropriate conservation measures for the species and for its habitat. They are prepared in cooperation with the jurisdictions responsible for the management of the species, including directly affected Wildlife Management Boards and Indigenous organizations. Landowners, lessees and others directly affected by a management plan will also be consulted to the extent possible.

PROVIDING COMMENTS

The involvement of Canadians is integral to the listing process, as it is to the ultimate protection of Canadian wildlife. Your comments matter and are given serious consideration. ECCC will review all the comments that it receives by the deadlines provided in consultation materials.

For any information on the *Species at Risk Act*, please visit the Species at Risk Public Registry at: www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html.

GLOSSARY

Aquatic species: A wildlife species that is a fish as defined in section 2 of the Fisheries Act or a marine plant as defined in section 47 of the Act. The term includes marine mammals.

Canada Gazette: The *Canada Gazette* is one of the vehicles that Canadians can use to access laws and regulations. It has been the “official newspaper” of the Government of Canada since 1841. Government departments and agencies as well as the private sector are required by law to publish certain information in the *Canada Gazette*. Notices and proposed regulations are published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I, and official regulations are published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II. For more information, please visit <http://gazetteducanada.gc.ca>.

Canadian Endangered Species Conservation Council: The Council is made up of federal, provincial and territorial ministers with responsibilities for wildlife species. The Council’s mandate is to provide national leadership and coordination for the protection of species at risk.

COSEWIC: The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. The Committee comprises experts on wildlife species at risk. Their backgrounds are in the fields of biology, ecology, genetics, Indigenous traditional knowledge and other relevant fields. These experts come from various communities, including, among others, government and academia.

COSEWIC assessment: COSEWIC’s assessment or re-assessment of the status of a wildlife species, based on a status report on the species that COSEWIC either has had prepared or has received with an application.

Down-listing: A revision of the status of a species on Schedule 1 to a status of lower risk. A revision of the status of a Schedule 1 species to a higher risk status would be up-listing.

Federal land: Any land owned by the federal government, the internal waters and territorial sea of Canada, and reserves and other land set apart for the use and benefit of a band under the *Indian Act*.

Governor in Council: The Governor General of Canada acting on the advice of the Queen’s Privy Council for Canada, the formal executive body that gives legal effect to those decisions of Cabinet that are to have the force of law.

Individual: An individual of a wildlife species, whether living or dead, at any developmental stage, and includes larvae, embryos, eggs, sperm, seeds, pollen, spores and asexual propagules.

Order: An order issued by the Governor in Council, either on the basis of authority delegated by legislation or by virtue of the prerogative powers of the Crown.

Response statement: A document in which the Minister of Environment and Climate Change indicates how he or she intends to respond to the COSEWIC assessment of a wildlife species. A response statement is posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry within 90 days of receipt of the assessment by the Minister, and provides timelines for action to the extent possible.

RIAS: Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement. A document that provides an analysis of the expected impact of a regulatory initiative and which accompanies an Order in Council.

Species at Risk Public Registry: Developed as an online service, the Species at Risk Public Registry has been accessible to the public since proclamation of the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). The website gives users easy access to documents and information related to SARA at any time and location with Internet access. It can be found at www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html.

Schedule 1: A schedule of SARA, also known as the List of Wildlife Species at Risk, which presents the list of species protected under SARA.

Up-listing: A revision of the status of a species on Schedule 1 to a status of higher risk. A revision of the status of a Schedule 1 species to a lower risk status would be down-listing.

Wildlife Management Board: Established under the land claims agreements in northern Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, Yukon,

Northwest Territories, British Columbia, and Nunavut, Wildlife Management Boards are the “main instruments of wildlife management” within their settlement areas. In this role, Wildlife Management Boards not only establish, modify and remove levels of total allowable harvest of a variety of wildlife species, but also participate in research activities, including annual harvest studies, and approve the designation of species at risk in their settlement areas.

Wildlife Species: Under SARA, a species, subspecies, variety, or geographically or genetically distinct population of animal, plant or other organism, other than a bacterium or virus. To be eligible for inclusion under SARA, a wildlife species must be wild by nature and native to Canada. Non-native species that have been here for 50 years or more can be considered eligible if they came without human intervention.

Setting the Course: A Report on the 2019 Strategic Planning Process for the Slocan District Chamber of Commerce



Prepared by Nadine Raynolds
June 2019

SLOCAN
DISTRICT
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Introduction

Strategic planning is a process of gathering information, exploring options, and making decisions about the direction of an organization. It develops a shared understanding of purpose and helps identify innovative ways to achieve goals and use resources effectively. Strategic planning is cyclical and ongoing, where the context can change over time, and the interest, energy, and objectives evolve.

The Slocan District Chamber of Commerce (SDCC) conducted strategic planning in 2012 and achieved many of its objectives over the following years. In 2018, the SDCC sought support from the Non-Profit Advisors (NPA) Program of Columbia Basin Trust. An organizational assessment recommended a renewed strategic plan to help create a road map for the next 3 to 5 years. The NPA supported hiring a consultant to engage the board, Chamber members, and appropriate stakeholders. The intention was to reaffirm the vision of the SDCC and generate a small number of priorities, with detailed objectives and activities.

A consultant was hired, Nadine Reynolds, to facilitate and support the strategic planning process, along with the SDCC Manager Jessica Rayner and President Jan McMurray, as well as other board members. The strategic planning process occurred between October 2018 and June 2019, and included several stages. Along with planning meetings, a survey was administered to solicit insight and advice from SDCC members and others. The Slocan Valley Economic Development Coordinator, Ron LeBlanc, was integral to the process.

This report outlines the results of the strategic planning process and a road map for the next few years.

Setting the Context: Roles and Responsibilities in the Slocan Valley

An important part of the strategic planning process included a review and increased understanding of the multiple players working on economic development in the Slocan Valley. There has been a recent surge of interest and initiatives in the area. While there are many different organizations and individuals contributing to a healthy and diverse local economy, the following agencies and initiatives are considered the current key players. The purpose and activities of these groups has influence on the goals and objectives that the SDCC may choose to pursue.

Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission

The Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission is a multiple member commission of the Regional District of Central Kootenay that has pre-existed most recent economic development initiatives, and has compiled a body of research and reports, administered grants and executed on various action items. Leah Main is currently the Chair. The commission structure is intended to change in 2019.

Slocan Valley Economic Development Partnership

The Slocan Valley Economic Development Partnership arose out of an interest to collaborate on economic development in the valley, and specifically to secure funding to develop an economic development plan. Partners include the Villages of Slocan, Silverton, and New Denver, and RDCK Area H.

Slocan Valley Economic Development Plan

The Slocan Valley Economic Development Plan is a three-part report commissioned by the Partnership. It was written by EDCD consultants in April 2017 after a research and consultation process in the valley. The “Implementation Plan” (Part 3) consists of a detailed workplan and budget. The majority of funding

for implementation came from the BC Rural Dividend Fund, with assistance from Columbia Basin Trust, and contributions from each of the Partnership members.

Slocan Valley Economic Development Coordinator

The Slocan Valley Economic Development Coordinator is a new position (started September 2018) created by recommendation from the Plan. The Coordinator is a staff position administered by the RDCK, and funded through the Partnership. The Coordinator is tasked with implementing the Plan, and currently has funding for a two-year period. Ron LeBlanc currently fills this role.

Slocan Valley Economic Development Partnership CAO Management Committee

The CAO Management Committee is comprised of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) from each of the Villages of Silverton, Slocan, and New Denver, as well as the CAO of the RDCK. The Committee exists to provide oversight to the Coordinator, and represent the interests of the elected officials. It is the interface between the Coordinator and elected officials.

Villages of New Denver, Slocan and Silverton

Each Village participates in the Slocan Valley Economic Development Partnership, but may also pursue its own community and economic development initiatives within the municipality.

Regional District of Central Kootenay

The Regional District of Central Kootenay is the local government that provides support for the economic development planning and implementation activities through its staff and infrastructure.

BC Ministry of FLNRORD

The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development has a Regional Manager, Richard Topeczer, who was instrumental in helping create the SVED Partnership and Plan, and is active with many issues relating to economic development in the area.

Columbia Basin Trust

Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) supports the ideas and efforts of the people in the Columbia Basin. It provides a range of services, including grant funding and program support, to a variety of environmental, cultural, social and economic projects. Columbia Basin Trust has supported economic development through funding and planning support, and was instrumental in supporting the recent Partnership and Plan. Kelvin Saldern is the Manager of Community Relationships for the West, including the Slocan Valley.

Community Futures Central Kootenay

Community Futures is an important BC wide non-profit community economic development organization. Community Futures Central Kootenay supports current and future business owners in the Central Kootenay region, offering training, business counselling, loans, a self-employment program, and many other resources. The organization delivers the Basin Business Advisors program on behalf of CBT, and brings together community partners to work toward a common goal of sustainable community economic development. Andrea Wilkey is the Executive Director.

Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute

The Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute (RDI) is within the Applied Research & Innovation department at Selkirk College and partners with governments, non-profits, businesses, and others to support informed decision-making within the Columbia Basin-Boundary region. RDI has compiled a significant amount of data and research, including facilitating business retention and attraction research in the Slocan Valley, as well as Community Profiles for all municipalities.

West Kootenay Boundary Investment Co-op

The West Kootenay Boundary Community Investment Co-op is a newly formed member-owned organization that allows its members to invest into local businesses with the purpose of promoting economic, social, environmental and community impacts. Eden Yesh, of Kootenay Employment Services, is the co-op's founder, and this co-op is one of several BC Community Investment Co-ops.

Arrow Slocan Tourism Association

Arrow Slocan Tourism Association (ASTA) is a newly formed marketing partnership of communities in RDCK Area H and Area K tasked with supporting and marketing tourism activity in the Slocan Valley. With the new Municipal & Regional District Tax Program (MRDT) in place, ASTA will administer the revenue generated from the accommodation tax to support a variety of initiatives in this area.

West Koot Route

West Koot Route is a tourism alliance connecting the Slocan Valley, Nakusp and Arrow Lakes, and Kaslo and Kootenay Lake, working together to promote the region. West Koot Route has developed signage, a website, and visitor guide.

Nakusp & District Chamber of Commerce

The Nakusp & District Chamber of Commerce mission is “to maintain a role of leadership and advocacy in the Nakusp and District business community, while promoting and supporting economic development and tourism in partnership with community stakeholders”.

Nelson & District Chamber of Commerce

The Nelson and District Chamber of Commerce (NDCC) works “with the Nelson and Area Economic Development Partnership to promote business growth, sustainable development and job creation while facilitating strong, productive relationships with the community, educational facilities, businesses, non-profits and government organizations”.

Slocan District Chamber of Commerce

The Slocan District Chamber of Commerce was incorporated in 1912 to serve the businesses and communities from Lemon Creek to Summit Lake. Over the years, the SDCC has offered a number of events and initiatives. In recent years, the main initiatives have included:

- Staffing and promotion of the Visitor Centre in New Denver;
- Developing promotional materials, such as website, map, business directory, and recruitment videos;
- Initiating a Health Committee to advocate for the Slocan Community Health Centre;
- Research and outreach related to Business Retention & Expansion;
- Planning and hosting the annual Merchant's Night in New Denver;
- Participating in development of the West Koot Route and the Arrow Slocan Tourism Association;

- Planning and hosting the annual May Days pancake breakfast;
- Planning and hosting the Big Air Band Competition;
- Planning and hosting All Candidates forums on election years; and
- Planning and hosting a Christmas Dinner/Dance (2018).

The SDCC is now considering its niche in the broadening landscape of economic development in the Slocan Valley.

Survey Results

As part of the strategic planning process, a survey was disseminated to members, business owners, non-profit organizations, local governments, and other agencies working on or supporting community economic development in the Slocan Valley. The purpose was to solicit feedback and ideas regarding the direction of the SDCC for the board to consider in their planning meeting. The survey was designed and tested by a committee of SDCC board members. The survey was open for three weeks in February 2019, and received 47 responses.

Survey Respondents

Most respondents (69%) were from the North Valley (New Denver, Silverton, Hills and surrounding Area H North), while 31% were from the South Valley (Slocan and south to the junction). **Just over half (51%) were business owners, followed by 21% representing a local non-profit.** There were 3 responses (6%) from local government representatives, and 7 (15%) respondents described themselves as “other” (retirees, resident, realtor).

Majority of survey respondents were from the North Valley

About half are business owners

Only 28 of the 47 respondents answered the question regarding membership.

Of these, **28 (100%) indicated they are members of the SDCC.** Four (14%) are members of the Nakusp & District Chamber of Commerce. Two (7%) are members of the Nelson & District Chamber of Commerce and one (4%) is a member of the Kaslo & Area Chamber of Commerce and the Castlegar & District Chamber of Commerce. **These results indicate that most SDCC members are likely not also members of other chamber of commerce organizations.**

Perception of Benefits of SDCC Activities

Survey respondents were asked what SDCC activities have most benefitted the Slocan Valley. The table below shows the number and percentage responses (n = 47) for each of the activities provided as options, in ranked order based on responses. **The majority of respondents believe hosting the visitor centre and website have most benefitted the Slocan Valley, as well as starting the Health Committee.**

The responses to “other” included the simple presence of the Chamber being beneficial. Another person commented that the “South Valley seems kinda left out”. Another said that “brochures and videos have little shelf life”, as well as that the SDCC could be helping businesses use tools such as Trip Advisor, Yelp, Google reviews and mapping, and Facebook.

SDCC Activity that benefits the Slocan Valley	Number responses	Percentage responses
Hosting the Visitor Centre in New Denver	36	76.6
Hosting slocanlake.com for area information and business directory	36	76.6
Starting the Health Committee	34	72.3
Developing promotional materials such as Slocan Valley map and videos	31	66.0
Hosting Merchants' Night	28	59.6
Developing West Koot Route and Arrow Slocan Tourism Association	26	55.3
Hosting All Candidates forums on election years	22	46.8
Conducting Business Retention & Expansion research and outreach	21	44.7
Business and new resident attraction	21	44.7
Hosting Christmas Dinner/Dance in 2018	19	40.4
Hosting The Big Air Band Competition	18	38.3
Hosting May Days pancake breakfast	16	34.0
Providing access to the Chamber of Commerce Group Insurance Plan	13	27.7
Other	6	12.8
I don't think the SDCC has benefited the Slocan Valley	0	0

Achieving the SDCC Vision

Survey participants were informed that the vision of the SDCC is “a vibrant, diverse, and healthy economy that respects the environment and community values in the Slocan Lake District”. They were then asked what they think the SDCC should focus on to achieve this vision by ranking 10 options. The table below shows the 10 options in ranked order based on overall score by all participants (n = 47). The table also shows the percentage of respondents who ranked each activity #1, #2, and #3. Top suggestions are to **attract full-time residents** and **support and expand the business community**.

Activity that will help achieve SDCC vision	Overall ranking score	Percent ranked #1	Percent ranked #2	Percent ranked #3
Attract full-time residents	7.26	25.7	17.1	8.6
Support and expand the business community	7.03	33.3	8.3	11.1
Support a strong arts and cultural sector	5.88	5.0	12.5	22.5
Support a strong agricultural sector	5.69	8.3	8.3	2.8
Tourism development and promotion of area	5.54	2.7	13.5	13.5
Support community groups and non-profits for greater quality of life	5.52	11.9	7.1	9.5
Support and expand outdoor recreation assets for residents and visitors	5.39	2.6	7.9	13.2
Attract investors	5.26	2.6	15.4	7.7
Support a strong forest sector	3.44	2.9	0	2.9
Support a strong mining sector	2.78	2.8	2.8	2.8

Supporting Business Owners

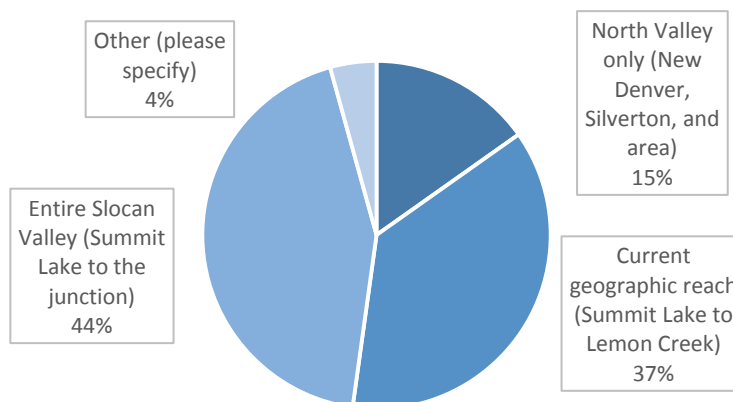
The survey asked business owners to indicate how the SDCC can best support them. Five options were provided with an option to offer further comment and ideas in the final survey question. The table below shows these options in ranked order based on overall score, and shows the percentage of respondents who ranked each as #1, #2, and #3. **Of these options, business owners felt that promotion**

of local businesses would be of most benefit and providing the group insurance plan was of least benefit.

Activity to support businesses	Overall ranking score	Percent ranked #1	Percent ranked #2	Percent ranked #3
Promote local businesses within and outside of the area	4.69	46.2	15.4	15.4
Manage and host website and online business directory	4.44	24.0	40.0	12.0
Host business community networking events	3.54	11.5	11.5	23.1
Offer workshops related to small business development	3.32	0	14.3	35.7
Provide access to the Chamber of Commerce Group Insurance Plan	3.04	7.4	18.5	3.7

SDCC Geographic Coverage

The SDCC's official current coverage area is from Summit Lake to Lemon Creek, while the Nelson Chamber's official area goes north to Winlaw. Many SDCC active board members reside in the New Denver area and many of the SDCC's events and initiatives have served the north part of the valley. Much of the SDCC's tourism work, however, has included the entire Slocan Valley, as well as Kaslo and Nakusp and area.



Survey participants were asked, "Into the future, what geographic area do you think the SDCC should serve?" The pie chart shows the responses, indicating a **lack of majority for any of the options, but with the highest interest as the entire Slocan Valley**. The 2 people (4%) who selected "other" said, "all three seem okay", and "North and South Valley should be separated in regards to development work".

Two comments from the final survey question referred to geographic scope so are noted here. One person said that "people and businesses in the southern half of the valley identify more with being part of Nelson and area than with being part of the Slocan Valley... sad but true. Thus, to put a lot of effort into expanding the Chamber's reach and efforts might not be worth it. Better to focus on the north valley as you do now. You've got enough to do!". Another said that "the SDCC's volunteers reside in the New Denver area. It is a lot of work to go beyond the Slocan Lake area. If other areas are to be served, they need to represent their area".

Other Thoughts and Ideas

The final survey question allowed participants to offer any further thoughts or ideas about the future of the SDCC. Seventeen comments were provided. Many included a thank you and "keep up the good work" and appreciation for "all the work to keep the area vibrant and happening". A couple of comments were that the lower valley feels neglected as Winlaw is not served by the Nelson Chamber nor the SDCC. There were also comments about the importance of marketing, such as having a

“welcome wagon” and possibly an “open for business” concept for the entire valley. Branding was also suggested for the North Valley as a way to “focus its identity” and “help businesses with their own marketing”. Small business meet-ups were also suggested, such as the “business after business” in Nelson. Another respondent suggested an online list of businesses that are needed so potential residents and entrepreneurs could see what opportunities exist for new business development.

One respondent felt that the community needed to use its resources “more efficiently to be more productive and prevent burnout”, suggesting that local non-profits could use an umbrella organization like the chamber. Another respondent felt that a “primary concern for this valley is preservation of its ecology and natural beauty”. “Value added production” was another thought to “complement the resource industry, and maintain the gorgeous healthy environment we live in”. A further comment suggested that the “SDCC needs to focus on attracting long-term, young family residents who can bring their jobs with them”, recommending “working with the Lift cowork to accomplish this goal”. It was also suggested that “off-season tourism should be prioritized over summer tourism because we already have an over-saturated summer tourism market”. Co-op models were another idea, to “see if we can support businesses that are for sale by purchasing them as a community, and transitioning them into a co-op”. A final comment was a sentiment that “the future of this area depends on the strength of the Chamber of commerce and its ability to support and promote economic growth.”

Setting the Course

The next stage of the strategic planning process, was a special board meeting in May 2019. The SDCC Manager, President, Vice-President, and three of the five other board members, as well the Slocan Valley Economic Development Coordinator, were present. The purpose of this meeting was to:

- 1) Create a shared understanding of the economic development context in which SDCC is operating within;
- 2) Explore the SDCC mission and objectives to achieve the stated vision; and
- 3) Discuss the role of the SDCC and decide on key strategies and actions over the next 3-5 years.

An overview of the key players in economic development in the Slocan Valley and the survey results were presented and discussed. With a small group, there was flexibility with the agenda and considerable discussion occurred regarding what the SDCC could do to best support the business community, and community in general, particularly with the dynamic and evolving context of economic development in the Slocan Valley, as well as the other initiatives being taken by local and regional groups. There was also considerable discussion regarding the geographic scope, and whether SDCC might change its structure to be an umbrella organization, supporting multiple business committees within the valley.

Vision and Mission

It was agreed through the initial strategic planning process design meetings that the current SDCC vision statement did not require revisiting as part of this 2019 strategic planning process. The **vision** of the SDCC is:

“a vibrant, diverse, and healthy economy that respects the environment and community values in the Slocan Lake District”.

The current **mission** is “the Chamber plays a key role in advocacy, tourism, and economic development in the community”. While it was agreed that the vision would not be reexamined as part of the strategic planning process, there was interest in discussing the mission – the purpose of the organization in achieving the desired future. While the mission statement was not fine-tuned at the special board meeting, based on the discussion and interests of the board members present, and considering the other economic development initiatives in the valley, a proposed new mission statement is to:

“Connect, support, and promote the business community in the Slocan Lake District”

Geographic Reach

A key question the SDCC wanted to explore as part of this strategic planning process was the geographic reach of the organization. Since incorporation, the SDCC has been serving the Slocan Valley from Summit Lake to Lemon Creek. With most of the active board members residing in the north part of the valley in recent years, more efforts have been focused in the New Denver / Silverton area. It has been challenging for the organization to reach the entire geographic area, although there have been efforts to connect and support businesses in the south, and the SDCC has hosted AGMs, meetings, and workshops in Winlaw.

There was considerable discussion on this topic, including the idea that the SDCC become an umbrella organization with “business committees” (could be a different name) in each of Winlaw, Slocan, and New Denver/Silverton areas (or a variation of these, could also have a South Slocan committee). The idea being that each committee would focus their efforts within that local area, where they have the most capacity, while also being connected and supported by a larger SDCC organization. This would require a restructuring of the SDCC board, but could allow the current board members to act as the key members of the New Denver/Silverton committee.

While the idea was attractive to some board members, others were apprehensive. There was discussion about the benefits and drawbacks, and some questions regarding how this new structure might mesh with the Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission and its soon to be renewed purpose and objectives. The Slocan Valley Economic Development Coordinator intends to explore this idea further with other potential committees (Winlaw and Slocan), and agreed to provide a list of pros and cons for further discussion by the SDCC. A decision was not made at the strategic planning meeting in May 2019, but it was agreed that the SDCC is open to the idea of becoming an umbrella group and would continue to discuss the possibility.

If this umbrella group model is not pursued, then the Strategic Directions below apply to the SDCC and its current geographic reach. If the umbrella group model is pursued, the Strategic Directions could apply to a New Denver/Silverton committee and possibly to other committees.

Strategic Directions

A significant portion of the strategic planning board meeting involved discussion on “what to do?”. There was consideration of the SDCC’s strengths, interests and ideas, and who specifically to serve and how.

The image to the right captures the many ideas that were shared and discussed during a brainstorming process. The ideas and related discussion have been used to develop goals, objectives, and activities shown in the table below. These require further discussion by the full board and SDCC Manager, and a more detailed workplan can be developed. Key activities for 2019 and 2020 are outlined, with several being annual and on-going.

It is important to recognize that strategic planning is on-going process. The SDCC will need to be adaptive and flexible over the coming years, with significant new players and initiatives in economic development in the Slocan Valley. There is intention to continue the Slocan Valley Economic Development Partnership, Commission, and Coordinator role beyond the 2-year pilot, and the Slocan Valley Economic Development Plan includes working with the SDCC to increase its capacity and capability. The Plan also identifies several potential cross-promotional opportunities and ideas, such as an annual business expo and tradeshow, as well as renewed business retention and expansion work. There may be many opportunities for the SDCC to be involved in economic development work in the valley, and this work is continuously and actively changing. The goals and objectives outlined below represent a niche that the SDCC can play in this current landscape, but the next few years will require the organization to be receptive and responsive. Strategic directions should be reviewed at least annually.



Goals	Objectives	Activities	Timeframe
Support the business community	Facilitate networking	Host at least 2 networking events to support knowledge sharing and relationship building	Q3 and Q4 2019 annually
	Host educational workshops	Host 1 to 3 workshops on topics based on interest of members	Q1 and Q4 2020 annually
	Match business owners with mentors	Offer mentorship opportunity for business owners to learn new skills and approaches	Q3 2020
	Connect businesses with resources	Add downloadable resources and links to SDCC website, notify members	Q4 2019
	Promote businesses	Host the Visitor Centre in New Denver	2019, annually
		Improve and maintain the SDCC website and online business directory	Q3 2019 on-going
		Increase and improve signage	Q3 and Q4 2019
Contribute towards resident attraction and retention		Improve and maintain printed promotional materials	2019 on-going
	Provide structural supports	Offer access to group insurance plan	on-going
	Welcome new business owners to the community	Develop new business welcome wagon program	2020
	Welcome new residents to the community	Develop new resident welcome wagon program	2019, ongoing
	Promote local assets	Improve and expand on SDCC website to promote local assets such as health centre, school, trails, and amenities, including non-profits	Q3 2019
Contribute towards economic sustainability of the area	Support affordable housing initiatives	Offer supports as needed and resources allow to non-profits, local government and businesses	on-going
	Support the arts and cultural sector	Offer supports as needed and resources allow to non-profits, local government and businesses	on-going
	Support the outdoor recreation sector	Offer supports as needed and resources allow to non-profits, local government and businesses	on-going
Contribute towards economic sustainability of the area	Participate and support new strategies and approaches to improve economic conditions	Participate as member of SVEDC and work with Commission and Coordinator on opportunities related to business community expansion and supports	Q3 2019 on-going
		Consider restructuring SDCC to be an umbrella group with localized business committees	Q2 2019

Next Steps

This Strategic Planning process has positioned the Slocan District Chamber of Commerce with goals and tangible objectives for at least the next two years, with several activities being potentially annual and on-going thereafter. With economic development having considerable interest and capacity in the Slocan Valley compared to previous years, the dynamics and relationships are evolving, which has influence on the future of the SDCC and its initiatives. The Slocan Valley Economic Development Partnership is new and still developing, and the workplan of the SVED Coordinator includes a variety of activities that pertain to the SDCC. Some immediate next steps for the SDCC include:

- ☐ Invite full SDCC board to review and discuss this document
- ☐ Agree on mission statement, or fine tune as needed
- ☐ Review pros and cons of umbrella group idea and discuss board interest
- ☐ Continue conversations with SVED Coordinator to stay apprised of regional supports and opportunities as they arise

It is recommended that the SDCC Manager and/or a board member take leadership in ensuring these next steps occur and that a workplan is discussed and developed to realize the outlined goals and objectives.

From: [Arrow Slocan Tourism Association](#)
To: office@newdenver.ca
Subject: Arrow Slocan Regional Branding Survey - we want to hear from you!
Date: January 13, 2020 1:45:26 PM

Arrow Slocan Regional Branding Survey!

Link to the [Business/Stakeholder Survey](#).

The Arrow Slocan Tourism Association (ASTA) is undertaking a regional branding process to help us communicate to visitors who the Arrow Slocan is and what we can offer. We want to reflect our community's values when we tell visitors about our region. To do this, we need your thoughts and input. The more we know about how you and your community see this region, the more authentic our regional branding. This means we attract those visitors that appreciate our region for what it offers.

As a valued business/organization of the Arrow Slocan we would like to invite you to participate in our regional survey. This survey has been designed specifically to understand the perspectives of businesses and key organizations in our region.

The survey will take approximately **15 minutes to complete** and we would love to hear from you prior to **January 30th**. The survey will remain open until February 10th for those who miss the January 30th deadline.

Did we miss someone?!?

Don't be shy about sharing this email with local businesses and organizations who would like to participate in the survey. We love the input, we just may not have everyone's contact information yet.

Help us spread the word...

We are also offering the opportunity for local residents to participate in the process. **The Public Survey is open until February 10th.**

Here is a link to the [**Public Survey**](#).

The Public Survey can also be found on the *Arrow Slocan Tourism Association* [Facebook page](#) and on our [Google My Business](#) landing page.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Megan Chadwick
Executive Director
Arrow Slocan Tourism Association

Contact Us



January 22, 2020

Canadian Union of Postal Workers
377 Bank Street,
Ottawa, ON
K2P 1Y3

To whom it may concern:

At the Regular Council Meeting held January 13, 2020, Council for the Village of Canal Flats adopted the following resolution:

2020-9161 Moved by Councillor Lake seconded by Councillor Swerdferger

WHEREAS there is an urgent need for this service because thousands of rural towns and villages do not have a bank and nearly two million Canadians desperately need alternatives to payday lenders;

WHEREAS postal banking has the support of over 900 municipalities and close to two-thirds of Canadians (Stratcom poll, 2013); WHEREAS the federal government is mandating Canada Post to invest in innovation and service initiatives;

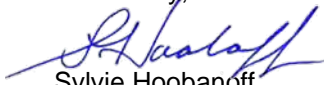
BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Canal Flats support the addition of postal banking at Canada Post, with a mandate for financial inclusion.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that Council direct staff to forward this motion to other local governments in Canada for whom contact information is readily available.

CARRIED.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office.

Yours truly,


Sylvie Hoobanoff
Corporate Officer



The Corporation of the Village of New Denver

P.O. Box 40, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0 • office@newdenver.ca

PHONE (250) 358-2316 • FAX (250) 358-7251

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Corporate Officer
SUBJECT: Request for Information
DATE: January 24, 2020

RECOMMENDATION:

That the following items be received for information:

- Slocan Valley Agricultural Action Plan (*Community Futures of Central Kootenay* - Ron LeBlanc, Economic Development Coordinator)

From: [Catherine Allaway](#)
To:
Subject: FW: Slocan Valley Agriculture Action Plan
Date: January 23, 2020 11:33:04 AM
Attachments: [SlocanValleyAgricultureActionPlan2020.pdf](#)

From: Ron LeBlanc <rlblanc@futures.bc.ca>
Sent: January 15, 2020 1:59 PM
To: Leah Main <LeahMain@rdck.bc.ca>; mayor@villageofslocan.ca; wpopoff@rdck.bc.ca; fyke@newdenver.ca
Cc: Andrea Wilkey <awilkey@futures.bc.ca>; Toperczer, Richard E FLNR:EX <Richard.Toperczer@gov.bc.ca>; Kelvin Saldern <ksaldern@ourtrust.org>; Admin <admin@villageofslocan.ca>; helliot@silverton.ca; Catherine Allaway <corporate@newdenver.ca>; Stuart J. Horn <SHorn@rdck.bc.ca>; Slocan Valley Economic Development
Damon Chouinard

Subject: Slocan Valley Agriculture Action Plan

Hi Everyone

Please find attached, fresh off the press, the *Slocan Valley Agriculture Action Plan*. It was written by Damon Chouinard (West Kootenay Permaculture Co-op, White Crow Farm) with help from yours truly.

It is the promised follow up to the "Overview of Agriculture in the Slocan Valley", written by Alys Ford of Ravine Creek Farm.

This document is for your information, to read at your leisure, with no action required by you at present. Feedback is welcome.

The necessary next steps are;

1. Finalize the project budget transfer from the RDCK to Community Futures.
2. Andrea and Ron will prepare a new and comprehensive draft budget for 2020 based on the approved workplan, seeing the project funding through to completion date.
3. Present the proposed budget with workplan to project partners for discussion/approval.
4. Allocate funds for Agriculture sector support.

Best regards,

Ron

Ron LeBlanc

Slocan Valley Economic Development Coordinator
Serving Slocan, Silverton, New Denver & RDCK Area H

rleblanc@futures.bc.ca

Community Futures of Central Kootenay

Preface

This page for internal purposes only

One of the main findings in the development of this Slocan Valley Agriculture Action Plan is that the area could benefit from having more resources to advance, coordinate and leverage other stakeholders, grants and programs.

The Slocan Valley Economic Development Coordinator role currently in place would not be best suited to solely undertake the work required as it would simply take up too much time and detract from other priorities.

The SVED Partnership could apply funds currently earmarked in the budget for Agriculture support toward a casual coordinator role, as a one year investment of \$5,000, to help advance the Agriculture file.

Additionally, there is a recommendation in this report to expand this potential new coordinator role to include support for the Cannabis industry in the Slocan Valley (seen as a sub-sector of Agriculture). Another \$5,000 from the SVED budget for Cannabis sector support would be best spent on implementing this recommendation, as confirmed by Paul Kelly, Community Futures Cannabis Transition Manager.

Examples of the work that could be addressed can be found in the Addendum of this report, but essentially this work would support local business retention and expansion in the Cannabis sector.

Community Futures of Central Kootenay has recently received a sizeable grant for a Cannabis pilot project, but those funds are earmarked specifically to assist candidates through the licensing application process.

I've instructed the author of this report, Damon Chouinard, to frame this Agriculture action plan with the assumption that a coordinator role might be possible. If this path is not chosen, then implementing this Agriculture action plan would rely largely on other stakeholders taking up the cause (or not), and by a limited amount of resources the SVED Coordinator could contribute.

Ron LeBlanc

Slocan Valley Economic Development Coordinator

Slocan Valley Economic Development Partnership Slocan Valley Agriculture Action Plan

INTRODUCTION

This *Slocan Valley Agriculture Action Plan* (SVAAP) follows the “Overview of Agriculture in the Slocan Valley” (Ag Report) report commissioned by the Slocan Valley Economic Development Partnership (SVEDP) and authored by Alys Ford, with contributions from various regional agriculture stakeholder organizations.

In addition, this SVAAP includes a Regional Overview that widens the perspective of Agriculture in the Slocan Valley.

The aim of this action plan is to blend SVEDP’s work on agriculture with work done by other stakeholders, minimizing overlap and redundancies, leveraging its contribution, and enhancing cooperation, communication, and collaboration between stakeholders.

The goal here is to encourage a healthy and prosperous agriculture sector in the Slocan Valley, by supporting farmers and food producers, thus promoting a more diverse and resilient community.

This action report was written by Damon Chouinard (Director at West Kootenay Permaculture Co-op, Director at Kootenay United Cannabis Association, Operator of White Crow Farm, Co-organizer of Basin Food Summit and Kootenay Cannabis Symposium). Ron LeBlanc (Slocan Valley Economic Development Coordinator) provided input, direction and support.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Priority Actions:

1. Enhance access and profile to Kootenay Boundary Farm Advisors and Basin Business Advisors programs in the Valley
2. Develop an Access to Capital Program and Internship Program in the Valley
3. Disseminate important information to local farms and food businesses in the Valley
4. Create a Slocan Valley Agriculture Coordinator position to help implement actions and leverage opportunities within the Slocan Valley
5. Support the Slocan Valleys Cannabis Industry in their process of transitioning and development

LEGEND

Abbreviations found in this document:

Ag - Agriculture
CBT - Columbia Basin Trust
RDCK- Regional District of Central Kootenay
CKFPC - Central Kootenay Food Policy Council
KBFA - Kootenay and Boundary Farm Advisors
BBA - Basin Business Advisors
SVEDP - Slocan Valley Economic Development Partnership
SVEDC - Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission
SVAAP - Slocan Valley Agriculture Action Plan

CONTEXT

A) Suggestions from the Slocan Valley Agriculture Report...

The recommendations and suggestions from the Agriculture Report are summarized below. Please note they have been abbreviated for this report:

1. Keep supporting Kootenay Boundary Farm Advisors (KBFA) and gather feedback on how end users would like to see the project grow in the future.
2. Expand/replicate the recent success in Area D with the North Kootenay Lake Rural Revitalization Project grant from Rural Dividend Fund to other Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) areas.
3. Strengthen the capacity of the Basin Business Advisors and Community Futures to provide regionally appropriate counsel to farm businesses and to better see the 'Big Picture' needs of farm businesses in the Slocan Region. Perhaps by improving the quality of communication between the RDCK, KBFA, Central Kootenay Food Policy Council (CKFPC) and the Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) gaps between the intention to support agriculture and delivery of programs can be eliminated.
4. Explore and Develop partnerships with other key stakeholders in the region to address labor and industry development potentials.
5. Offer economic support for improvements to irrigation systems for commercial farms.
6. Support the implementation of best practices through research and consultation by the RDCK with other jurisdictions, or coordination with the BC Agriculture and Food Climate Action Initiative and then pass on the findings to local farmers through KBFA.
7. Support improved access to capital infrastructure, either through access to small grants, a fund, a zero interest loan program or ask a partner organization to research and report on other innovative models for direct financial support for small scale agriculture.
8. Make Climate Adaptation a cornerstone of any future RDCK agriculture plan.
 - BC Agriculture and Food Climate Action Initiative is a new program aimed at helping communities and governments plan for both climate adaptation and mitigation (reducing GHGs). Directors should be familiar with the supports available from this program.

9. Support from local governments for marketing, public education and advertising at this time may offer exponential benefits. Exploring the potential of an agricultural brand in the Slocan Valley may offer new economic opportunities in agri-tourism and market growth.
10. Update the Regional Agriculture Plan to build on successes and address gaps in policy and services.

B) Excerpts from Stakeholder Position Statements...

Kootenay Boundary Farm Advisors (KBFA)

‘KBFA is well situated to support the delivery of select recommendations from this report, such as disseminating information to producers related to water conservation and efficiency through field days and one-on-one support, and through information from the RDCK and Climate Adaptation reports.’

‘Opportunities may exist for farms to increase profits by growing specialty crops with higher returns on investment.’

‘Analyze additional specialty crops that could be grown within the same farm footprint, in conjunction with a gaps analysis from local buyers, could serve to help increase potential gross revenues and help farms to diversify and expand their potential markets.’

Basin Business Advisors (BBA)

“All the initiatives identified in Alys Ford’s report require strategic planning and development, from labor recruitment initiatives to agri-tourism branding, and the Agricultural Specialist can provide input and guidance to the development of these initiatives.”

Central Kootenay Food Policy Council (CKFPC)

‘The preceding report documented the importance of land access and reliable and safe water supplies as key elements for successful farming. The Council launched the Evidence-based Food Policy Development Project in January 2019 that will run through 2020. The key research question for this project is to determine what helps or hinders the viability and resiliency of the food systems of the Central Kootenay.’

‘The Council is leading the analysis of geospatial data available from the RDCK and the province of British Columbia to identify factors, trends and areas of concern for the long-term viability of the food systems in our region. High on the research agenda is a better understanding of factors that affect land values and farm viability as well as the impacts of climate change on water systems and crop selection. The insights provided by the

research will then be applied to a review of the policies and planning tools of the RDCK, including the 2011 Agriculture Plan, to identify amendments.'

C) Regional Overview...

Through coordinated efforts over recent years we have seen the implementation of the following;

- Kootenay Boundary Farm Advisors
- Basin Business Advisors Farm Program;
- Central Kootenay Food Policy Council;
- Grassland and Rangeland Enhancement Program;
- Agriculture Forum;
- Food and Buyers Expo, and
- Basin Food Summit 2019.

Each of these initiatives within our food system have contributed to a more dynamic ecosystem, looking much different from ten years ago. While this overview will not detail all the great work done and underway, it will bring to light some key studies and timelines that could be considered relevant to the Slocan Valley and the SVED Ag report recommendations:

- The transportation study convened by the CKFPC and in partnership with Wave Point Consulting is concluding soon, this could have beneficial implications to Slocan Valley Farmers and food producers.
- CKFPC is conducting an Evidence-based Food Policy Development Project. The 'research will then be applied to a review of the policies and planning tools of the RDCK, including the 2011 Agriculture Plan, to identify amendments.'
- BC Agriculture Climate Action Initiative, in partnership with KBFA, released their Report on Climate Projection and impacts. Projects concerning adaptive and carbon capturing farming practices/methods are now commencing.
- Food Hub Pilot is entering its next stage - The area identified for its placement is between South Slocan and Nelson. This project will
- CBT will be conducting a new Strategic Priorities Assessment in 2020 - This may have a major impact on food/agriculture funding and initiatives over the next 10-15 years. The last one was conducted five years ago and the consequential projects underway are the result. They have expressed an interest in a longer-term approach this time around.

- Currently the funding for KBFA and BBA is at the end of its 3 year pilot and awaiting announcement for a next phase.

The CBT-sponsored Basin Food Summit (Rossland, BC - Oct 24-26,2019) took The Food and Buyers Expo, The Agriculture Forum and the Young Agrarians Columbia Basin Mixer and combined them. The Summit sought to weave the various aspects of the food-shed together, integrating as many stakeholders from across the region. The event was a first opportunity to explore this kind of networking within the region. While it continued the roles of each individual event, it also served as a venue to explore ideas and concepts collectively.

The event had a considerable representation from the Slocan Valley. Farmers and Food Processors attended the Expo and much of the menu over the three days had offerings from Slocan Valley Farms. Representatives from government, community orgs and tech specialist also attended from the Valley.

ANALYSIS

A) Change to Consider...

As with all things, Agriculture in the Slocan Valley is an ever-changing field of complexity. The change can often be beneficial, as with the many new opportunities that have arisen, or detrimental, such as the BC meat regulations that changed in 2007, or changes to our climate.

In circling back to the Slocan Valley Ag report, there have been several recent developments worth mentioning for their effect on agriculture and food systems in the Slocan Valley;

- The reallocation of the Rural Dividend Fund recently announced
- The recent funding of Community Futures Cannabis Transition Program
- The current interest in a Cooperative Cannabis Processing Facility, currently being explored near the Slocan Valley, which might benefit Food Processors.

Of these updates, the reallocation of the Rural Dividend Fund has the most immediate impact to the suggestions from the SVED Ag report. As a result, the scale of funding available for Economic Development work in the Slocan Valley, and therefore direct Agriculture support, is uncertain beyond 2020.

As part of the study of Agriculture in the Slocan Valley, it is important to consider any needs or opportunities that crossover with the Cannabis sector. The Kootenay Cannabis Symposium in April 2019 created a ripple effect across industry, stakeholder and government circles. One result saw Community Futures of Central Kootenay successful in their bid for funding to establish a Cannabis Transition Program. The Addendum will address Cannabis as a separate subject from this report, though recent industry announcements and the significance of cannabis to the place-based economics of the Slocan Valley support the view of Cannabis as a sub-sector of Agriculture in the region.

B) Action Plan Context...

Moving from recommendations to actions with results is the purpose of this action plan. The shortfall comes in the capacity for the SVED Partnership, through the SVED Coordinator role, to dedicate the time required for fully implementing the Ag plan.

Within the context of this report, the capacity of the SVEDP has been considered throughout. As the Coordinator is in a position that requires covering a broad span of topics throughout the Slocan Valley, any action steps delegated to them stemming from the SVAAP would need to be limited. Therefore, recommendations that are beyond the

scope or capacity of the SVEDP are categorized under the Stakeholder Recommendations label within the action plan.

C) Bridging the Gaps...

The Basin Food Summit highlighted a larger food system that agriculture is at the centre of. Much of the event's design was created to enhance opportunities for industry crossover and networking. As we see this maturing and dynamic food system evolve, as expressed above, it is often hard for farmers and food processors to make sense of and keep up with all the changes and opportunities available to them. The costs of not paying attention is unquantifiable and equals lost opportunities to local business.

Recommendation : - In further examining the Slocan Valley Ag Report suggestions, following up with program coordinators, reflecting on the experiences of the Food Summit, and considering the coming changes and evolution of the food system, it is advised to consider implementing a role that coordinates specifically on behalf of Slocan Valley agriculture. Many of the suggestions from the Ag report do not have an obvious role to facilitate the next steps otherwise. As well, as the many coming changes to funding and research conclude, it may be economically worthwhile to leverage a role as such to make the best use of present opportunities.

The Slocan Valley Ag Coordinator could be held as a partnership with another local organization, or stand alone as a contractor to the SVEDP. This small, casual contract would be overseen by the present SVED Coordinator, and funded by the Agriculture sector support line item found in the SVED project budget (\$5,000).

By fulfilling this gap between farms, food businesses, policy, programs and funding, a coordinator as such would make continuous assessment of needs and opportunities and serve as an intermediary between the grassroots and government. This role should be filled by an individual with an understanding of the local food system as well as the cannabis industry, for maximum integration.

D) Further Reflections...

In checking back with the contributing organizations from the Ag report, with the intent to clarify how the next steps would look, it was determined that BBA's mandate is to only work with active and legal businesses. While projects that work on strategic planning for the region are of interest to them, it is not possible for this report to look at how to leverage their support for such an initiative unless they were granted permission to expand their mandate.

Recommendation: While recipients of this report are not the stakeholders to consider the scope of BBA's agriculture consultancy scope, having their mandate increased to include larger regional strategic planning would be a highly beneficial service worth exploring.

Also, while programs such as BBA and KBFA can be considered very successful regionally, there is a sense that there may be room to improve outreach on localized levels, and that partnerships or connections with the grassroots could be beneficial. Utilizing these programs, and other initiatives, to their fullest is a step that may significantly enhance the capacity and capabilities within the Valley. The case to champion the local community and develop stronger networks is invaluable, just as the Basin Food Summit demonstrated this year.

E) In Summary...

In making an assessment of the suggestions from the SV Ag Report, the follow-up insights and most recent developments, it was concluded that a gap exists in supporting local Agriculture and Cannabis initiatives in the Slocan Valley. These industries have been tied together within this report as each one plays a complementary role within the local economy, yet should both be considered parts of Agriculture in the Slocan Valley.

Within the action plan consideration has gone into the capacity of the SVED coordinator to address the suggestions. The suggestions that go beyond the capacities of the SVED Coordinator, the recommended SV Ag Coordinator, or are viewed as regional initiatives best addressed beyond the scope of the Slocan are deferred to stakeholder groups such as the CKFPC to consider further.

The implementation of an Agriculture and Cannabis Coordinator for the Slocan Valley is a timely position that would meet several needs arising from changing initiatives, changing climate and changing laws.

The consecutive reports have examined many aspects of agriculture in the Slocan Valley and ways to implement actions for the areas highlighted. The reports have not examined actions to more systemic issues that are and will continue to have impacts to food security and productive land use over the coming years. Access to housing, rising property values and the overall economic viability of agriculture are all deeper issues needing serious assessment. Housing in particular is within the mandate of the RDCK to consider, while the economic viability of Agriculture may involve creative strategic conversations concerning innovative concepts and models to keep the region productive.

ACTION PLAN

Next Steps...

The Action Plan consists of three categories to which recommendations and next steps are sorted. Consideration has gone into addressing as many of the original suggestions and adapting them to the SVEDC's capacities. These are broken down into:

1. Actions for SVED Coordinator
2. Actions for Slocan Valley Ag Coordinator

Any recommendations best addressed beyond the scope of the Slocan and SVEDC are deferred to:

3. Recommendations for Stakeholders

A note about the Agriculture Coordinator, the list of tasks does look considerable. In implementing this role a series of stages would be drawn out for a work plan that prioritizes the actions with the greatest return.

ACTIONS FOR SVED COORDINATOR

RECOMENDATION	ACTION STEPS	NOTES
CAPITAL LOANS PROGRAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- ASSESS OPTIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS- DEVELOP A FRAMEWORK	- FRAMEWORK EXECUTION LIKELY BEYOND CAPACITY OF SVEDP COORDINATOR
SUPPORT CAPACITY BUILDING THROUGH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- DEVELOP A LIST OF POTENTIAL PARTNERS AND OUTCOMES- ASSESS CAPACITY OF STAKEHOLDER GROUPS TO SUPPORT PROCESSES	- STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT AND ALTERNATIVE FUNDING WOULD BE REQUIRED TO DEVELOP SUCH PROJECT AND WOULD BEST BE DONE ON A REGIONAL SCALE
EXPLORE POTENTIAL OF SLOCAN VALLEY AGRICULTURE BRAND	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- FORM COMMITTEE OR PROCESS TO DISCERN SCOPE AND OUTCOMES OF PROJECT- SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT STEPS AND ACTIONS	- PROJECT OUTCOMES WOULD BE DEPENDENT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF GROUP OR PROCESS TO GATHER MOMENTUM TO INITIATE NEXT STEPS.

ACTIONS FOR SLOCAN VALLEY AG COORDINATOR

RECOMENDATION	ACTION STEPS	NOTES
EXAMINE NORTH KOOTENAY LAKE RURAL REVITALIZATION PROJECT FOR OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE SLOCAN VALLEY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RESEARCH PROJECTS SUCCESSES THAT CAN BE REPLICATED IN THE SLOCAN VALLEY - DETERMINE OTHER FUNDS THAT CAN FULFILL SOME OR ALL ASPECTS OF PROJECT SCOPE - REPLY TO RURAL DIVIDEND FUND IF MADE AVAILABLE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - THIS SUGGESTION HAS MANY ASPECTS AND VARIABLES NEEDING TO BE CONSIDERED AND ORGANIZED - SCOPE OF THIS PROJECT MAY CROSS OVER WITH OTHER ACTIONS WITHIN THIS PLAN - CONSIDERS WAGE SUBSIDY WITHIN THIS SCOPE
ACCESS TO CAPITAL PROGRAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ASSESS OPTIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS - DEVELOP A FRAMEWORK AND IDENTIFY NEXT STEPS - PURSUE NECESSARY RESOURCES AND FACILITATE ACTION 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PROJECT WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED IN PHASES BASED ON STAGED CRITERIA - TIMELINE WOULD LIKELY TAKE UP TO 2YEARS FOR IMPLEMENTATION
EXPLORE POTENTIAL OF SLOCAN VALLEY AGRICULTURE BRAND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FORM COMMITTEE OR PROCESS TO DISCERN INTEREST, SCOPE AND OUTCOMES OF PROJECT - SEEK FUNDS TO DEVELOP A STRATEGIC PLAN - DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT STEPS AND ACTIONS - IMPLEMENT ACTIONS IN STAGES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NEXT STEPS AND ACTIONS COULD PRIMARILY BE FACILITATED BY COORDINATOR POSITION - STAGED IMPLEMENTATION WOULD BE NECESSARY AS SCOPE IS FAR BEYOND THE PROPOSED ROLES FUNDING SCOPE
HIGH VALUE CROP ANALYSIS FOR SLOCAN VALLEY AGRICULTURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COORDINATE PARTNERSHIP WITH KBFA OR OTHER ORG TO HELP DEVELOP A FRAMEWORK FOR AN ALTERNATIVE CROP ANALYSIS IN THE VALLEY - COORDINATOR WOULD FACILITATE FUNDING AND PLANNING WHILE OTHER ORG AND LOCAL FARMS WOULD BE A PART OF THE TRIAL AND REPORTING 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OUTCOMES FROM A PROJECT AS SUCH COULD HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS TO LOCAL FARM VIABILITY - CROPS COULD INCLUDE, NUTS, SAFFRON, HEMP/CANNABIS, - THIS TRIAL COULD TIE INTO THE FOOD HUB PROJECT AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASE AND DESIGN OF SUCH A FACILITY

DISSEMINATE INFORMATION RELATED TO BEST PRACTICES AND WATER MANAGEMENT TO FARMERS AND HOMESTEADERS WITHIN THE SLOCAN VALLEY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DEVELOP PARTNERSHIPS TO IDENTIFY GAPS IN INFORMATION TRANSFER - ORGANIZE MEET UPS AND WORKSHOPS WHERE GAPS EXISTS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SERVE AS A RESOURCE BETWEEN THE SCIENCE BASED RESEARCH ON BEST PRACTICES AND WATER MANAGEMENT AND THE AGRICULTURE, HOMESTEADING AND CANNABIS COMMUNITY
PROMOTE AN UNDERSTANDING OF REGIONAL PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES RELATED TO FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN THE SLOCAN VALLEY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DEVELOP A GRASSROOTS LIST OF FARMS, FARMERS, ORGANIZATIONS AND FOOD BUSINESSES FROM THE SLOCAN VALLEY - EDUCATE AND SUPPORT THE USE OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES THROUGH MEET-UPS AND RESOURCE MATERIALS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - THIS ASPECT SHOULD COME AS CASUAL AND SECONDARY TO LEVERAGING THE USE OF THESE FUNDS FOR GREATER IMPACT
STRENGTHEN THE NETWORK OF LOCAL FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE SLOCAN VALLEY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GATHER INFORMATION ABOUT RELEVANT ORGS - PROMOTE A SLOCAN VALLEY GATHERING FOR LOCAL ORGS TO EXAMINE WAYS TO STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT EACH OTHERS WORK FOR GREATER COMMUNITY IMPACT - SUPPORT ORGS IN DEVELOPING STRONGER NETWORKS IN THE COMMUNITY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - THIS IS BASED ON THE SUGGESTION OF BUILDING CAPACITY THROUGH REGIONAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS - THIS REPRESENTS A BOTTOM UP APPROACH TO LOOK AT WAYS TO STRENGTHEN AND DEVELOP INDUSTRY AND LABOR IN THE VALLEY

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STAKEHOLDERS

RECOMENDATION	ACTION STEPS	NOTES
CENTRAL KOOTENAY FOOD POLICY COUNCIL EXAMINATION OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP FOR LABOR AND INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CONDUCT AN ANALYSIS OF STAKEHOLDER FUNCTIONS AND PRECEDENTS THAT MAY HAVE RELEVANCE AS EXAMPLES - CONSIDER EXAMPLES FROM THE SLOCAN VALLEY AG REPORT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - THIS SUGGESTION MAY HAVE SOME FURTHER INSIGHTS FROM THE 'EVIDENCE BASED FOOD POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
MAKE CLIMATE ADAPTATION A CORNERSTONE OF ANY FUTURE RDCK AGRICULTURE PLAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDING OF RELIABLE SOURCES OF INFORMATION - BC AGRICULTURE AND FOOD CLIMATE ACTION INITIATIVE IS A NEW PROGRAM AIMED AT HELPING COMMUNITIES AND GOVERNMENTS PLAN FOR BOTH CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WHILE ADAPTATION IS A WORTHY CONCEPT, REGENERATION IS AN APPROACH TO SYSTEMS THAT CONSIDERS THEIR WHOLE IN ALL ASPECTS AND INCLUDES PRACTICES THAT ARE ADAPTIVE BY ESSENCE
COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST AND THE RDCK ARE ASKED TO CONSIDER BASIN BUSINESS ADVISORS SCOPE OF CONSULTANCY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EXAMINE FEASIBILITY OF INCREASING MANDATE TO INCLUDE COMMUNITIES AND LOCALIZED STRATEGIES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - THE INTENT IS TO INCREASE CAPACITY THROUGH STRATEGIC PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT WITHIN LOCALIZED REGIONS SUCH AS THE SLOCAN VALLEY
EXAMINE CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES TO ALLOW FOR HOUSING SOLUTIONS AND FLEXIBILITY WITHIN AGRICULTURALLY PRODUCTIVE LANDS (RDCK, CBT, BC GOV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CONSIDER LAND TRUST SCENARIOS THAT CAN OFFER AFFORDABLE HOUSING SURROUNDING KEY AGRICULTURE LANDS - EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF LAND TRUSTS STEWARDSHIP SCENARIOS IN ORDER TO PRESERVE AND KEEP KEY AGRICULTURE LANDS PRODUCTIVE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IN RELATION TO ITS IMPACT TO AGRICULTURE, ACCESS TO LABOR AND MAINTAINING A DIVERSE COMMUNITY, THIS IS MENTIONED HERE AS A SIGNIFICANT NEED AT THIS TIME WITHIN THE VALLEY

Addendum

Cannabis Coordinator

For up to 40 years residents in the Slocan Valley and throughout the Kootenays have been quietly working on cultivating a high value crop for export around North America. In that time, they have become world famous for their high quality product and long time commitment to the development of the industry.

It is believed that Cannabis has contributed the vast majority of the economy in certain small communities throughout the region. While considered less than it once was, it is safe to assume it still represents the largest industry in the Slocan Valley.

Legalization has been in place for over a year, yet few licenses have been issued to date. The barriers to entry are still vast and there is much work to do in transitioning the economy. The funding Community Futures of Central Kootenay received for the Cannabis Transition Program represents the first of its kind and demonstrates a willingness on behalf of the provincial government to address some of the barriers posed by the legalization framework. The program is currently assisting growers from the Slocan and the RDCK with their application processes. Beyond applications, they are also working behind the scenes to advocate, educate and clear the path to transitioning our local economy. This funding is unprecedented and will have significant implications for the RDCK and Slocan Valley.

As a part of their initiative, Community Futures has promoted the concept of an Agriculture processing cooperative for Cannabis. This cooperatives development is underway and is being driven by a team of community organizers. The goal is to create a locally owned facility that meets the needs of the Kootenay cannabis community, and keeps the profits within the community. The current concept on the table is known as a NEW GENERATION CO-OP, which means it is a for-profit enterprise that is democratically owned and governed by its member-owners.

New Generation Co-ops best serve their Communities by creating vertical value chains within their umbrella. As farmers are most often the vulnerable ones within the commodity markets, it is important to keep control of these secondary and tertiary services, and the profits from these aspects of the supply chain within the community for long term viability.

As Cannabis is undoubtedly the Valleys largest economy and provider of jobs, supporting its success should be a top priority. So far to date the SVEDP has published a report on Cannabis in the Slocan Valley, and were instrumental in the success of the Kootenay Cannabis Symposium, In February 2020, Health Canada has announced their return to BC to conduct a series of consultations with communities to address the significant lack of applications for micro licenses. With this, and the momentum at hand, continuing support to advocate, organize and facilitate this process could have significant long term impacts.

Recommendation: In considering the momentum at hand, it would be beneficial to create a casual role for a Cannabis Coordinator within the Slocan Valley. For 2020, a \$5000 contribution allocated to support the Cannabis sector could be applied to this role. Fulfilling this position would give much needed support for capacity within the sector as it establishes itself over the coming years. The Coordinator position would;

- Support the development of the Cannabis Processing Cooperative
- Assist local cannabis organizations such as the Kootenay United Cannabis Association (KUCA) with coordinating efforts for advocacy within the community
- Liase between producers and spread valuable information to producers throughout the Valley

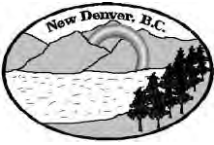
While it is currently unknown what the consultations with Health Canada will entail come February, it is safe to say, having extra hands on deck in the coming year would certainly prove beneficial as efforts are coordinated and suggestions are implemented.

As a sub-sector of Agriculture, Cannabis is much more highly monetized than food production, and therefore may support and lift up food production infrastructure in the valley. There are many opportunities to advocate and leverage cannabis production for the strengthening of our food systems in the region. The Cannabis Coordinator role would be beneficial to align as a part of the Slocan Valley Agriculture Coordinator position.

ACTIONS FOR SLOCAN VALLEY CANNABIS COORDINATOR

RECOMENDATION	ACTION STEPS	NOTES
CANNABIS PROCESSING COOPERATIVE SUPPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ASSIST IN COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION - LIASON WITH FUNDERS AND COMMITTEES - COORDINATE FEASIBILITY STUDY AND BUSINESS PLAN - ASSIST WITH INCORPORATION AND DEVELOPMENT NEEDS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PROJECT IS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY AND LOOKING FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT - PROJECT CONCEPT IS A COMMUNITY OWNED AND OPERATED PROCESSING FACILITY THAT SEEKS TO DEVELOP VALUE CHAINS FOR MAXIMUM ECONOMIC RETURN TO COMMUNITY
LOCAL HARMONIZATION OF ADVOCACY EFFORTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SUPPORT KUCA IN EFFORTS TO ADVOCATE - ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL - COMMUNICATE CONCERNS ON BEHALF OF INDUSTRY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EFFORTS ARE CURRENTLY UNDERWAY - HEALTH CANADA IS RETURNING FOR CONSULTATION IN FEBRUARY - THE GOAL IS TO CREATE A CLEAR UNIFIED VOICE AND MESSAGE FOR THE INDUSTRY BEFORE FEB
ASSESS OPPORTUNITIES TO LEVERAGE CANNABIS/HEMP INDUSTRY TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL FARMING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMALL FARMS TO BENEFIT FROM LEGALIZATION - ASSESS HEMPS VIABILITY AS AN ALTERNATIVE CASH CROP WITHIN THE REGION 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HEMP LICENSES ARE SIGNIFICANTLY MORE EASY TO ACQUIRE AND CREATIVE CONSIDERATION OF THIS CROP SHOULD BE EXAMINED AND COORDINATED AS IT COULD ALSO BE DETRIMENTAL TO CANNABIS EFFORTS IF LEFT UNCHECKED
LIASON FOR SLOCAN VALLEY CANNABIS INDUSTRY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COMMUNICATE BETWEEN PRE-EXISTING INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENTS WHEN REQUIRED 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SERVE TO COORDINATE AND DIALOGUE THE NEEDS AND CONCERNS OF THE INDUSTRY WHEN REQUIRED

<p>BUILD NETWORKS AND CAPACITY TO FUNCTION AS A REGION WITH A COMMON VOICE</p>	<p>- SEEK TO BUILD STRONG NETWORKS AND DISSEMINATE INFORMATION WITHIN THE PRE-EXISTING INDUSTRY IN THE SLOCAN VALLEY</p>	<p>- HAVING A COORDINATOR RESPONSIBLE FOR CREATING DIALOGUE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY WILL DECREASE NEGATIVE SENTIMENTS FOUND WITHIN THE COMPETITIVE AND STRESSFUL LANDSCAPE OF TRANSITIONING</p>
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The Corporation of the Village of New Denver

REPORT / RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

SUBMITTED BY: Jessica Rayner
Community Planner

DATE: January 24, 2020

SUBJECT: New Denver Boundary Extension Area

PURPOSE: To confirm properties being included in the proposed Village of New Denver boundary extension.

OPTIONS:

1. **Proceed with the Proposed New Denver Extension Area as outlined on the attached maps.**
2. Consider an alternate area for the proposed New Denver boundary extension.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve proceeding with a Village of New Denver boundary extension proposal for the properties outlined in the attached *Proposed New Denver Extension Area* maps.

ANALYSIS:

A. Background: At their Regular Meeting of January 14, 2020, Village of New Denver Mayor and Council approved a proposed timeline for proceeding with a municipal boundary extension. Confirming the area proposed for inclusion in the boundary extension is an important step in preparing the municipal boundary extension referral process. This referral process is planned to occur from January through May of 2020.

B. Discussion: At their Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 21, 2020, Mayor and Council reviewed two proposed boundary extension areas. Of the two maps considered, the boundary extension area presented in the attached maps was the preferred option. Six Crown owned parcels, each 2.06 acres, that lie north of Carpenter Creek and south of the Village of New Denver cemetery as well as six privately owned parcels, ranging in size from 1.65 to 17 acres, that lie north of Highway 31A and east of the Galena Trail, are proposed for inclusion here but were not identified on the other map previously considered as an alternative.

Including Crown land in the proposed extension area requires that the Village of New Denver refer the municipal boundary extension proposal to the Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB). The proposed timeline indicates this referral taking place February / March 2020. This timeline remains appropriate.

Confirming a proposed boundary extension area allows Village staff to proceed with referrals to parties such as the regional district, ILMB, and First Nations whose traditional territory includes the proposed municipal boundary extension area. It is staff's intention to proceed with these referrals in February 2020.

C. Legislative Framework: The *Local Government Act* (section 20) describes the requirements that must be met before the Province considers approving a municipal boundary extension.

D. Attachments:

- 1) Proposed New Denver Extension Area, Ownership Type
- 2) Proposed New Denver Extension Area, Water Systems

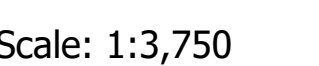
E. Council Strategic Priority: Boundary Expansion (extending municipal boundaries to include Denver Siding) was identified as a strategic priority in the Village's 2019 Annual Report.

F. Communication Strategy: Staff to proceed with the municipal boundary extension process as outlined in the January 9, 2020 Report to Council titled *Municipal Boundary Extension Process & Timeline 2020*.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: As per the proposed municipal boundary extension.



— Roads



Proposed New Denver Extension Area, Water Systems



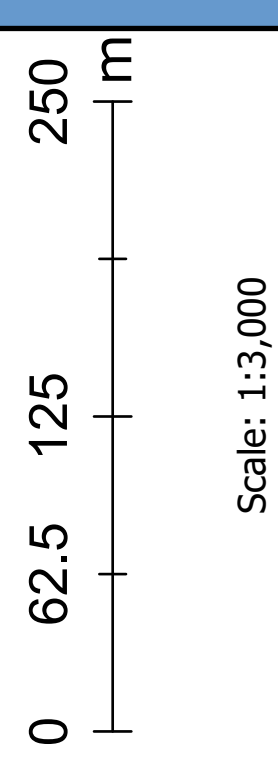
VILLAGE OF
NEW DENVER

- LEGEND
- New Denver Extension Area
 - New Denver Municipal Boundary
 - Ownership Type
 - Undefined
 - Fee Simple
 - Crown
 - Municipal
 - Cadastral - legal parcels
 - Roads

Map Projection:
UTM Zone 11

Map Datum:
NAD83

Date:
1/24/2020



DATA SOURCES

The following sources of data are updated as changes occur:

Cadastral Lot - Surveyed lots/parcels of land;
Sources: Crown Land Registry Services and RDCK

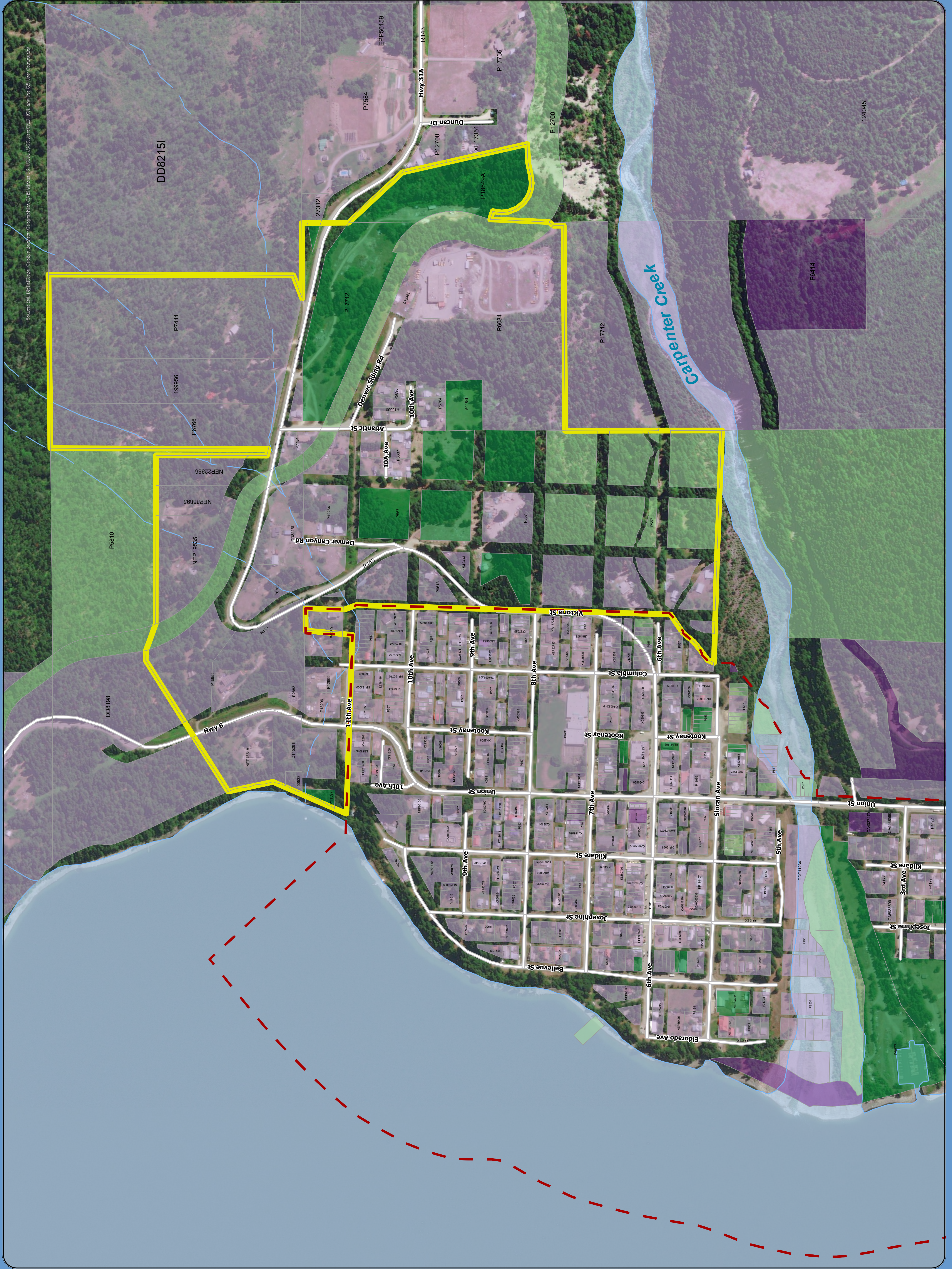
District Lot; Source: Crown Land Registry Services, Integrated Cadastral Initiative (ICI) and RDCK

TRIM Data - Planimetry, Unserved Roads, and Contours; Source: Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection

Roads - Road centerline compiled 2003;
Source: RDCK

Regional District of Central Kootenay
Box 590, 202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson,
BC V1L 5P4
Phone: (250) 352-5665
Toll-Free: 1-800-268-7325 (BC)
Fax: (250) 352-9300
Internet: www.rdck-bc.ca

Proposed New Denver
Extension Area,
Ownership Type





The Corporation of the Village of New Denver

P.O. Box 40, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0 • office@newdenver.ca

PHONE (250) 358-2316 • FAX (250) 358-7251

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: CAO
SUBJECT: CBT Community Initiatives Program 2020/21
DATE: January 23, 2020

RECOMMENDATION: That the 2020/221 CBT Community Initiatives applications be presented to the Village of New Denver's Local Selection Committee on Tuesday, April 21, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

BACKGROUND: The Community Initiatives Program (CIP) is one of the oldest funding programs provided by CBT. It is designed to support projects identified as priorities within individual communities and incorporate community-based funding decisions to meet local priorities. The funding is intended to foster activities that each community deems important and to fund projects supported by the community that might not otherwise be undertaken.

ANALYSIS: The CBT CIP program in this area is administered by the RDCK. Applications must be submitted through the Trust's online application system. The deadline to submit proposals is 4:30 pm on Friday, February 28, 2020.

Proposals will be reviewed at a public meeting in April by a Local Selection Committee who will make recommendations to Council regarding the allocation of the available funding.

No changes to the public process are contemplated for 2020, although the event is being held in Council Chambers as the Knox Hall may not be available due to construction

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK: Nil

STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Nil

COMMUNICATION STRATEGY: A call for Local Selection Committee members will be advertised in the Valley Voice.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Nil

2020 Community Initiatives and Affected Areas Program (CIP/AAP)

Date: December 10, 2019
To: RDCK Electoral Directors
From: Nancy Kalawsky, Grants Coordinator
Re: 2020 CIP/AAP APPLICATION PROCESS

The 2020 Proposal Intake Period for the Community Initiatives and Affected Areas Programs will commence Monday, January 6, 2020 and will end Friday, February 28, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

2020 PROPOSAL INTAKE

- CIP/AAP proposal applications continue to be accepted once per year and, as in 2019, 2020 applications **must be submitted through the Trust's online application system**.
- The Application Guide, Pre-Application Worksheet and Information Sheet are available on our website at <http://rdck.ca/cip-aap>.
- The 2020 Application Guide, Information Sheet and Worksheet is attached to this memo and will also be made available in hard copy to:
 - RDCK Services at the Creston Library;
 - The Lardeau Community Centre;
 - City, Town and Village offices throughout the Regional District; and,
 - The RDCK head office in Nelson commencing January 2020.
- Organizations are encouraged to carefully read through the 2020 Pre-Application Worksheet and Application Guide for important information and instructions. There have been no significant changes to these documents since 2019.
- The 2020 Application Guide and Application were developed by Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) based on the Board approved 2018 CIP/AAP Guidelines and Application (November 17, 2017 RES #680/17 and July 19, 2018 RES #504/18 regarding Nakusp/Rural Nakusp and Area K Bayview).
- Please see below for the 2020 Program Schedule.

If you have any questions or receive inquiries please do not hesitate to direct any inquiries to my attention, thank you.

Nancy Kalawsky, Grants Coordinator
Email: nkalawsky@rdck.bc.ca
Phone: 250-352-8170

Encls/2020 Application Information Sheet/2020 Application Guide/2020 Worksheet

2020 Program Schedule	
January 6 – February 28	2019 CIP/AAP Call for Proposals – Applications must be submitted online only.
January 7 – January 16	First Call for Proposal advertisement to appear in local newspapers. Notification will also be posted in the front page of the RDCK website.
January 31	Directors to provide information regarding Community Input Meeting dates, location, committee members, and adjudication process
February 5 – 6	Second Call for Proposal advertisement to appear in local newspapers
February 28th	Application Deadline – Friday, February 28, 2020 04:30 pm
March 9	Locations for Community Input Meetings to be booked and made available on RDCK website
March 2 - 13	Proposals to be reviewed by RDCK staff. Eligible proposals forwarded to Local Selection Committees/Councils for Communities Input Meetings (Packages will be available for March 19, 2020 Board meeting)
March 16	List of proposals not eligible for 2020 CIP/AAP funding consideration to be distributed to Directors
March - April	Advertisements for Community Input Meetings appear in local papers
April 1 - 30	Community Input Meetings (community involvement) to be held during April
May 4	Area funding recommendations to be submitted to Grants Coordinator
May 4 – 15	Organization with unsupported projects will be formally notified
May 21	Funding recommendations presented to RDCK Board for approval
May 25	RDCK Finance will be provided with a list of approved project proposals in preparation of funding disbursements in June
May 29	RDCK website will be updated to include listing of 2020 approved project proposals
June	CIP/AAP grant cheques, letter and applicable contracts will be forwarded to successful proponents. Funding agreements will be forwarded to proponents in receipt of project funding support in excess of \$4,999 per area (Funding agreements are required prior to the release of funds)
June 30	Final Financial Reports are due for projects funded in 2019
October 31	Deadline for project extensions and change of scope for projects funded 2019 and earlier
December 31	Deadline for Final Financial Reports for projects funded 2019 and earlier (<i>Organizations failing to satisfy reporting requirements will not be eligible for 2021 CIP/AAP funding consideration</i>)



The Corporation of the Village of New Denver

P.O. Box 40, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0 • office@newdenver.ca

PHONE (250) 358-2316 • FAX (250) 358-7251

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: CAO
SUBJECT: Donation of Rescue Boat
DATE: January 23, 2020

OPTIONS:

1. Accept the donation of the Rescue Boat
2. Refer the matter to the Fire Department Committee

BACKGROUND: The New Denver Rescue Society's ongoing fundraising efforts have allowed the group to purchase several key pieces of equipment that have generously been made available to the Village's Fire Department for use in rescue situations, including the rescue boat. The New Denver Rescue Society would like to transfer ownership of this asset to the Village, in order to formalize these arrangements.

ANALYSIS: Allowing the Village to assume ownership of the boat will reduce annual operating costs for the volunteer-based New Denver Rescue Society. The Village assuming responsibility for operating and maintenance expenses will more accurately reflect the true cost of providing flat-water rescue locally. The resulting incremental costs to the Village of New Denver will be shared across the participants in the fire & rescue service.

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK: Village of New Denver Fire Bylaw No. 575, 2004 and EMBC regulations

STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Nil

COMMUNICATION STRATEGY: Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The resulting incremental costs to the Village of New Denver will be shared across the participants in the fire & rescue service.

New Denver Rescue Society
PO Box 285
New Denver, BC
V0G 1S0

November 8th, 2019

Village of New Denver
New Denver and Area Fire Department
PO Box 40
New Denver, BC
V0G 1S0

Dear Village of New Denver elected officials,

As decided at the annual general meeting on October 3, 2019 by the board and its members, the New Denver Rescue Society would like to donate their 18' Hughes Craft Rescue Boat to the New Denver and Area Volunteer Fire Department. The donation will include the boat, along with the new 150 Yamaha Engine and all equipment currently installed on the boat. The approximate value of the boat in its entirety is \$50,000.

Sincerely,

Mercedes Casley
Chairperson
New Denver Rescue Society



The Corporation of the Village of New Denver

P.O. Box 40, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0 • office@newdenver.ca

PHONE (250) 358-2316 • FAX (250) 358-7251

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: CAO
SUBJECT: 2020 WildSafe BC Program
DATE: January 23, 2020

OPTIONS:

- 1. Authorize submission of the grant application**
2. Do not authorize submission of the grant application

RECOMMENDATION: That the Village of New Denver provide a minimum of \$1000 cash plus \$500 of in-kind support towards the 2020 WildSafe BC program.

BACKGROUND: The Village of New Denver has partnered with WildSafeBC for the delivery of public education to reduce human-wildlife conflict in our community since 2013. In order to meet the requirements for a subsidized WildSafeBC program for 2020, a minimum \$4000 cash contribution is required from the participating local governments. As the local program serves RDCK Area H (North) and Area K, as well as the Villages of Silverton, New Denver and Nakusp, contributions from each of these jurisdictions can be combined to meet the \$4000 minimum.

ANALYSIS: The Village of New Denver is a Bear Smart community and has a bylaw in place to prohibit activities which attract dangerous wildlife. The public outreach and education work done by WildSafe BC improves compliance with municipal regulations, and satisfies the Village's commitment to providing ongoing public education to reduce human-wildlife conflict, a requirement of the Bear Smart designation.

Working with WildSafe BC provides a cost-effective and collaborative solution to addressing human-wildlife conflict in New Denver and area, especially if the cost is shared across all of the jurisdictions receiving the benefit of the program. A request for cost-sharing has been submitted to the Villages of Silverton and Nakusp as well as to the Directors of RDCK areas H and K. The Area H and Area K directors have confirmed their cash contributions of \$1000 each. WildSafe BC staff has indicated that confirmation of all funding contributions is not required prior to the submission of an application.

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK: Waste Management Bylaw No. 716, 2018 (Amendment to Solid Waste Management Bylaw No. 582, 2004) defines "dangerous wildlife", "wildlife attractant" and "wildlife resistant enclosure", prohibits activities which attract dangerous wildlife, and authorizes the Village to enter on private property to remove wildlife attractants at the property owner's cost.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Nil

WildSafeBC Program and Grant Application Information 2020

WildSafeBC is the provincial leader in preventing conflict with wildlife through collaboration, education and community solutions. It has evolved out of the highly successful Bear Aware program and is owned and delivered by the British Columbia Conservation Foundation (BCCF). The WildSafeBC Program currently receives primary funding from the Provincial Government and the Columbia Basin Trust.

In 2019, the WildSafeBC Program was delivered by 23 programs to over 150 communities, First Nations and regional districts throughout BC. We are inviting your community to apply for this valuable and time-tested program. This program would be of interest to communities that experience conflict with bears, deer, cougars, coyotes, wolves, rats, skunks, raccoons or other wildlife.

The WildSafeBC Program has the following types of delivery models and grants available.

1. WildSafeBC Community Program

Communities apply in the month of January of every year with a minimum of \$4,000 in community funds in order to have a local Community Coordinator deliver the WildSafeBC Program. If their application is successful, and primary funding is secured, their contribution will be augmented with a funding grant to deliver a minimum 420 hour Program. Funding from the Columbia Basin Trust allows for a minimum 580 hour Program for programs in the Columbia Basin. The WildSafeBC Community Program typically runs May to November and begins with training for new coordinators in Kamloops in May. Coordinators are hired as BCCF contract staff and are supervised and trained by provincial coordinators.

The WildSafeBC Program application process is competitive. More communities apply every year than the Program has primary funding. Applicants can strengthen their application in a number of ways:

- Providing more support to the coordinator with local in-kind resources (office space/phone)
- Completing the Bear Smart Community program criteria.
- Applying with increased matching funds either directly or with other partners.

To apply for this program, please complete the following forms and email them to tradford@bccf.com. Please note that **both PART A and B are required for submission and the deadline is February 3rd, at noon. Communities within the Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) should use the forms on the right. All other communities use the forms on the left.**

BC Community	Community within the Columbia Basin Trust
WildSafeBC Program Community Application Part A 2020	CBT WildSafeBC Program Community Application Part A 2020
WildSafeBC Program Community Application Part B 2020	CBT WildSafeBC Program Community Application Part B 2020

2. WildSafeBC Training

Every year, BCCF hosts new coordinators and guests for 4.5 days in May for WildSafeBC Training in Kamloops. The cost for training, accommodation and food is \$1,500. The WildSafeBC Program provides a partial startup toolkit of brochures and outreach materials are also be provided (valued at \$500). This is a pre-requisite for all official WildSafeBC Programs and Allies delivering WildSafeBC messaging. If you are interested in attending training, please contact us **no later than April 15, 2020** to confirm space (first-come, first-served as spots are limited).

Occasionally, funding is available in the form of a grant that covers the cost of training. Successful candidates must make their own arrangements for travel to and from Kamloops. **In 2020, limited funding is available to cover the cost of training** for potential candidates. Successful applicants must demonstrate a need in their community and have significant support from a local organization or government. Priorities for 2020 include communities experiencing human-grizzly bear conflicts and/or Indigenous Communities.

The application intake is in January and the **deadline for submission is noon February 3rd, 2020**. Successful candidates will be notified by February 10th and must confirm their attendance by March 4th. As funds are limited, we ask that candidates make every effort to attend once confirmed.

To apply for the training grant, [click here](#) to download the application and email it to tradford@bccf.com.

3. Seed Grants

A seed grant may be available in some years for communities that do not qualify for a full Community Program. These seed grants can assist new programs in getting established or existing ones to transition to a self-funded model. It can also assist communities to acquire items such as signage, brochures, and/or bear-resistant containers. Applicants can include local governments, Indigenous communities or not-for-profits. Grants are awarded dependent on funding and on a first-come first-served basis. Applicants are required to contribute \$500 of their own funding in order to qualify for a grant. BCCF grants will be awarded up to a maximum of \$1,500 as funding allows.

To apply for a seed grant, [click here](#) to download the application and email it to tradford@bccf.com.

Key Dates in 2020	Description
January 2 nd	Application forms are sent out to prospective partners
February 3 rd	Applications are due at noon PST – email to tradford@bccf.com
February 10 th	Training Grant Applicants are notified
March 4 th	Training Grant Applicants must confirm their attendance to training
March 31 st	Community Program Applicants are notified
April 16 th	Typical start date for returning Community Programs
April 30 th	Community Program funding payments are due for the community's portion of their contribution
May 11 th – 15 th	WildSafeBC Training in Kamloops
May 18 th	New Coordinators begin working in their communities
November 30 th	Typical Program End Date

If you would like to ask further questions or discuss a potential budget program please email Trina Radford at tradford@bccf.com or call 250-828-2551 x 102.

Thank you for your interest and support of WildSafeBC and our mission to keep wildlife wild and communities safe.



The Corporation of the Village of New Denver

P.O. Box 40, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0 • office@newdenver.ca

PHONE (250) 358-2316 • FAX (250) 358-7251

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: CAO
SUBJECT: Request for Letter of Support – New Denver & Area Housing Society
DATE: January 23, 2020

OPTIONS:

1. Provide a letter in support of the application
2. Do not provide a letter in support of the application

RECOMMENDATION: That the Village of New Denver provide a letter in support of the New Denver & Area Housing Society's application to the Vancouver Foundation for Investment Readiness Program funding to assist with the development of an affordable housing project in New Denver.

BACKGROUND: The New Denver & Area Housing Society has been working with consultants from Urban Matters and New Commons Development to develop affordable housing in New Denver. The Healthy Community Society of the North Slokan Valley started the project, completing a Housing Needs and Site Review (Phase 1 Report) and a Longlist Site Review and Prioritization (Phase 2 Report) with funding secured from CBT and the BC Rural Dividend Program.

Council has identified lands in Block 51 as a potential site for 10 affordable housing units, and has authorized an application to CMHC for seed funding to assess the feasibility of the proposal.

ANALYSIS: Additional funds are needed in order to complete the studies and reports required as part of an application to BC Housing's Community Housing Fund for capital project assistance. Collaborating with the New Denver & Area Housing Society to access additional funding sources to offset these costs allows the Village to reduce the out-of-pocket costs associated with preparation of the application to BC Housing.

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK: Nil

STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Nil

COMMUNICATION STRATEGY:

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The Village of New Denver is not being asked to make any cash contributions to the project.

COMMUNICATION STRATEGY: WildSafe BC messaging will be included in property tax notices, on the Village's website, and in the Village's Valley Voice ads during periods of peak activity.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The Village of New Denver is hoping to partner with the Village of Silverton, the Village of Nakusp, RDCK Area H and RDCK Area K to secure the necessary funds for a 2020 program in this area. The Area H and Area K directors have confirmed their cash contributions of \$1000 each. The Village of New Denver's proposed contribution of \$1000 cash plus \$500 of in-kind support (in the form of facility rentals for public events, photocopies, promotion and advertising costs) falls within the amounts budgeted in the Five Year Financial Plan bylaw.