



April 22, 2021

APRIL BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Virtual Agricultural Forum; Regional Parks Plan approved; COVID grants to support staffing at Recreation Centres;

Virtual Agricultural Forum

On April 21, the Regional District held a virtual agricultural forum as part of the Board's Agricultural and Land Use Standing Committee meeting. The forum was an opportunity to update directors on current Regional District policy and programs supporting agriculture. There were also updates from the Ministry of Agriculture, Agricultural Land Commission and several agricultural organizations within the Regional District. The intent of the presentations was to examine existing and potential opportunities for the Regional District to further support agriculture within the region.

Regional Parks Plan approved

The Board has approved a new Parks Plan for the Region. The new Regional Parks Plan establishes a road map to guide the planning, acquisition, development and management of regional parks over the next 10 years. The development of the plan saw extensive consultation with the public, stakeholders and First Nations. The plan identifies key recommendations for current parks and general recommendations regarding policies and bylaws, accessibility of parks and amenities, education and interpretation, stewardship and sustainability, marketing and promotions and Indigenous Relations. The plan also identifies areas such as Tabor Lake and Hixon Falls for potential park development.

COVID grants to support staffing at Recreation Centres

The board approved the allocation of \$50,000 from the Regional District's COVID-19 Safe Restart grant to support enhanced staffing at the Robson Valley and the Canoe Valley Recreation Centres. The funding will be used to cover additional staffing costs required to meet COVID-19 requirements at the facilities, such as entrance registration controls and additional sanitization or cleaning at both facilities.

Community Grants

The Board approved the following requests for Community and Recreation Grants:

- \$5000 to the Buckhorn Recreation Commission for picnic tables
- \$40,000 to the Buckhorn Volunteer Fire Association for SCBA bottles
- \$15,000 to the Tabor Lake Clean Up Society for operating expenses, repairs and maintenance
- \$18,000 to the Shell-Glen Volunteer Firefighter Association for a structure protection unit
- \$500 to the Robson Valley Women in Leadership Society for start-up expenses

For further information, please contact

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