



# FRUITVALE & AREA 'A' NEWS

February 2019

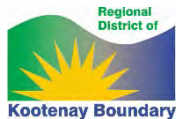
Keeping the Community Informed

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTACT INFORMATION



**Village of Fruitvale**  
1947 Beaver Street  
Fruitvale, BC V0G 1L0  
Ph: 250-367-7551  
Fax: 250-367-9267  
Public Works & After Hours  
Emergencies: 250-367-6162

General Email  
[info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca](mailto:info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca)  
Web  
[www.village.fruitvale.bc.ca](http://www.village.fruitvale.bc.ca)  
Facebook  
Village of Fruitvale



**Regional District of Kootenay Boundary**  
202 - 843 Rossland Ave  
Trail, BC V1R 4S8  
Ph: 250-368-9148

General Email  
RDKB email addresses are most often **first initial, last name@rdkb.com** (For example Joe Smith would be [jsmith@rdkb.com](mailto:jsmith@rdkb.com))  
Web  
[www.rdkb.com](http://www.rdkb.com)  
Area 'A' Director Ali Grieve  
[aligrieve@telus.net](mailto:aligrieve@telus.net)

## Community Clubs & Events



Ali Grieve, your Electoral Area 'A' Director, invites you to an interactive **Town Hall Meeting.**

Find out the latest about the proposed 2019 Budget and 2019-2023 Five-Year Financial Plan. Ask questions and comment about how we operate, what your tax dollars fund and learn more about your programs and services. For more information, please contact Maureen Forster, Executive Assistant: [mforster@rdkb.com](mailto:mforster@rdkb.com) or 250.368.0235.

**Monday, March 4, 2019 at 6:00 PM**  
**Fruitvale Memorial Hall**  
**1968 Main Street, Fruitvale, BC**



[jointheconversation.rdkb.com](http://jointheconversation.rdkb.com)



202 - 843 Rossland Ave, Trail, BC V1R 4S8 | T: 250.368.9148 | T/F: 1.800.355.7352 | [rdkb.com](http://rdkb.com)

### ROBBIE BURNS NIGHT

The members of the St. John's Anglican Church would like to send an enormous thank you to everyone who made the Robbie Burns evening such a success!

To Mayor Steve Morissette and Village of Fruitvale Council, RDKB Area A Director Ali Grieve and the Directors of Dynamic Aging Society for their generous sponsorship; Vicki Fitzpatrick and her team for all the good food; and Lila Cresswell for her help with advice, art work and decorating.

To the members of the Trail Pipe Band, the Highland Dancers from the Scottie School of Highland Dancers from Castlegar and the Kootenay Summits Choir for their wonderful entertainment.

Last but by no means least, to the people who came out to support the event. We hope you enjoyed your evening.

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

### BV LIONS BINGO



February 6, 13, 20, 27  
6:00pm  
Fruitvale Memorial Hall

### MONTROSE CARD CLUB



February 4 & 18  
6:15pm  
Montrose Hall

### SENIORS' DINNER



February 12  
Cocktails: 4:30pm  
Dinner: 5:30pm  
Dancing: 7:00pm  
Fruitvale Memorial Hall

### J.L. CROWE VALENTINE'S DINNER/DANCE



February 9  
Cominco Gym  
Cocktails: 6:00pm  
Dinner: 6:45pm  
Dancing: 9:00pm  
Tickets: \$40 @  
Pharmasave in Trail



## VILLAGE OF FRUITVALE COUNCIL

### PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE



**Mayor Steve Morissette and Council members invite you to the Village of Fruitvale Public Open House for the presentation of the 2019 Budget.**

**WHEN: Tuesday, March 5, 2018**  
**TIME: 5:00 – 7:00 pm**  
**WHERE: Fruitvale Memorial Hall**  
**1968 Main Street, Fruitvale, BC**

Come listen to the presentation of the proposed 2019 Budget. This is your opportunity to ask questions and make comments on Village of Fruitvale operations, see where your tax dollars are being spent and learn more about Village of Fruitvale programs and services. For more information, please contact Kelli Tuttle, Manager of Finance and Corporate Services, 250-367-7551 or [ktuttle@village.fruitvale.bc.ca](mailto:ktuttle@village.fruitvale.bc.ca)

1947 Beaver Street, Fruitvale, BC V0G 1L0 | Ph: 250-367-7551 | Fax: 250-367-9267 | [www.village.fruitvale.bc.ca](http://www.village.fruitvale.bc.ca)

### J. LLOYD CROWE GRAD 2019 VALENTINE'S DINNER AND DANCE

The annual JL Crowe Grad Valentine's Dinner, Dance and Fun Night will be held on **Saturday, February 9** at the Cominco Gym in Trail. Tickets are \$40 each and available at the Trail Pharmasave. Get your ticket early as they are not sold at the door.

The evening starts with cocktails/Appies at 6:00pm, dinner at 6:45pm and dance at 9:00pm. There will also be horse races, 50/50 draws, silent auction, Cupid card and lots of fun!

Bring your friends and a pocket full of loonies and support the JL Crowe Class of 2019 with their biggest fundraiser of the year.

### BEAVER VALLEY MAY DAYS

The Beaver Valley May Days Society will be holding its Annual General Meeting on **Thursday, February 21 at 7:00pm** at the Fruitvale Christian Fellowship hall, 1878 Columbia Gardens Road, Fruitvale. If you would like to take part in helping to plan and provide this fun event, please join us. Volunteers are always welcome! For more information, please call Randi at 231-2129.

### BEAVER VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Did you know that from the 1860s to the late 1940s, over 100,000 British children were taken from their families and sent to Canada? Could you be one of the of their 4.1 million descendants.

If you missed the showing of "Forgotten" at the BV Library, you can view it at The movie was funded by the New Horizon for Seniors (Government of Canada) and sponsored by the Kootenay Columbia Educational Heritage Society.

### BEAVER VALLEY BLOOMING SOCIETY

The Beaver Valley Blooming Society will be holding their Annual General Meeting on **Tuesday, March 12 at 6:30pm** in the BV Curling Club downstairs meeting room. New and returning members are encouraged to attend.

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

### BEAVER VALLEY COFFEE HOUSE



**February 10**  
Doors open 6:30pm  
Music 7:00pm  
Montrose Hall

### VALENTINE'S DAY



**February 14**

### BV MAY DAYS AGM



**February 15**  
7:00 pm  
Fruitvale Memorial Hall

### BV BLOOMING SOCIETY AGM



**March 12**  
6:30pm  
BV Curling Rink Meeting  
Room

### BEAVER VALLEY YOUTH CLUB

The Beaver Valley Youth Club, open to all Beaver Valley youth ages 12-18, has the following events scheduled for February:

**Friday, February 15 – Laser Bowling** @ BV Lanes. 7:00-9:00pm. **Registration is a must as space is limited.**

**Friday, February 22 – Salmo Ski Night** @ Salmo Ski Hill. More details to follow.

**Sunday, February 24 – Leadership #2** @ Fruitvale Memorial Hall, 6:00-7:00pm

For more information on the above events and to register, contact Tammy Gallamore, BV Youth Coordinator at [beavervalleyyouthclub@gmail.com](mailto:beavervalleyyouthclub@gmail.com) and check out Facebook at Beaver Valley Youth Club for all the program details and updates.

### BEAVER VALLEY RECREATION PROGRAMS

**Stay Safe Home Alone** – Friday, Feb. 8, 3:30–8:30pm, \$40, Ages 9+, Montrose Hall

**Babysitting Course** – Saturday, Feb. 9, 9:00am-5:00pm, \$65, Ages 11+, Montrose Hall

**Zumba** – Mondays at Fruitvale Hall and Thursdays at Montrose Hall, 6:45-7:45pm, \$50 5x pass, \$92 10x pass, \$172 20x pass, \$11 drop-in, omit Feb. 11, 18, 28

**Zumba Kids Jr. & Zumba Kids** - Mondays, 3:00-3:30pm (ages 4-6) and 3:45-4:30pm (ages 7-11), \$30 for Kids Jr. and \$36 for Kids, Fruitvale Hall, current session running until Mar. 11 (omit Feb. 18 & Mar. 4)

**Power Yoga** – Mondays, 6:00-7:00pm, \$75 for 6x punch card or \$14 drop-in, Montrose Hall, omit Feb. 18

**Restorative Massage Yoga** – Mondays, 7:15-8:15pm, \$75 for 6x punch card or \$14 drop-in, Montrose Hall, omit Feb. 18

**Cardio Mix** - Thursdays, 9:30-10:30am, Montrose Hall, running until Mar. 28

**Box Kick Strength** - Sundays, 9:30-10:30am, Tae Kwon Do Gym, current session running until Feb. 10

**Sit & Tone Fitness Class** - Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30am, Montrose Hall, running until Mar. 26

**Personal Training** – April Arnot is offering 1 on 1, pairs and small groups of 3-4 people at the TaeKwon Do Gym. Seniors 65+ receive 5% off. If you have any questions, please contact April at (250) 231-5919

**Seniors Line Dance** – Fri., 10:00-11:00am, \$1 drop, Fruitvale Hall, running until Mar. 29

**No School Skate** at the BV Arena is on Friday, Feb. 8 from 1:00-2:30pm.

**Hot Shots Hockey** – Tues., 4:30-5:00pm, \$25, Ages 3-6, BV Arena, running until Feb. 26

**Kids Time with Sticks and Pucks at the BV Arena** is on **Feb. 3, 17, Mar. 3** from 6:30-7:30pm and **Feb. 8** from 10:00-11:15am. Bring your child aged 8 and under to the rink to get some practice with their own sticks. Nets and pucks are provided. Helmet is required. \$2 drop-in.

**Drop-in hockey (ages 9-14) at the BV Arena** is on **Jan. 27, Feb. 10, 24, Mar. 10** from 6:30-7:30pm and **Feb. 8** from 11:30-12:45pm. Nets and pucks are provided. Full hockey gear is required. \$2 drop-in.

**Glow Skate:** The main lights will be shut off and colored laser lights will be glowing on Friday, **February 22** from 6:00-7:45pm.

To register for any of the above BV Recreation programs, please call 250-367-9319.

### BEAVER VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY PROGRAMS

#### Preschool Story Time

January 15 – February 26

Tuesdays 10:00-11:00am

Ages: 3-5



#### Tech Drop-in

February 6 & 20

Wednesday 6:00-7:00pm

#### After School Program

January 16 – February 27

Wednesdays 2:30-3:30pm

Ages: 5-12

For more information on the above BV Library programs, please call 250-367-7114.

UPCOMING  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
MEETINGS

VILLAGE OF  
FRUITVALE COUNCIL  
MEETINGS



COUNCIL MEETING  
Monday, February 11  
@ 6:00 pm

COMMITTEE OF THE  
WHOLE MEETING  
Monday, February 25  
@ 4:00 pm

Above meetings are  
held in Council  
Chambers  
and open to the public

MAYOR MORISSETTE &  
COUNCILOR  
FITZPATRICK  
COFFEE CHAT



Tuesday, February 19  
@ 10:00 am  
Council Chambers

## Village of Fruitvale News

### MESSAGE FROM MAYOR MORISSETTE

It has been a very busy start to the year with Village Strategic Planning exercises, and multiple budget meetings. We have dedicated this first year of our mandate as a planning year to set us up for success over the next four years. We have been struggling through the budget, there are so many needs and so little money to address the needs. Like nearly every small community in Canada most of our infrastructure was built in the 50's, over the ensuing decades it was easy to keep taxation minimal with little concern about the viability of the pipes in the ground and the roads above.

We are now at the point that we must address this old infrastructure in order to maintain seamless service for our residents. We will absolutely chase every infrastructure grant we can, but most grants require 20-30% Village money. At this point in time, we have no reserves so we must raise user fees and parcel taxes for storm sewer and sanitary sewer in order to build some reserves to access grant funding. This is painful but it is fiscally responsible to put us on the road to sustainable services now and into the future. For more details, read our CAO's narrative following in the newsletter.

Council attended a joint Beaver Valley meeting at the end of January with RDKB Area A, Village of Montrose, and Village of Fruitvale. All council members attended along with CAO's and BV Rec Manager.

This was a positive informal meeting where we talked about BV Recreation, sharing this newsletter with Montrose to make it a Beaver Valley Newsletter, further potential sharing of equipment, and a trail network between/through our communities. We hope to build on this with further meetings to build on the already strong ties within our Valley.

Councillor Fitzpatrick and I will be holding an informal coffee chat on Tuesday, February 19 at 10:00 am in Council Chambers. This is open to our Village constituents.

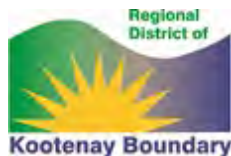
### UTILITY BILLING

Fruitvale residents in 2019 will again witness another incremental increase in their sanitary sewer bill and also will see another new fee and parcel tax, storm water. Although the Village recognizes that residents almost universally do not want their taxes or fees to rise, the 2016 – 2017 engineering studies that have been conducted for the Village clearly show that the ageing infrastructure is starving for funds. This is a result of decades of under-funding, leading to a situation today in which the some \$14 million in infrastructure is well past its due date, considered to be in fair to poor condition, with another \$22 million forecasted for replacement in the next 20 years. The Village takes the servicing of its settlement area very seriously and is not in a position to defer investing in it any longer. Residents, however, are also owed an explanation:

- The Stormwater fee and parcel tax are two separate charges to be introduced in 2019, one to cover the cost of PW crews who work on the system and another to build reserves for the replacement pipes. The stormwater system was well analyzed in a 2010 CTQ report titled, "**Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan**" (2010), and lists 60 projects, 15 of which are priorities. Two have since been completed. The surprise collapse of a section of Mountain Street in 2017 provides an example of the risks; a non-planned \$250,000 repair followed. The estimated (2016) cost of repairing the portions of the stormwater system that have been categorized as "fair-to-poor" runs to \$3.5 million. As the Village's settlement pattern stands within a large drainage basin, there is strong reason to keep the stormwater well maintained.
- Fruitvale's Sanitary Treatment Plant (STP) is financed by an annual Sewer fee and a Parcel tax, the former for the operations and the latter for capital upgrades of the pipes and lagoon based treatment facility. The STP system continues to witness upgrades, most of which have seen generous grant funding. However, there is not enough grant money or time to get ahead of a ~\$3.2 million estimated cost for replacing some 2,221 meters of ageing 1950's era pipe, in 34 separate sections across the Village, listed as **Priority 1**, along with a forecasted 20-year upgrade cost of \$7.5 million. The necessary increases to the fee (10%) and parcel tax (\$50) are based on the losses that this utility incurs each year. The annual cost of simply running the treatment plant (aka Operations and Maintenance/O&M) approaches \$400,000 yet the current fee bills just \$295,000, leaving a large shortfall. The parcel tax is supposed to build capital reserves but has been used to offset the O&M shortfall. This practice is not tenable. Staff have

## UPCOMING LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

### REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY MEETINGS



### EAST END SERVICES COMMITTEE

Friday, February 8  
@ 3:00 - 5:00pm  
RDKB Trail Boardroom

### BV RECREATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 12  
@ 4:30 - 5:30pm  
Montrose Village Office

### ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 14  
@ 4:30 - 8:00 pm  
RDKB Grand Forks Boardroom

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, February 21  
@ 6:00 pm  
RDKB Trail Boardroom

worked with the current and previous Councils to set a path forward. There's no point in hiding the facts from residents as sanitary sewer is much more expensive to treat than drinking water from a creek or well, yet the BVWS water bill runs to about \$730, while the total charge for sanitary sewer now stands at \$530. Both the STP's O&M fee and Parcel tax are scheduled for incremental increases over the next five years in order that the full costs of both running and upgrading the utility can be recovered. Residents who wish to read the engineering studies that analyzed the conditions, risk ranking, and replacement costs should look to the Village's website for the three **Asset Management** reports from Urban Systems.

Staff will constantly look for grants to offset upgrading costs, but the engineering reports also make it very clear that the Village needs to annually increase its user fees and parcel taxes until the utilities pay for themselves. Asset Management is an ongoing effort across Canada and Fruitvale is facing much the same challenges of other Canadian municipalities.

#### 2019 SNOWBUSTER

**Are you a Snowbuster?** You are if you grab your shovel and/or snow blower and lend a hand to your neighbours!

From the first snowfall there are residents in the Village that find it a challenge keeping their driveways and sidewalks free of snow and ice, particularly our seniors and/or disabled residents. Perform a 'Random Act of Kindness' and help out your neighbour – be a **Snowbuster** this winter!



**Are you the recipient of a Snowbuster's 'Random Act of Kindness'?** If so, now is your chance to show your appreciation. Submit the name of your Snowbuster to [info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca](mailto:info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca) along with a brief explanation of why you would like to nominate your Snowbuster. At the end of the season all nominations will be placed in a draw for a gift certificate from a local business.

#### 2019 DOG TAGS (licenses)

**All dogs in the Village of Fruitvale and in the RDKB are required to be licensed.** A current year tag on your dog will ensure that it is returned to you if it is found at large. It's a small price to pay for the safe return of your family pet. Tags for dogs inside the Village are available at the Village Office and tags for dogs in the RDKB are available at the RDKB office in Trail.

It is also a contravention of the bylaw to allow your dogs to run free. Dogs at large run the risk of being picked up by the SPCA and fines being levied to the dog owner. **Please, for the safety of everyone, ensure your dog(s) are secure in your house or yard.**

Dog owners are also reminded to pick up their dog feces and to not let their dog bark continually while out in the yard. We have received numerous complaints of dog feces being left along sidewalks, roads and in alleyways and of dogs continually barking at all hours of the day and night. **Please be considerate of your neighbours – pick up after your dog, dispose of the feces accordingly and don't let your dog disturb the peace of the neighbourhood by allowing it to bark continually while it's outside.**

#### STREET LIGHTS

Residents are asked to report any street lights that you notice are either completely out or are intermittently on and off. When calling the Village Office to report the light, please have the number listed on the pole (yellow with black numbers), the street address of the house closest to the pole and the problem with the light.

#### STREET SIGNS AND HOUSE NUMBERS

Residents are asked to report any faded street signs to the Village Office. We are hoping to replace some of the extremely faded street signs this year.

Residents are also reminded to have their street address visible from the street. Having visible street numbers could mean the difference between life and death in the event of an emergency.

#### CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

As you may or may not know, the Village of Fruitvale does not accept credit cards as a form of payment for property taxes, utilities and other Village fees. Council recently received a request from a tax payer to reconsider the acceptance of credit cards as a form of payment. Here are some FAQ the Village Office has received:

Q - Can I use Mastercard, Visa or American Express Credit Cards to make payments to the Village of Fruitvale?

A - No, at this time credit cards are not accepted.

Q - Why doesn't the Village of Fruitvale accept credit cards?

A - Each time a credit card is used the credit card companies charge a fee to the merchant that accepts the credit card. The fee can range from 1% - 3% or more.

**BC FAMILY DAY -  
FEBRUARY 18**

This holiday celebrates the importance of families and family life to people and their communities. Family Day is observed in Alberta, Ontario, Saskatchewan and BC on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in February.

**The Village of Fruitvale Office and Public Works and the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Office will be closed Monday, February 18 for BC's Family Day Statutory Holiday.**

For Village of Fruitvale public works emergencies, please call 250-367-6162 for our emergency line.

**Calculating this fee on a payment to the Village:**

Payment amount \$50.00 @ 3% = \$1.50 service fee

Payment amount \$3,000.00 @ 3% = \$90.00 service fee

*The charges can add up quickly when hundreds of payments are being accepted by credit cards. The costs to the Village become a burden on all tax payers as the municipal property tax rate increases on all properties to cover the merchant costs for accepting credit card payments made by a small percentage of citizens.*

*The Village also collects taxes for other levels of government - schools, police, regional district. Without the ability to transfer the merchant costs back to these organizations, Village property taxpayers will be solely responsible to pay the costs of collections for other organizations.*

**Q -** My credit card earns reward points, paying my tax bill using my credit card would earn me a lot of points. Would the Village of Fruitvale consider allowing me to use my credit card to earn points?

**A -** *While some credit cards earn rewards for their users, there is a cost to the Village each time a credit card is used. These costs are paid from property tax dollars which means property taxation rates will increase for all property owners whether they pay by credit card and earn points or not. This creates an unequitable advantage for some taxpayers while creating a disadvantage for others who pay the costs even though they do not use credit cards. Follow the link below to review how credit card fees are costly for municipalities:*

<https://www.creditcardscanada.ca/blog/credit-card-fees-costly-municipalities/>

**Q -** Why doesn't the Village of Fruitvale charge a user fee for anyone paying by credit card?

**A -** *According to credit card merchant rules, a user fee or "convenience fee" is not allowed to be charged to credit card users unless an optional payment method is being used such as telephone or on-line payments. The convenience fee is charged for the convenience of the payer to use the optional method of payment and not for the use of the credit card. Follow the link below for more information on "convenience fees" from the Government of Canada:*

<https://www.canada.ca/en/financial-consumer-agency/services/merchants/credit-fees-merchant.html>

**Q -** I need more time to pay my property taxes; using my credit card will give me an extra month to pay. Would the Village of Fruitvale consider allowing me to use my credit card so I can have more time to make my payments?

**A -** *No; however, the Village of Fruitvale offers many payment options to residents and taxpayers to help make paying taxes, utilities and other fees and charges easier.*

- 1. Monthly Pre-Authorized Prepayment Plan – sign up on the Village's preauthorized prepayment plan. It is a convenient, hassle-free way to make tax and utility payments in monthly installments over a 12-month period starting in July. Equal payments are automatically withdrawn from your bank account on the 4<sup>th</sup> of every month with no interest or penalties. The Village of Fruitvale gives 12 extra months of time and there are no extra charges to the payer or the Village.*
  - 2. Mortgage Payments – talk to your bank. With most financial institutions, property taxes can be added to the homeowner's mortgage and paid in regular installments as part of your mortgage payments.*
  - 3. Pay in Person – the Village accepts cash, cheques, money orders and debit card payments at the Village Office, Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm, excluding Statutory Holidays.*
  - 4. Drop-off Box – the Village Office has a drop-off box located at the front entrance where payments by cheque can be dropped 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It is secure and convenient.*
  - 5. Mail Payments – make payments by cheque or money order through Canada Post or by courier.*
  - 6. On-line Bank Payments – make payments for property taxes and utilities through on-line banking. Most banking institutions accept Village of Fruitvale tax and utility payments; look for the Village of Fruitvale in the drop-down menu in your on-line banking.*
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# VILLAGE OF FRUITVALE PREAUTHORIZED PAYMENT PLAN



## For Property Taxes and Utilities

### **Did you know...**

**The Village of Fruitvale offers a monthly PREAUTHORIZED PAYMENT PLAN for property taxes and/or utilities.**

- ◆ Taxes and utilities are split into 12 equal payments and withdrawn from your bank account on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of every month.
- ◆ This is a prepayment plan for the following year's taxes and utilities. It is not a payment plan for current year's taxes and utilities. To be accepted onto the Preauthorized Payment Plan, the current year taxes and utilities must be paid prior to starting the prepayment plan.
- ◆ The Preauthorized Payment Plan can be started at any time during the year, however, the best time to start the plan for utilities is March 4<sup>th</sup> and for property taxes is July 4<sup>th</sup>. By starting the plans on these dates, you will have 12 equal payments applied to your account. Applications must be received at the Village Office two weeks prior to the 4<sup>th</sup> of the month in which you want to start the plan.
- ◆ Application forms are available at the Village Office or at <http://www.village.fruitvale.bc.ca/content/property-taxes> under payment options.
- ◆ For more information on the Village's Preauthorized Payment Plan, contact the Village Office, 250-367-7551.

# Update from Area 'A'

## ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTOR ALI GRIEVE

**Interactive Town Halls** are taking place across the region in the coming weeks. You are warmly invited to attend the Area 'A' Town Hall Meeting to find out the latest about the proposed 2019 Budget and 2019–2023 Five-Year Financial Plan. It is happening on **Monday, March 4, 2019 starting at 6:00 PM at the Fruitvale Memorial Hall**. If you can't make it to the Town Hall Meeting in person, you can go to our new online engagement website, [jointheconversation.rdkb.com](http://jointheconversation.rdkb.com) to complete a quick poll and provide comments, feedback or view our town hall presentations.

The Town Hall will also include a presentation about *FireSmart*, a national initiative to help property owners and communities understand the ways in which wildfire might threaten structures and property located in, and close to, forested and wildland areas, and the steps individuals and communities can take to reduce the susceptibility of buildings and property to fire.

### Webster Road Trail

The 1st phase of the new Webster Rd. trail, located in Fruitvale, was completed in the fall of 2018. This non-motorized trail was engineered and constructed by the Kootenay Columbia Trails Society. It is 1.7 kilometers of high quality single track tread. There is parking

for 6 vehicles. The trail is located on public land. The total cost for the first phase of the project was \$30,000. This trail was designed for hiking, mountain biking and snowshoeing.

### Survey on Recreation 2019

In 2014 the Beaver Valley Recreation Committee sent out a direct mail survey to all residents in Area A, Fruitvale and Montrose. Of the 1913 surveys that we mailed only 273 were returned for a return rate of 14%. Your feedback enabled us to focus on projects and programs that were important to you such as making improvements

to the arena, skatepark, trails and upgrading our parks in general. This year we are asking for your feed back once again. By completing the survey will help us plan and create projects and programs that important to you and your family. Look for the survey in your mailbox sometime in summer, 2019.

### Welcome BV Rec Committee

The Beaver Valley Recreation Committee would like welcome Ali Grieve- Area A Director, Mayor Mike Walsh of the Village of Montrose and Mayor Steve Morissette of the Village of Fruitvale for their appointments to the Beaver Valley Recreation Committee. As well, we would like to thank Joe Danchuck and Patricia Cecchini for all their hard work and effort for supporting recreation in the Beaver Valley.



Regional District of  
Kootenay Boundary

Covered in snow now, the single track non-motorized Webster Trail is a valuable recreational asset to Area 'A'. Thanks to the Kootenay Columbia Trails Society!