

Fruitvale & Area A News

Keeping the Community Informed



February 2021

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

Web

www.village.fruitvale.bc.ca

Facebook

[Village of Fruitvale](https://www.facebook.com/VillageofFruitvale)



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)

Web

www.rdkb.com

Area 'A' Director Ali Grieve

aligrieve@telus.net

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

This month marks the anniversary of one of our last big public events in the Valley, the Valentine's Day Seniors' Dinner. At that time, it was impossible for any of us to foresee the challenges we would face together. Through these challenges, and despite them, we can be proud of what staff & council have been able to accomplish working with several partner groups using only Zoom meetings and conference calls.

We embarked on building a draft masterplan with 70 residents attending a meeting early Saturday morning on January 18, 2020 to give input and direction to our consultants on things to consider in the masterplan for the former BV Middle School site. We felt it was important to consider the adjacent parks/greenspace when developing the Masterplan, so staff organized a meeting with park user groups to gather input on what would improve the park for multiple and different uses. From that meeting staff built a draft masterplan for the park. We presented the masterplans for the former school site and the park at a safe outdoor meeting in September of 2020. Council has since adopted the plans. We have now completed and submitted applications for funding the childcare centre and the 28-unit affordable housing complex within phase one of the housing masterplan.

Council also made the decision to make an offer for the piece of property located along the creek between the Creekside RV Park to the liquor store. The Village had no means to afford this property but found a way through Columbia Basin Trust grant opportunities and the RDKB.

We have applied for grant funding to do a masterplan for the Fruitvale Memorial Centre and this newly acquired property as we see this land becoming an outdoor extension of the Fruitvale Memorial Centre. It will become a beautiful outdoor space alongside the creek with a gazebo-type structure that can be used for outdoor weddings, performing arts, music, celebrations of any type. The goal is to beautify our downtown, attract more uses to the Fruitvale Memorial Centre, and attract people to spend time downtown to support our existing businesses and make new businesses more viable to build on our tax base.

Staff & Council was also able to apply and receive a Columbia Basin Trust grant for a new community garden on Village land. We have been without the very successful community garden downtown for a couple of garden seasons due to changing ownership of the former space that had generously been donated for our use. The new garden will be located on the green space across the street from the Village office. It will include a "harvest hut" that has been built this winter from wood generously donated by ATCO Wood Products who are always great community supporters. The 'Harvest Hut' will be used by gardeners to prepare and harvest the gardens as well as a place for residents to bring and share excess produce and vegetables from home gardens. There are plans being developed for canning and pickling classes to support gardening and food security as well.

At Council's request, staff also put together an application for rural grant funding of \$100,000 to support an economic development/re-branding exercise for Fruitvale. We were successful in receiving the grant and have put together a committee comprised of business owner representation, our local Economic Development Officer from the LCIC and the Community Futures CEO, to work on this project. We have now developed a Request for Proposals to hire a consultant for this project.

Stay tuned for more new and exciting projects that are in the works with our partners that will be announced in the near future.

Be kind, be calm, and be safe.

Mayor Steve Morissette



It is with our deepest sympathies that we recognize the passing of former Village of Fruitvale Councillor James Ellison. James served on Council from 2014 to 2018.

Our sincere condolences are sent to his wife Catherine and his family. Please visit Alternatives Funeral and Cremation's website to read James' obituary and to leave a personal message of condolence for the family at <https://www.myalternatives.ca/trail/obituaries/2021-ellison-james-henry>. Rest in peace James.

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR FUNDRAISING WALK

Have you heard of the 'Coldest Night of the Year' fundraising event? It is a COVID-safe, family-friendly walk to raise money for charities serving people experiencing homelessness, hurt, and hunger. Participants can walk virtually or in-person on Feb. 20, 2021 – there's a place for everyone! For more information, visit <https://cnoy.org/location/trail>.

We know 2020 has challenged all of us. It has hit harder on those who are marginalized in our region, those with substance abuse, job loss, mental and physical health issues. This is why we have formed a Fruitvale team in the 2021 Coldest Night of the Year event to raise money in support of our local area homeless. Team 'Fruitloops' can be found at <https://cnoy.org/search?q=fruitloops>. You can support the team and its members by making a donation in an amount you are comfortable with, or feel free to join our team! Each team member has set a personal fundraising goal, and the team as a whole has a fundraising goal.

Join us in front of the Village Office at **11:00am on Saturday, February 20** for a 2km COVID-safe walk. There will also be a COVID-safe 2km and 5km walk in Trail on the same day that you can register for. If walking outside is not for you, you can do the 2km or 5km walk at home on your treadmill on Saturday, February 20.

Let's have some fun with this and support the struggling in our area!



VILLAGE OFFICE CLOSURE

The Village Office remains closed to the public however staff is in the office during regular office hours.

If you have any business to conduct at the Village Office please call the office at 250-367-7551 or email info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca. We will respond to your enquiry within 24 hours.

Please refer to the Village of Fruitvale website, www.village.fruitvale.bc.ca and Facebook page for up-to-date details as they develop.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this office closure may cause and thank you for your understanding; working together, we can make a difference.

GARBAGE BAGS:

Residents needing extra garbage bags, please call the Village Office to make arrangements for payment and pick-up of more bags.

2021 DOG TAGS (licenses)



The 2021 dog tags (licenses) are available for purchase. Call the office to purchase and make arrangements for picking up the tag.

All dogs in the Village are required to be licensed. Cost for a license is \$25.00 for a spayed or neutered dog and \$75.00 for an unaltered dog. A current year tag on your dog will ensure that it is returned to you if it is found out of your yard. It's a small price to pay for the safe return of your family pet.

Please remember that it is a contravention of the Dog Tax and Regulation Bylaw No. 728 to allow your dogs to run free. Dogs running at large or not on a leash are in contravention of the bylaw and run the risk of being picked up by the SPCA and fines will be levied to the dog owner.

Please, for the safety, peace and comfort of your neighbours, ensure your dog(s) are secure in your house or yard and do not let them bark continually at all hours day and night.

UPCOMING VILLAGE OF FRUITVALE COUNCIL MEETINGS

Regular Council Meeting
February 8, 2021 4:00 pm

Committee of the Whole
February 22, 2021 4:00 pm

Meetings are held via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3353726693> Meeting ID: 335 372 6693

2021 WATER, SEWER AND GARBAGE USER FEES

The Village of Fruitvale is hoping to have the 2021 water, sewer and garbage bills sent out by the end of February. A 5% discount will be offered until March 31 on utilities and extra packages of garbage bags.

The package of garbage bags included with the utility billing can be picked-up after the bills have been sent out. Utility Fees do not need to be paid before picking up the garbage bags. If you run out of garbage bags before the utility bills are mailed, you will have to purchase more.

Payment of utilities can be made by cheque mailed to the Village or placed in the drop box at the Village Office or by E-transfer or online banking. E-transfers should be sent to finance@village.fruitvale.bc.ca and please reference your roll number, property address and what you are paying.

STREETLIGHTS

Residents are asked to report any non-working streetlights to the Village Office by phone, 250-367-7551 or email to info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca.

When reporting the non-working light to the Village Office 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, whether it is completely out or is intermittently flashing on and off. We will then report the light to Fortis BC for repair.

Did you know?

Managing snow on our roads is one of those services that the Village could spend all day, every day performing throughout the winter months. Unfortunately, this would mean we would have to hire a crew of four more snow plow operators, purchase two more snowplows, increase our costs for sand and salt and increase our costs for removing the sand and salt from our streets in the spring along with remediating the environmental effects caused by snow piling and soil leaching. The costs to residential taxes would increase dramatically to a point where no one would be able to afford to pay their taxes and own a home in Fruitvale. So the Village has to balance snow clearing against the costs and increases in taxes, as well as safety on high traffic roadways and steep roadways.

Priority planning creates a responsible government.

COVID-19 HAS NOT DISAPPEARED!

Please continue to practise safe distancing, wash and sanitize hands, wear a face covering, stay home when you're sick or feeling unwell, and stay within your bubble.

BE KIND, BE CALM, BE SAFE

VILLAGE OF FRUITVALE GARBAGE & RECYCLING DATES

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

LEGEND

- South Side Garbage
- North Side Garbage
- South Side Recycling
- North Side Recycling

Please keep household garbage and recycling in a secure location until the morning of garbage day and recycling day.

FAMILY DAY OFFICE CLOSURE

The Village of Fruitvale Office and Public Works Department and the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Office will be closed on Monday, February 15 for the Family Day statutory holiday.

For emergency matters needing immediate attention please call the public works department at 250-367-6162. The answering service will page the employee on call.

Area A - February Update

Director Ali Grieve, Electoral Area A

The Regional District of Kootenay Boundary is a very large area that includes multiple member municipalities and unincorporated rural areas (electoral areas).

The RDKB provides a wide-range of services. Each service is established by a separate bylaw, which sets out the purpose of the service (for example, water, sewer, parks, and recreation), its boundaries, and the maximum amount that may be requisitioned for that service. This bylaw also includes who will be part of that service.

Regional districts must budget for each of these services separately. Each service bylaw will also demonstrate the apportionment of the tax burden to each participant based on a formula set out in the establishment bylaw for that particular service. Apportionment of taxation is usually based upon property assessments throughout the service area.

What Services Does Area A Pay For? Who Decides?

If you live in Area A your property taxes are paid directly to the BC Government to cover costs for schools, police, hospitals, BC Assessment, road maintenance, and regional district services. In Area A, through the RDKB portion of your taxes, you pay only for a service that you use. Of the total number of services managed by the RDKB Directors and Staff, Area A participates in 23 of 74 services:

9-1-1 Emergency Communications

Animal Control

Beaver Valley Arena

Beaver Valley Parks & Trails

Beaver Valley Recreation

Beaver Valley Water Supply Utility

Building Inspection

Cemeteries - East End

Columbia Gardens Water Supply Utility

Culture Arts & Recreation in the

Lower Columbia

Economic Development - East End

Electoral Area Administration

Electoral Grant-in-Aid

Emergency Preparedness

Feasibility Studies

General Gov. & Admin. Services

Greater Trail Transit System

House Numbering

Kootenay Boundary Regional Fire & Rescue

Noxious Weed Control A- Columbia Gardens

Planning & Development

Police Based Victims' Assistance

Regionalized Waste Management Services

Like our neighboring Municipalities, the number and types of services within the RDKB are driven by necessity, through discussion by the RDKB Directors at the Board Meetings, and by interaction and conversation with residents. Area A holds a Town Hall meeting at the start of each year to review proposed budgets and to check in with the community: what services you would like to see more or less of?

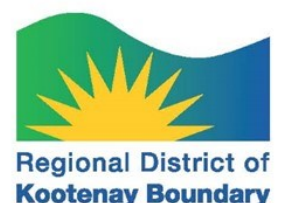
All RDKB meetings are in [the meeting calendar at rdkb.com](https://www.rdkb.com/meeting-calendar) and are open to the public. Mail-out and on-line surveys are used to collect your thoughts on community services and activities. The RDKB's website also includes an on-line engagement platform called jointheconversation.rdkb.com. There are many ways for residents to be seen and heard.

Our community is very diverse with many perspectives, thoughts, opinions and views. We would sure like to hear yours! Please join us!

Area A's Virtual Town Hall Meeting will be held on February 8 at 6 pm.

Go to jointheconversation@rdkb.com or rdkb.com to register.

There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about. – Margaret J. Wheatley



Join the conversation.

Ali Grieve, Area 'A' Director for the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary, invites you to a virtual town hall meeting Monday, February 8 at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom.

Find out about the proposed 2021 Budget and 2021-2025 Five-Year Financial Plan. Ask questions and comment about programs and services, how we operate and what your tax dollars fund.

Register:



jointheconversation.rdkb.com

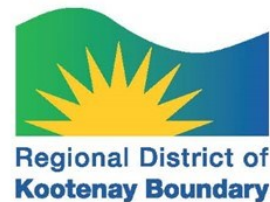
More Information:



mforster@rdkb.com



250.368.0235



UPCOMING REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY MEETINGS

Utilities Committee

Wednesday, February 10
11:00 am
Zoom Video Conference

Board of Directors

Wednesday, February 10
1:00 pm
Zoom Video Conference

Electoral Area Services

Thursday, February 11
10:00 am
Zoom Video Conference

BV Recreation Committee

Tuesday, February 16
9:00 am
Zoom Video Conference

East End Services Committee

Tuesday, February 16
10:30 am
Zoom Video Conference

Board of Directors

Thursday, February 25
1:00 pm
Zoom Video Conference

KUDOS AND THANKS

Grateful for Two Good Guys!

Our Valley is blessed with many great volunteers. Did you know that a couple guys who live near the All Weather Sports Courts in Fruitvale are the ones responsible for creating and maintaining the ice rink there? Rick and Lawrence have been doing this great volunteer community work for six or seven years now. Sometimes they are up at 4:00am to flood the ice so that it is ready for all to enjoy! Wow, that is dedication!

While out for my daily walk, I saw Rick and Lawrence doing repairs on the rink. Apparently, some of the older kids went on before the ice had set and skated in the slush and water. They broke through the soft ice, leaving big holes and damaging the liner. I am guessing that youthful enthusiasm and lack of awareness were at play. While it certainly led to frustration for our two volunteers, they went back at it, keeping the rink both safe and functional.

A big shout out and many high fives to Rick and Lawrence! We hope they have the patience to continue this volunteer work on our behalf. We respect the hours and hours you spend on this well used outdoor rink, especially now. We are very grateful for what you do!

Steve and Ali

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NEWS

BEAVER VALLEY RECREATION

Regional District of Kootenay Boundary will keep the public updated on when we are able to restart the BV Recreation programs and possibly public skating (dependant on when facilities/halls re-open). The main doors to the Arena will remain closed to the public. Organizations and individuals who have ice booked, will be permitted in the arena during those pre-booked times. Please email Kelly Walker at kwalker@rdkb.com to book ice rentals or if you have any questions.

BEAVER VALLEY YOUTH ACTION NETWORK

The Beaver Valley Youth Action Network has the 'Ski Red' program up and running and is having a 'Ski Salmo' program this month. Night skiing will be held on Thursday, February 11 and day skiing on Sunday, February 14 at the Salmo Ski Hill. Ski waivers **must** be completed and sent to Tammy before tickets will be given out. If you are interested in this program and want more information, please email Tammy Gallamore, BVYAN Coordinator at beavervalleyyan@gmail.com and follow BVYAN on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/BVYouthCouncil>.

BEAVER VALLEY MAY DAYS AGM

The Beaver Valley May Days Society is holding its AGM on Thursday, February 18 at 7:00pm via Zoom video conference. Although BV May Days will likely not happen this year, planning for future events is happening and directors are needed. If you can spare some time to be part of future events, please attend. The Zoom meeting can be found here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86759200856?pwd=dFFmbFN5SGduSjlkWnBNRHFKNkY0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 867 5920 0856 Passcode: BVMAYDAYS

BEAVER VALLEY AND PEND D'OREILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AGM

The Beaver Valley and Pend d'Oreille Historical Society is holding its AGM on Saturday, February 20 at 1:00pm in front of the Fruitvale Memorial Centre. If you plan to attend please bring a chair, wear your mask, dress warm as we are meeting outside, and respect social distancing. The meeting will be as short as possible. **This is a very important meeting on the future of the Society. The Historical Society needs a vice-president AND a president in order to continue and to avoid seeing another community group collapse.** If you are interested in your community's story and our shared history please attend the meeting and/or call Craig at 250-367-7227 for information.

TRAIL FAIR SOCIETY

For more than forty years, Trail FAIR Society has been proudly serving and helping the Greater Trail Community. While they continue to offer a multitude of services, it has come to their attention that some people are struggling to obtain the BC Recovery Benefit. If you have been told that you need to scan and upload photocopies of documents and do not have the capacity to do so, the Trail FAIR organization is happy to help. They can assist in the scanning, uploading and sending of the necessary documentation.

Due to Covid-19, the FAIR office is currently closed to drop in clients; however, following all the guidelines and protocols set out by the Ministry of Health, staff is happily making in-person appointments. Please call the Poverty Law Advocate, Naomi, at 250-364-2326 ext 235 to make an appointment.

BEAVER VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Curbside pick-up is still available to those who may be immune compromised or uncomfortable entering the building for other reasons; please contact the Library @ 250-367-7114 to request this service.

PROGRAMS: As inside activities are not allowed, programmers have packaged up take home craft bags for children and seniors. If you would like to receive a craft bags for any of the below programs please call the Library at 250-367-7114.

Mother Moose Craft Bags

Ages: 0-3 years old

Once a month free craft bags

Kids' Craft Bags

Ages 5-12

Twice a month craft bags

Seniors' Craft Bags

Weekly free craft bags

PARKING AT FRUITVALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



The issue of parents and caregivers stopping in front of the Fruitvale Elementary School to drop off and pick-up their children has once again become a problem.

Parents are reminded that children **should be** dropped off and picked up at the bottom of the stairs on Beaver Street, just past the lower field or across the footbridge along Laurier Avenue.

Parents and caregivers **should not** be parking along Columbia Gardens Road or on private property to drop off or pick up children. Also, there is a **sidewalk** on Columbia Gardens Road that **should not** be parked on and there are yellow 'no parking' lines that need to be observed.

Parents, caregivers and residents of Beaver Street East are also reminded of the sidewalk along Beaver Street from the intersection of Columbia Gardens Road to Laurier Avenue. Please **do not park** vehicles on the sidewalk as it puts pedestrians in danger when they have to walk around the vehicles and onto the road.

The Bylaw Officer will be patrolling this area talking to parents and caregivers and handing out tickets to repeat offenders who continue to contravene the no parking areas.

Please, for everyone's safety, drop-off and pick-up your children in the designated areas.



BEAVER VALLEY AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

FEBRUARY 2021

FEBRUARY 16 – SENIORS' BOXED LUNCH

Pre-registration is a must - deadline to register is February 10, 2021. Please note that you must be 55+ to participate and it is one lunch per senior.

To pre-register, please email the Village Office at info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca or telephone 250-367-7551 with your name, phone number, and whether you are from Area A, Fruitvale or Montrose. In order to speed up the lunch pickup process, a number will be assigned to each person registering for a lunch. This number will be for the door prize as well as your lunch pickup number. Bagged lunches can be picked-up at the Fruitvale Memorial Centre front entrance on **Tuesday, February 16 at 12:30 pm. The lunch is free, however donations are accepted. All donations from the lunches will be used for programming.**

CONNECTING GENERATIONS WITH LETTER LINKS PROGRAM

The Village of Fruitvale and the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Area A would like to invite all Beaver Valley seniors to join our new program '*Connecting Generations with Letter Links*'.

The Fruitvale Elementary School, Village of Fruitvale and Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Area 'A' Director Ali Grieve have come together to create this great communication avenue to connect our generations through letter writing.

To register, please contact the Village of Fruitvale Office by phone 250-367-7551 or email to info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca with your name and mailing address.

All seniors that register will be paired up with a Fruitvale Elementary School student. The FES students will write you a note introducing themselves, their grade and mailing address. The students' note will be mailed to your address. Once you have received it feel free to write back to your student at your leisure. We ask that you write them back every time they write you.

As this program is being rolled out with grant funding, if you require stamps, stamped envelopes or writing paper please contact the Village Office. They will ensure you receive what you need to make the '*Connecting Generations*' program a success.

UPCOMING AGE FRIENDLY CONTEST

Stay tuned to your mailbox and the BV Age Friendly Facebook page for information on an upcoming BV Age Friendly contest, '**Pay it Forward**'. Contest details will be available early next month.

SELF-CARE STRATEGIES TO BUILD RESILIENCE DURING COVID

While not a substitute for professional care, there are plenty of simple activities anyone can do to reduce stress, encourage wellness, and restore a sense of well-being in difficult times.

Body Care and Change of Scenery: Keeping with Provincial Guidelines: Go for a walk and get out into nature; do yoga; take a bath; do some deep breathing; play your favorite music; make a special area in your home just for you to relax; prepare some favorite meals.

Mind and Soul care: Start a gratitude journal; start a home project; draw or paint; express your feelings; write a poem, call family, friends or trusted others; ask for help if you need it; love yourself; read a book.

BEAVER VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Curbside pick-up is still available to those who maybe immune compromised or uncomfortable entering the building for other reasons; please contact the Library @ 250-367-7114 to request this service.

Library Hours: Mondays - 4:00—8:00pm; Tuesdays - Noon—5:00pm; Wednesdays - Noon—5:00pm; Thursdays - Noon—5:00 pm

Learn about something new in the world of books



Let's strive to finish this COVID race even healthier than when we started!

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTING PARTNERS





Valentine Colouring Fun

“

We don't stop playing
because we grow old...
we grow old because
we stop playing.

- George Bernard Shaw

”

BE MINE
LOVE
FEBRUARY
CHAMPAGNE
BOYFRIEND
ROMANCE
RED ROSES
BOUQUET
VALENTINE
GIRLFRIEND
CUPID
SWEETHEARTS
ADMIRER
CHERUB
DATE
CHOCOLATES

Valentine

E	B	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E	S	V	Q
Y	D	N	E	I	R	F	L	R	I	G	T	A	H
G	I	C	H	A	M	P	A	G	N	E	R	L	D
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S	E	I	E	O	P	D	D	E	R	E	C	D	H
B	E	N	T	B	A	E	A	Q	C	I	A	C	G
E	W	E	T	E	U	Q	U	O	B	T	E	R	A
E	S	B	C	A	Y	R	A	U	R	B	E	F	H

Play this and many more puzzles
online at
<https://thewordsearch.com>