



Fruitvale & Area A News

Keeping the Community Informed

March 2021

COMMUNITY NEWS

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



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](mailto: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



REN ENERGY
INTERNATIONAL



VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSIONS

REN Energy International Corp. is a BC owned and operated renewable energy technology development company. They are proposing to bid their first industry-leading renewable natural gas (RNG) plant at Park Siding, just outside of Fruitvale, BC using an innovative combination of proven technologies for a carbon neutral, zero emissions form of super clean RNG. Simply put, it will convert wood waste biomass to RNG with one of the lowest measures of Carbon Intensity.

REN Energy is holding two **Virtual Information Sessions** to update the community of its progress with the proposed new wood waste to Renewable Natural Gas plant and to answer any questions about the project. Topics include: Who is REN Energy; RNG in your community; Economic Benefits; Environmental Benefits; Local Partnerships.

The Virtual Information Sessions will be held on **March 16 at 4:00 pm or 7:00 pm**. All interested residents are invited to attend one of the two virtual sessions. Registration opens March 1. Please submit your questions when you register online @ <https://rencorp.ca/info-session/>

Volunteers...

don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because **they're priceless.**

Sherry Anderson

There is no better time than now to volunteer in your community! Volunteers are:

- likely to create positive change where they live
- wealthy (in spirit, mind and body)
- connected to others in their community
- happier than if they didn't volunteer

Examples of local organizations that rely on volunteers: • Lions Club • Churches
• Thrift Shop • May Days • The Beaver Valley and The Pend d'Oreille Historical Society

If you're interested in volunteering for any organization or initiative in our community, contact any of the above organizations directly or reach out to the Village of Fruitvale office at 250.367.7551 or info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca



Beaver Valley
Recreation

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

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



Area A - March Update

Director Ali Grieve, Electoral Area A

We have access to mountains of information all of the time. We live in the information age, and it consumes us. We also spend lots of money on communications every month.

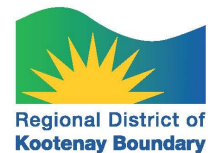
What do you pay for your monthly communications bill? It might surprise you. We recently did this review at our home. I bet many of you have more forms of communication that we do. I estimate that with our various points of connecting with the world, we are spending about \$588 every month. WOW. I think this is a list we need to review here at my home! We are definitely choosing to be informed. Are you?

There are many reasons that a person should choose to be informed, but that decision lies with each of you. There are (normally) many activities that take place within your own community and beyond. There is lots to see and do here in our beautiful part of the world. What, when, where, why and how? Do some searching and find out. What is going on today? Be informed.

Being informed is an intentional act. As you sift through information you then must learn to find what is accurate, and then what is relevant to your circumstances. This helps you make decisions. Is your local government acting wisely on your behalf? Are they managing taxation in a fair and transparent manner? How do you know?

A lot of energy goes into the Fruitvale and Area A Newsletter. We are in the process of a refresh for this publication. Stay tuned. It costs Fruitvale and Area A taxpayers \$10,000 annually to produce this letter for you. It contains much about what is happening right here in our own back yards. Please take some time for a peek into this local newsletter. We hope you enjoy it. Feedback is always welcome.

Please, choose to be informed by trustworthy sources. After all, you are a citizen of this world and there is much that impacts you every day.



202 – 843 Rossland Ave, Trail, BC V1R 4S8 | T: 250.368.9148 | T/F: 1.800.355.7352 | rdkb.com



Village of Fruitvale - March Update

Mayor Steve Morissette

March marks one year since we've been following various measures to reduce the impact of COVID 19, I'd like to thank everyone for doing their best to help keep others safe.

In our rural area we've been fortunate that we haven't seen any huge outbreaks, although we are all weary of the safety measures we must not let down our guard.

I along with other Mayor's are currently part of weekly meetings with IHA around vaccine rollout, information will be forthcoming as plans come together. I also join in and share Fruitvale's viewpoint on a monthly Mayor's teleconference with the Provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs Josie Osborne that touches on many municipal issues in BC as well as COVID 19. Please make sure you continue to follow public health guidelines, if you can, get outside get some fresh air and sunshine when it comes, check on your neighbours' wellness, and reach out if you need some support.

Be kind, be calm, and be safe.

UPCOMING LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY MEETINGS



Utilities Committee
Wednesday, March 10
11:00 am

Board of Directors
Wednesday, March 10
1:00 pm

Electoral Area Services
Thursday, March 11
10:30 pm
RDKB Trail Boardroom

BV Recreation Committee
Tuesday, March 16
8:30 am

East End Services Committee
Tuesday, March 16
10:30 am

Board of Directors
Wednesday, March 31
1:00 pm

All meetings are held via
Zoom Video Conference

2021 WATER, SEWER AND GARBAGE USER FEES

The 2021 water, sewer and garbage utility bills were sent out March 1. A 5% discount is offered until March 31 on utilities and extra packages of garbage bags. If you have not received your utility bill by March 15, please contact the Village Office.

As the Village Office continues to be closed to the public, payment options are as follows:

- Cheques, bank drafts and/or money orders mailed to or placed in the drop box at the Village Office;
- Online banking through your financial institution (Royal Bank and TD Bank excluded);
- E-transfers sent to:

finance@village.fruitvale.bc.ca Please reference your roll number, property address and what you are paying. A password is not required for the e-transfer as the Village is set up as an automatic deposit; or

- Credit card payments made through the PayTm app on your mobile device. If using the app, your utilities account number can be found on the left side of the utility bill, just above the due date. Use the 13 numbers, no spaces.



VILLAGE OF FRUITVALE GARBAGE & RECYCLING DATES

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.

The Village of Fruitvale has a monthly preauthorized prepayment plan for utilities and property taxes. This is a prepayment plan for next year's utilities and property taxes. Current charges must be paid before the prepayment plan can begin. For more information and details on the preauthorized prepayment plan, please contact the Village Office.

The package of garbage bags included with the utility billing can be picked-up beginning March 1. The Utility Fees do not need to be paid before picking up this package of bags. Call the Village Office, 250-367-7551, to make arrangements for pick up.

2021 BUDGET PRESENTATION

Unfortunately due to COVID-19 gathering restrictions, the Village of Fruitvale was unable to publicly present the 2021 Budget at a in-person open house. The 2021 Operating and Capital Budgets were presented at the February 8, 2021 Council meeting held by Zoom video conference. These presentations can be found on the Village of Fruitvale website at <https://fruitvale.icompasscms.com/content/reports-and-publications> for those wishing to view them.

BURNING

The Village Office has received complaints about the smell and the smoke coming from illegal open burning fires and wood stove/fireplace fires.

Residents are reminded that there is **NO OPEN BURNING** allowed in the Village of Fruitvale and **burning any materials other than seasoned firewood** (i.e.: plastic and plastic bags, household garbage, recyclable material, etc.) **IS NOT allowed.**

The only permissible outdoor fires are **small** back-yard campfires (0.5 m X 0.5m in size) and **ONLY seasoned firewood** is to be burned. Flames are to be kept low.



All paper, cardboard and other recyclable products must be recycled appropriately.

VILLAGE OF FRUITVALE COUNCIL MEETINGS



Regular Council Meeting
March 8 @ 4:00 pm

Committee of the Whole
March 22 @ 4:00 pm

Meetings are held via
Zoom at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3353726693>

Meeting ID: 335 372 6693

STREET LIGHTS

If you notice any street lights not working properly, please make note of the number on the pole and/or location of the pole and what the defect is, then call or email the Village Office to report it. Staff will report it to FortisBC. Please note: FortisBC does not accept reports of non-working street lights from the public.

HOUSE NUMBERS

It's imperative for 9-1-1 emergencies that home owners have their house number visible from the road. This will enable emergency personnel (fire, ambulance, police) to find you in case of an emergency.

BEAVER VALLEY YOUTH ACTION NETWORK

The BVYAN Ski Red program continues. For more information on the Ski Red program or on the BVYAN, please contact the coordinator, Tammy Gallamore, at beavervalleyyan@gmail.com and continue to follow BVYAN on Facebook at Beaver Valley Youth Club.

BEAVER VALLEY RECREATION UPDATE

Regional District of Kootenay Boundary will keep the public updated on when we are able to start up BV Recreation programs (dependant on when facilities/halls re-open). Unfortunately, we were not able to offer public skating this season but hopefully that will not be the case when next season starts in October. The main doors to the Arena will remain closed to the public for now.

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.

EARTH HOUR 2021

LIGHTS OUT FOR EARTH HOUR



The Village of Fruitvale is supporting and encouraging residents to turn off their lights and participate in **Lights Out Across Canada** on Saturday, March 27 from 8:30 to 9:30 pm.

Switching off your lights is just one simple action that you can take to help make a difference and it sends a powerful message that we care about our planet. For more information on Earth Hour, visit <https://www.earthhour.org/>

Be sure to check out Fortis BC's website for 5 family-friendly things to do in the dark during Earth Hour amongst COVID-19 at <https://www.fortisbc.com/news-events/stories-and-news-from-fortisbc/five-family-friendly-things-to-do-in-the-dark-during-earth-hour>

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 is 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.

*****Area A residents must obtain dog licenses/tags from the RDKB office. Please call 250-368-9148 for more information.**



NEWSLETTER CHANGES

Two new sections are being added to the Fruitvale & Area 'A' Newsletter. These sections will include submitted photos of residents performing activities to keep healthy and fit during COVID and for acknowledgement of special events in the area.

Residents are invited to submit photos of activities you are taking part in, in our area, to keep healthy and active during COVID. Photos need to be emailed no later than two weeks prior to the end of the month to info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca and must include your name, phone number, the type of activity and where it takes place.

To acknowledge a special event, the pertinent information must be placed in the drop box at the Village Office or sent to info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca **no later than two weeks prior to the beginning of the month in which the special event takes place.**

Publication of photos and special events will be on a first come, first served basis dependent on space in the newsletter.

The Village of Fruitvale is not responsible for errors or omissions and reserves the right to refuse any publication requests.



BEAVER VALLEY AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

MARCH 2021

MARCH 16 – SENIORS' BOXED LUNCH



A huge THANK YOU to MLA Katrine Conroy for the goodie bags that she so graciously donated to our 122 Beaver Valley Age Friendly seniors! It was a very nice surprise for them when they picked up their February lunch!

Our next Age Friendly lunch is on Tuesday March 16. **Pre-registration is a must - deadline to register is March 10. Please note that you must be 55+ to participate and it is one lunch per senior.**

To pre-register, please call or email the Village of Fruitvale Office at 250-367-7551 or info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca 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 must be picked-up at the front entrance to the Fruitvale Memorial Centre **between the hours of 12:30 - 1:00 pm on Tuesday, March 16. The lunch is free, however donations are happily accepted. All lunch donations will be used for future programing.**

CONNECTING GENERATIONS WITH LETTER LINKS PROGRAM

Our "Connecting Generations With Letter Links" program is very successful. To be part of the program, please register with the Village of Fruitvale Office by phone 250-367-7551 or email info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca with your name and mailing address. This program is available to all Beaver Valley seniors.

All registered seniors will be paired up with a Fruitvale Elementary School student. The FES student will write you a note introducing themselves, their grade and mailing address. The students' note will be mailed to your address. When you receive the note, 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.

PAY IT FORWARD CONTEST

This contest is open to Beaver Valley residents who are 16 to 19 years of age and our Beaver Valley Seniors aged 55+! Full details are below and on the Village of Fruitvale's website and the Beaver Valley Age Friendly Facebook page.

The Village of Fruitvale, RDKB Area A, and Beaver Valley Dynamic Aging have come together to assist our youths and seniors. The intent of this program is two fold:

1. To assist those students who need volunteer hours to graduate from Grade 12, and
2. To assist our seniors in preparing their outdoors for Spring.

Youth and senior participants must register with the Village of Fruitvale Office by phone or email, 250-367-7551 or info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca **before 4:30pm on March 12, 2021.** Please leave your name and contact information when registering.

Strict COVID rules will apply and all volunteer work will be OUTSIDE ONLY. All contest participants are required to sign a waiver.

CONTEST RULES:

The youth with the most volunteer hours by the end date of the contest will win a prize worth \$200.00, will have enough volunteers hours to graduate and all youth participants will have the satisfaction of seeing how valuable it is to volunteer.

Please feel free to contact Councillor Vickie Fitzpatrick at 250-512-9379 if you have any questions.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTING PARTNERS



Free Income Tax Service

for GREATER TRAIL AREA RESIDENTS

This **free** service is available to low-income individuals who satisfy certain limits and restrictions. No appointments; interviews are on a first-come basis. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the posted closing time. Due to COVID-19 the returns will be done by a modified drop off process.

Annual income maximum guidelines are as follows:

Single person	\$35,000
Two persons in family	\$45,000
More than two persons	\$2,500 for each additional person

Persons with investment/interest income in excess of \$1,000, capital gains/losses, partnership income, rental income, business or professional income, farming or fishing income, bankruptcy, or anyone with complex deductions may be deemed **ineligible** for this service. Also, we are unable to prepare final returns for deceased persons. Other limitations may apply.

COVID-19 protocols are in place so wear your mask and maintain social distancing. Returns will not be completed on site as was an option in prior years.

March 2nd to April 30th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at three locations listed as follows:

Tuesday at **Trail United Church**, 1300 Pine Ave, Trail. Last interview April 20th. Last date for pickup April 27th.

Wednesday at the **Royal Canadian Legion**, 2141 Columbia Ave, in East Trail, (next to Columbia Glass.). Enter via ramp at south end. Last interview April 21th. Last date for pickup April 28th.

Thursday at **Waneta Mall**, where Reitman's used to be. Last interview April 22nd. Last date for pickup April 29th.

Be sure to bring all essential documents and receipts to the interview. We require a piece of government photo ID. If possible, bring your copy of the previous year's return and/or the CRA Notice of Assessment for the previous year. You will be asked to complete a questionnaire that we will use to complete your taxes.

If you are eligible to receive the GST credit or other credits, you **must** file a tax return, by April 30 to ensure timely receipt of quarterly payments which commence at the beginning of July.

Enquiries at Trail FAIR Society 250-364-2326 or cvitp.trail@gmail.com

Please note you must pick up your copy of completed return the following week. Any return not picked up within two weeks of application and filing will be shredded.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX PREPARATION

Seasons

L	I	H	S	E	A	S	O	N	A	L	A	T	A
L	G	O	R	E	M	M	U	S	P	L	O	S	S
L	N	T	I	F	E	F	R	E	T	N	I	W	P
S	I	C	A	U	E	F	A	L	L	F	K	M	R
U	M	H	L	K	U	S	N	O	W	M	A	N	I
N	M	O	S	C	H	L	E	E	N	N	L	F	N
S	I	C	S	R	S	E	V	A	E	L	I	N	G
H	W	O	N	U	E	M	V	U	U	P	E	A	S
I	S	L	E	S	E	W	F	S	E	E	K	S	R
N	A	A	I	O	L	H	O	L	R	N	I	V	U
E	L	T	A	L	O	A	E	L	E	K	A	R	F
E	A	E	O	E	F	M	L	S	F	S	L	E	A
N	S	E	L	C	I	C	I	L	L	S	G	S	N
E	A	S	P	O	L	F	P	I	L	F	E	N	F

FLIP FLOPS
 RAKE
 HOT CHOCOLATE
 SUNSHINE
 FLOWERS
 FALL
 WINTER
 LEAVES
 SUMMER
 ICICLES
 RAIN
 SPRING
 SWIMMING
 SEASONAL
 SNOWMAN

*"We don't stop playing because we grow old;
 we grow old because we stop playing."*
 - George Bernard Shaw

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

MUSIC
 RAINBOW
 DUBLIN
 CATHEDRAL
 PARADE
 SHAMROCK
 FESTIVAL
 GREEN
 MARCH
 WHISKEY
 LUCKY
 IRELAND
 SNAKES
 SAINT
 HARP
 GOLD
 CELTIC
 LEPRECHAUN

St. Patrick's Day

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

