



FRUITVALE & AREA A NEWS



March 2022

Village of Fruitvale Public Hearing

The Village of Fruitvale Council will be holding a public hearing on Tuesday, March 8 at 5:00 pm to hear concerns from the public on the proposed amendment bylaws to the Official Community Plan and the Zoning Bylaw.

The 'Village of Fruitvale Zoning Bylaw 846, 2013 Amendment Bylaw 937, 2022' is a bylaw to rezone the area shown in red on the map to the right from RU1- Single and Two Family to P3 - Utilities.

The 'Village of Fruitvale Official Community Plan Bylaw 835, 2011 Amendment Bylaw 938, 2022' is a bylaw to redesignate the area shown in red on the map to the right from FRVL - Residential (1 and 2 Family) to Institutional on the Future Land Use Map marked as Schedule 'F' in Bylaw 835, 2011.



All persons who believe that their interest is affected by the proposed bylaws and wish to submit comment for consideration by Council concerning the matters contained in the bylaw may do so by attending the Public Hearing, or providing comments in writing to Box 370, Fruitvale, BC V0G 1L0 or by email to info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca. Written submissions will be accepted up to 3:00pm Tuesday, March 8, 2022.

Bylaws can be viewed on the [Village of Fruitvale website](https://www.village.fruitvale.bc.ca) under News or on the bulletin board at the Village Office, 1947 Beaver Street, Fruitvale.

Village of Fruitvale 2022 Budget Presentation

The Village of Fruitvale Council will be presenting the 2022 Budget to the public on Monday March 14 at 5:00pm at the Fruitvale Memorial Centre. Face masks and hand sanitizing will be required for those attending in person. The presentation will also be held electronically via Zoom video conference, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3353726693> Meeting ID: 335 372 6693.

Attention all Beaver Valley Seniors - Changes to the BV Age Friendly Program

- A message from Mark Daines, Manager of Facilities and Recreation, RDKB

Beaver Valley Recreation is in the process of transitioning over the Age Friendly Program from the Village of Fruitvale to the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary. This transition will take us a little time to hire a new Age Friendly Coordinator and get the program off to a fresh start. While we are in transition, the March luncheon is cancelled.

We are excited to be able to assist you with your recreation needs and we will keep you up-to-date on our progress through the newsletter and through our Beaver Valley Recreation Facebook page.





Regional District of
Kootenay Boundary

Electoral Area 'A' Director Ali Grieve

Census Results Just Out – Area A Down 14%: What's up with these numbers?

Here are the new population tables from the most recent census conducted in the Lower Columbia region for 2021. Data shows that Fruitvale had a 2% growth rate; a consistent trend over the past years. Area A shows a **14% decline in population**. After some detective work on my part, and a detailed email exchange with Stats Canada contracted staff, I learned that the numbers are **wrong!**

Geographic Name	2021 Population	2016 Population	% Change, 2016 to 2021
Kootenay Boundary A	1624	1891	-14.1
Kootenay Boundary B	1422	1442	-1.4
Fruitvale	1958	1920	2
Montrose	1013	996	1.7
Rossland	4140	3729	11
Trail	7920	7709	2.7
Warfield	1753	1680	4.3

What is it used for and how often is it done?

The national census is conducted by Statistics Canada every five years. The census provides demographic and statistical data that is used to fund public services including health care, education, and transportation; to determine federal transfer payments; and to calculate the number of Members of Parliament for each province and territory. The data helps to build the right programs for Canadian families and provides some of the most crucial information for government planning. For example, census data was used to calculate the purchase of COVID-19 vaccines for our country.

Common reasons for not completing the forms & how we know 2021 is wrong?

There are many reasons for not wanting to complete the forms; some people don't care, or don't understand how it will benefit them or their community; some worry about confidentiality and privacy; the reasons vary. However, for the most part, it seems like many people in Area A were not given the opportunity to be counted. According to one of the census workers, a number of the coded packages slated for hand delivery were mixed up and the workers got the wrong packages for specific neighbourhoods. Although the mistake was caught during house to house deliveries, attempts to fix the errors went unheeded at the regional level. Since uncovering this fairly significant mistake, I have reached out to the Regional District and to the Kootenay South MLA Richard Cannings to seek assistance and guidance for an appeal and a correction on the inaccurate data.

Why are these numbers important?

There is a **significant amount of money** that gets transferred from the federal government to the provincial and territorial governments for health and social programs. The amounts of those transfers are done on a per capita basis, counting every person in the provinces and the territories, so the overall tally - including YOU - goes toward calculating federal transfer payments. If you have not been counted via the census, we lose the funding intended for you, your family and for our community! **I will make every effort to correct this shortfall, including a request for a review of the process, so that future errors will be prevented.**

THANK YOU.

*Wishing you and your family a wonderful spring break.
May the sun shine on all of us!*



Mayor Steve Morissette

I hope March finds everyone happy and healthy; the longer days certainly brighten our lives.

Fruitvale Council is currently in the decision-making process on re-zoning a piece of property across from the cemetery and adjacent to Mazzochi Park that would allow a proposed Fortis substation to be built there in 2024-25. Fortis has indicated in their long-term plan that the existing substation near the 5-way intersection is too small to address future expansion as load grows with electric vehicles and additional residents. Fortis has explored other potential sites and has focused on this site as the best option. Fruitvale owns about 25% of the land that is proposed for re-zoning and a private owner the rest. Council recently agreed to sell Fruitvale's piece to Fortis pending a proposed zoning and official community plan amendment that would change the zoning and the land use to be consistent with the zoning and land use of the Cemetery across the street.

Council has supported moving forward with this substation proposal thus far because the piece of land Fruitvale owns is too small to support future Cemetery expansion, the number of residents impacted is less than the current substation, the appearance will be much improved over the current substation with a decorative fence/wall around it, and the technology is much safer with shielded transformers to limit EMF radiation. Financially, the ongoing benefits beyond the sale of the property is the payment of 1% of power sales in Fruitvale plus taxation on the property which add up to approximately \$22,000 annually (which will grow as electricity sales increase) with no servicing costs for the lot which equates to an approximate 4% tax increase at no cost to residents. We do recognize that finances are not the only concern, however taxation levels have been the main concern we have heard over the years.

I encourage any interested Fruitvale residents to attend our open house on the proposed rezoning on March 8 from 5:00 - 7:00pm. No decision will be made at this meeting - the meeting is our residents' opportunity to respectfully comment and share thoughts with Council regarding the proposed rezoning of the property. The meeting will be structured to allow everyone to speak for up to three minutes, after everyone has the opportunity to speak once, if anyone has something new to add they will be allowed a further two minutes to speak. It is incumbent on Council and the public to attend this Hearing with an open mind, listen to all comments, and process the feedback, then at a later meeting with all the information gathered over the past few months Council will decide on the best path forward for the Community.

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY UPCOMING MEETINGS

All meetings are held via Zoom Video Conference

Board of Directors

Wednesday, March 9 @ 1:00pm

Wednesday, March 30 @ 1:00pm

Utilities Committee

Wednesday, March 9 @ 11:00am

Electoral Area Services Committee

Thursday, March 17 @ 10:00am

BV Regional Parks & Trails Committee

Tuesday, March 15 2022 @ 9:00am

East End Services Committee

Tuesday, March 15, 2022 @ 10:30am

VILLAGE OF FRUITVALE UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are held in the Fruitvale Memorial Center
and via Zoom Video Conference at

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

Meeting ID: 335 372 6693

Regular Council

March 7 @ 4:00pm

Committee of the Whole

March 21 @ 4:00pm

Public Hearing for Proposed OCP & Zoning Amendments

March 8 @ 5:00pm

Budget Presentation Open House

March 14 5:00-7:00pm

***DID YOU KNOW...* When is a Building Permit Required?**

Building Permit is required:

- construct a new home
- construct a new accessory building such as a carport, garage or storage shed
- construct a farm building
- construct a commercial, industrial or public use building
- renovate existing buildings
- undertake any structural work such as interior partitions
- enclose a porch or roof over a sundeck
- move a building
- locate a mobile home
- roofing and re-roofing a structure
- reconstruct after damage (i.e. fire)
- exterior finish, such as stucco or siding

Building Permit is not required:

- painting
- landscaping, sidewalks, driveways
- fencing (fence height must comply with Regional District/Municipal zoning bylaws where applicable)
- cupboards

Plumbing Permit is required:

- new houses, additions, renovations when drawings indicate fixtures
- a plumbing system is constructed, extended, altered, renewed, or a connection made to a sewer or sewage disposal system

Plumbing Permit is not required:

- a fixture, valve or faucet is repaired or replaced, a stoppage cleared or a leak repaired if no change in the piping is required

Building permits are issued from the Building Department at the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary.

Building Permit applications and the fee schedule for the Village of Fruitvale and RDKB Area A can be found at <https://rdkb.com/Plan-Build/Building/Applications>

To read the above bylaws visit our website at <https://fruitvale.icompasscms.com/content/municipal-services-bylaws-policies-development-forms-and-maps>.

Village of Fruitvale Garbage & Recycling

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

MARCH 2022

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	29	30	31		

LEGEND

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

Streetlights

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

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 flashing on and off. We will then report the light to Fortis BC for repair.

2022 Village of Fruitvale Water, Sewer and Garbage User Fees

The 2022 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.

Village Office payment options are as follows:

- Cheques, bank drafts and/or money orders hand delivered, 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.

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.

Harvest Central Community Garden - Garden Plots

The Village of Fruitvale is taking applications from Village and Area A residents for the garden plots at the Harvest Central Community Garden for the 2022 growing season. Priority is given to residents who do not have space for a garden.

Application forms can be picked up at the Village Office or found under 'News' on the Village of Fruitvale website, www.village.fruitvale.bc.ca and must be returned to the Village by April 1, 2022. Successful applicants will be contacted by mid-April.

Beaver Valley May Days AGM

The BV May Days AGM has been rescheduled for **April 6** at 7:00pm.

At this point the plan will be to have an in-person meeting at the Fruitvale Christian Fellowship Church; stay tuned for any COVID related changes. For more information, please email bvmaydays@gmail.com for more information on the open positions. If the committee cannot get more volunteers, BV May Days will be cancelled. Please attend.

Beaver Valley Youth Action Network

The 'Ski Red' program continues. If you are interested in the program or want more information on any BVYAN events and programs please contact Tammy, BVYAN Coordinator, at beavervalleyyan@gmail.com and don't forget to follow BVYAN on Facebook at Beaver Valley Youth Action Network to keep up-to-date on their events.

Senior Citizens Branch 44 Events

BV Senior Citizens Branch #44 have resumed seniors activities.

Bingo - Mondays at 1:00pm

Cards - Thursdays at 1:00pm

Regular Meeting - Wed. March 9 @ 1:00pm

All activities are in the Recreation Room at the BV Manor. Triple vaccination and wearing masks required.

Beaver Valley Blooming Society

Beaver Valley Blooming Society AGM will be held on March 22 at 6:30 pm at the BV Curling Club, 125 Pine Avenue Fruitvale. The AGM is open to the public. Double vaccination and masks are required for all attendees.

Many thanks to both the individuals and Beaver Valley businesses that gave donations. You helped keep our area in blooms!

Beaver Valley Recreation Programs

Body Weight, Bands & Balls – Fridays, noon-1pm, Fruitvale Hall

Gentle Yoga with Wendy Robertson – Tuesdays, 7-8:15pm, Fruitvale Hall

Gentle Yoga with Jodi Ihas – Thursdays, 7-8:15pm, Fruitvale Hall

A.C.T. (Aerobics Chair Tone) Fitness – Tue & Thurs, 9:45-10:45am, Fruitvale Hall

Seniors Line Dancing - Fridays, 10-11am, Fruitvale Hall

Tiny Tot Skating Lessons – Spring Break, Mar. 21-25, Mon/Fri 10:15-10:45am & Tue/Wed/Thurs 5-5:30pm, \$30 for 5 classes, Ages 3-5, BV Arena, Child must be able to stand on their own

Public skating – Proof of Vaccine Passport needs to be shown to skate shop worker upon arrival. \$2.50 child, \$3.50 adult, \$9.00 Family

Ages 3-8 drop-in hockey is on Mar. 12 from 3-4pm, Mar. 20 from 5-6pm, Mar. 22 & 24 from 11am-Noon, Mar. 26 from 5-6pm, Mar. 28 & 30 from 2:30-3:30pm and April 1 & 3 from 11am-noon. Nets and pucks are provided. Full gear is recommended. \$5 admission at skate shop.

Ages 9-15 drop-in hockey is on Mar. 5 from 8-9pm, Mar. 13 from 5-6pm, Mar. 21 & 23 & 25 from 11am-noon, Mar. 27 from 5-6pm, Mar. 29 & 31 from 11am-noon and April 2 from 11am-noon. Full hockey gear is required. Nets and pucks are provided. \$5 admission at skate shop.

Beaver Valley Recreation is on Facebook. Please like and follow our page to get up-to-date information on skating, programs and events. Information is also at www.rdkb.com

To register for any of the above programs, please email Kelly at kwalker@rdkb.com or call the Beaver Valley Recreation cell at 250-231-5172.

Beaver Valley Public Library Activities

Kids Craft Bags

April 12 - June 7, 2022

Pick up only

Call the library if you would like to register for the Kids Craft Bags, 250-367-7114.

Seniors Craft Bags

If you would like to receive a free Senior Craft Bag twice a month in the winter and once a month in the summer, please call the Beaver Valley Public Library, 250-367-7114.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Beaver Valley has a [mobile music stage](#) available to rent for Kootenay community events. [Selkirk Mountain Music Society's](#) team brings you a magical mobile stage to make performance venues more accessible for performance artists and audience members. If you or your group are looking to host an event, please contact Jack @ 604.614.0553 to make arrangements.



As COVID restrictions start to relax, let's give this stage the toe tapping and heel stomping it deserves! The non-profit society received funding from [Columbia Basin Trust](#), [Area A of the RDKB](#), and [Kootenay Savings Credit Union](#). Great Project!

"This is for the community and this is about them!"

Thank you Jack, Lindsay and team.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX PREPARATION - Free Income Tax Service for Greater Trail 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 1 to April 30 from 9:00am to 11:00am at three locations listed as follows:

Tuesday at Trail United Church, 1300 Pine Ave, Trail. Last interview April 19. Last date for pickup April 26.

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 20. Last date for pickup April 27.

Thursday at Waneta Plaza, where Ricki's used to be. Last interview April 21. Last date for pickup April 28.

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 May 2 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.

Students from Fruitvale Elementary had the opportunity to learn the sport of curling thanks to Ed Wilcox and members of the Beaver Valley Curling Club. The students had a lot of fun while learning this great local sport.





Beaver Valley Dynamic Aging Society's 'UP TO SNOW GOOD 2022' Day

Over 500 people attended the Beaver Valley Dynamic Aging's inaugural event 'Up to Snow Good 2022' at Mazzocchi Park on February 12. It was a beautiful day with the blue sky, the sun shone brightly and everyone enjoyed the food, played the games for all ages, played with trucks in the snow and had family fun as a community.

Thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy the day! See you next year.

