

RDKS Newsletter



Regional District of
Kitimat-Stikine

2023 Curbside Guide

Good News! The 2023 Curbside Guide has been sent in the mail to the residents that receive curbside services in the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine.

The RDKS Curbside Recycling collection is now through Recycle BC and most of you will have received your new recycling bin – or will be very soon. As required by Recycle BC, all recycling must now be bagless. If you have extra recycling, it must be placed in a rigid container with a lid that is not bigger than 121L and not more than 50lbs. We would like to thank the residents of the Regional District for handling this change so well.

For more information, please consult your 2023 curbside guide or contact the Regional District at 250-615-6100 or solidwasteservices@rdks.bc.ca.

Warm Holiday Wishes

Board and Staff from the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (RDKS) wishes all residents a happy holiday season.

The RDKS office will be closed to the public December 26-30 2022.



2023 Collection Schedule

Legend: Recycle (blue), Garbage (grey), Organics (green), No Collection (red)

JANUARY 2023						
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				

FEBRUARY 2023						
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				

February: Stat Monday pickup is Tuesday

No Collection on the Following Days: New Year's Day, Family Day, Good Friday, Victoria Day, Canada Day, BC Day, Labour Day, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Thanksgiving Day, Remembrance Day, Christmas Day, Boxing Day. Collection occurs the following business day.



MARCH 2023						
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	

APRIL 2023						
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						

April: Stat Friday pickup is Saturday

Telegraph Creek Gazebo

Thanks to a 2021 grant from Northern Development Initiative Trust the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine completed the construction of a new gazebo in Telegraph Creek. The gazebo is in a community park area that honors Chief Nannock. The gazebo is the latest addition to the park which features play equipment, a community garden and green space for residents and visitors to enjoy.



Register For the RDKS's Alerting System, Voyent Alert!

Voyent Alert! allows residents, businesses or visitors to receive messages through an app, text message, voice call or email for critical events such as floods or wildfires.

Registration for the service is FREE, simple and totally anonymous. Residents can choose how they would like to receive alerts—either through a mobile app, email, text message or phone call. If you already have the app, you can register online to receive the alert type that suits you.

If further assistance is needed to register, call 250-638-1466 or email rboehm@rdks.bc.ca.



Message from the Chair

I am once again honoured to serve as Board Chair for the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (RDKS). I look forwards to working and serving all residents of the RDKS, those in Dease Lake and Telegraph Creek at our northern boundary, residents in Klemtu at our southern boundary and all those between Witset and the Hazeltons in the east and Terrace and area in the west.

In 2022 the RDKS welcomed a new CAO, and the board continued the mandate set out in the 2019-2022 Strategic Plan. We were focused on advocating for the Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance and saw the signing of a new MOU at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) in September 2022. The Board continued to invest and prioritize engaging and communicating with our citizens. The RDKS Board sought partnerships with communities and First Nations within our region. This included creating an associate member position for First Nation communities nearing the end of treaty negotiation or self-governance. We are happy to announce that an invitation was made to Kitselas First Nation to join the RDKS Board as an Associate Member.

Coming out of the Covid-19 pandemic the RDKS has seen staff turnover and the Board continues to prioritize organizational capacity. Serving our residents comes in many shapes, the Board continues to search out affordable options for service provision in rural areas. We hope this will continue into the coming years.

Our final strategic priority was to advocate for our residents to other levels of government, this included writing letters to the Ministry of Transportation for improved road conditions, meeting with the Attorney General, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Minister of State for Child Care and the Minister of Municipal Affairs at UBCM to discuss a variety of topics to improve services for our residents. The Board also provided direction to write letters to our Member of Parliament and federal ministers.

I look forwards to working with all the elected board members, staff and residents of the RDKS in 2023.

- Phil Germuth, Chair 2022/2023



Back row: L-R Bruce Bidgood (Area C), Dave Brocklebank (Area D), Ted Ramsey (Area E), Sean Bujtas (Terrace), Tina Etzerza (Area F), Eric Nyce (Area A), Chair Phil Germuth (Kitimat)
 Front row: L-R Gail Lowry (New Hazelton), Julie Maitland (Hazelton), James Cordeiro (Terrace) Angela Brand Danuser (Stewart), Cyra Yunkws (Area B)

How to View and Participate in Board Meetings

The Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (RDKS) is committed to ensuring the public has access to information from Board Meetings and uses the CivicWeb portal on the RDKS website, click on the **Minutes and Agenda** icon.

All Regular Board Meetings are open to the public to attend in person or stream online using our livestream option. Click on the **Watch Live Webcast** icon on the main page of the RDKS website on meeting days.

Within the portal the public will be able to search for documents in our online library, view upcoming and past meetings using the calendar and review agendas and minutes within the meeting area.

The RDKS wants to ensure that we are being transparent and increase accessibility by enabling the public to easily access current meeting agendas, livestreams, and documents all in one place. You can watch livestreams from anywhere.

The RDKS is committed to providing information to the public as easily and conveniently as possible. If you have questions regarding Agenda's and Minutes please contact Renee Lukasser, Director of Administration at reneel@rdks.bc.ca.



Did You Know: Snow Clearing

While road maintenance operators do their best to limit the amount of snow left in front of driveways, some snow is inevitable. Clearing driveways, including the snow left by plows on the road or sidewalk, is the responsibility of the property owner.

Tip: Shovel an open area along the shoulder at the entrance of your driveway. Plows will then push the snow into the area just before your driveway, leaving a much smaller amount in front of it.

When clearing your driveway, place the snow in an area that will not restrict visibility. Do not place the snow back onto the public road as it is a hazard for road users (and illegal!). Also, do not place anything in the ditches, including snow or yard waste, since this increases the risk of flooding.

If you have safety concerns regarding snow clearing in your area, contact your local road maintenance contractor. Greater Terrace- Emil Anderson Maintenance, Hazelton/Hwy 37 North- Dawson Road Maintenance, Dease Lake/Telegraph- Lakes District Maintenance. You can also reach out to your local Ministry of Transportation Regional Office in Terrace, Smithers, Dease Lake.

2023 Budget and Five-Year Financial Plan

RDKS Staff Budget Preparation

RDKS Board Review

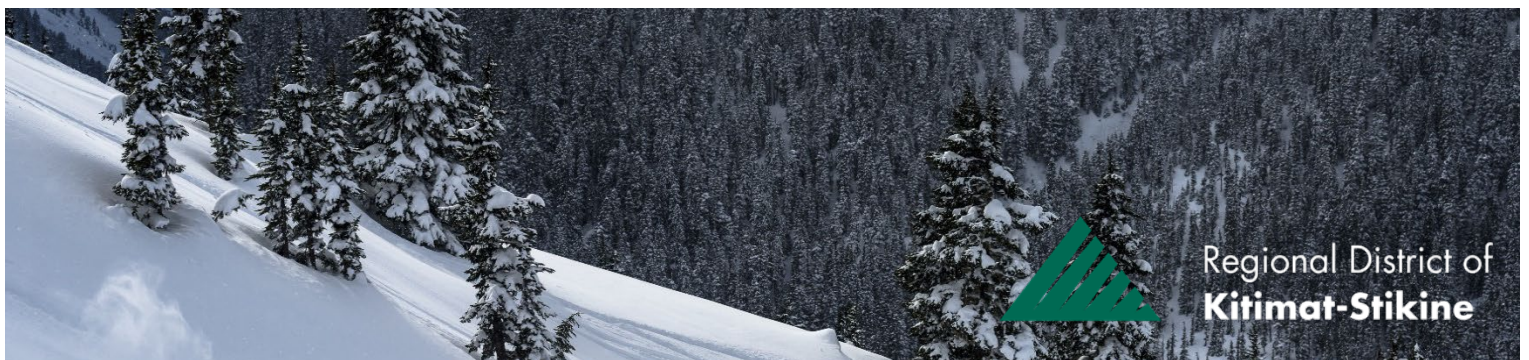
Public Engagement

Financial Plan Adoption

Important Dates

- **December 16, 2022**- Regular Meeting- Review 2022 Year-to Date and look ahead to 2023.
- **January 20, 2023**- Regular Meeting- First draft of 2023 budget including service area details, capital plan, and tax rates.
- **TBD**- Committee of the Whole- Review Opportunity
- **February 17, 2023**- Regular Meeting- Present complete 5-year financial plan to the board and public.
- **March 24, 2023**- Regular Meeting- Five-year Financial Plan Bylaw three readings and adoption.

Questions on the budget or process? Contact Marc Schibli, Chief Financial Officer mschibli@rdks.bc.ca.



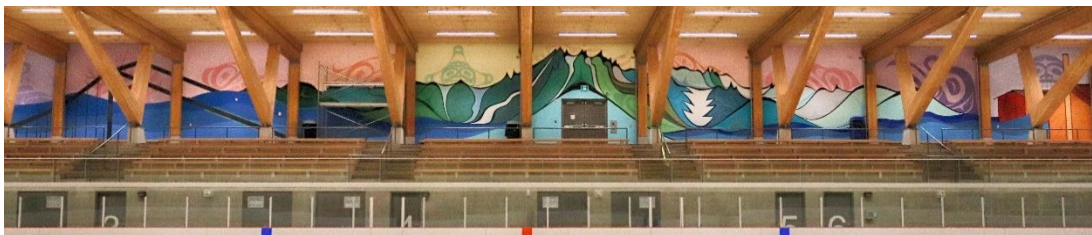


New Accessory Dwelling Unit Bylaw

The Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine Board adopted the Kitimat-Stikine Accessory Dwelling Unit Bylaw No. 767, 2022 in September 2022. Bylaw No. 767, 2022 allows secondary residences on ALR lands and on large rural lots. The RDKS defines large rural lots as those 4 hectares or greater in size. The Bylaw applies to lands within Electoral Areas, B, C, and E of the Regional District that are subject to RDKS zoning bylaws.

This update is consistent with provincial changes under the Agricultural Land Commission which allows two residences on ALR parcels of 40 hectares or less: one residence at 500 m² or less in total floor area, and a second residence at 90 m² or less in total floor area. If the ALR parcel is larger than 40 hectares, two residences will be permitted, including one at any size permitted by the Agricultural Land Commission Act at the time it was built, and a second residence at 186 m² or less in total floor area.

A full copy of the bylaw is available on the RDKS website. Questions regarding Kitimat-Stikine Accessory Dwelling Unit Bylaw No. 767, 2022 can be sent to Development Services planning@rdks.bc.ca.



Upper Skeena Recreation Centre

The Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine owns the Upper Skeena Recreation Centre (USRC) in Hazelton located on the Gitxsan Lax'Yip. The USRC is operated by Recreation Excellence. Recreation Excellence employs 19 local residents to run and manage the USRC.

The USRC offers a wide range of year-round programs and seasonal favourites. Over the winter the Upper Skeena can enjoy, minor hockey, women's and men's hockey, public skating, conditioning training, volleyball, basketball, taekwondo, dance classes, senior's armchair exercise and much more! Visit the USRC website or Facebook page for more information (<https://myreccentrehazelton.com/>).

If you want to get involved, there is an USRC Advisory Committee that meets quarterly to provide input, advice and feedback on use, programming and services provided by the USRC. The committee represents the community as a whole and makes recommendations to ensure comprehensive and efficient service. The committee may be called upon to undertake approved fundraising to meet operational needs. If you are interested in joining the committee please contact the RDKS at info@rdks.bc.ca.

Are You Building?

We require property owners obtain a Building Declaration and Siting Approvals Permit prior to construction of any addition, principal structure or ancillary structure over 10 m².

The purpose of this permit is to ensure all proposed new construction will meet the building requirements of the applicable zoning bylaw.

We do not provide building inspection services so the Permit does not confirm that the building you intend to construct (under the Permit) will meet BC Building or Fire Codes. This does not excuse the property owner from the responsibility of building according to these codes.

Visit our website for the permit and more information or contact planning@rdks.bc.ca.

Contact Us



info@rdks.bc.ca
www.rdks.bc.ca



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250-615-6100
Monday to Friday 8:30
am to 4:30 pm