

Trail Strategy Discussion Progressing in Regional District

For Immediate Release

July 13, 2017 - Trails are front of mind in Electoral Area A of the Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSRD). Building on community engagement activities from last spring that identified a desire and need for a regional trail strategy, the CSRD has selected a group of local consultants to lead the development of the master-planning document.

“Last spring we asked the community if a regional trail strategy or working group was something they wanted to pursue and the clear answer was yes. It was clear that a ‘made in Golden’ plan was a top priority so we were able to select a strong consulting group that happens to be based in Golden,” shared Director Karen Cathcart. “LARCH Landscape Architecture (Jason Jones) was the successful proponent and is supported by Magi Scallion and Fraser Blyth (Selkirk Planning & Design).”

During the public engagement sessions last spring, it was clear that “trails” have a very broad definition in Golden and surrounding area. Trails here are everything from a typical walking or biking trails to river pathways, active transportation routes or simply areas in which to enjoy the natural environment.

The regional trail strategy development will take place in a number of phases. The primary engagement phase will be an inventory of all existing trail assets and groups or individuals with trail interests in the area. This inventory will guide the second phase, which is a needs and gaps assessment. These engagement phases will be ongoing until the end of September.

“The project will be a series of maps and a technical report but we really want the project initiatives and outcomes to be shaped by the communities of Golden and Area A,” said project lead, Jason Jones. “We will be prioritizing trail projects and likely developing a model for ongoing funding and collaboration between all trail interest groups. It’s really exciting to work on a project with such diverse user groups. We’ll really appreciate the community input and vision.”

Whether you are an engaged public trail user, you prefer your private trails, or you don’t use trails at all, you are encouraged to participate in this public process. Community consultations, casual coffee sessions, and more engagement opportunities are scheduled throughout the region over July, August and September.

See <http://www.csr.bc.ca/AreaATrails> for information on how and when you can get involved.

Community Engagement Sessions

Review and share knowledge on existing trail and waterway information, including interested trail groups, environmental assets, and anything else that exists to shape future development. Understanding deeply what already exists is critical to assessing our needs as a region.

Date	Time	Town	Location
July 24	5:00pm – 7:00pm	Parson	Parson Community Hall
July 24	12:00pm – 2:00pm	Nicholson/Habart	Event Pavilion, Golden Eco Adventure Ranch
July 25	5:00pm – 7:00pm	Blaeberry/Donald	Rumi Room, Quantum Leaps Lodge (No smoking please)
July 26	12:00pm – 2:00pm	Golden	Arena Lounge
July 26	5:00pm – 7:00pm	Kicking Horse Resort	Whitetooth Grill (Day Lodge)
July 28	5:00pm – 7:00pm	Field	TBC

We'll review our completed resource maps and ask you what is missing, what do we need more of, or what do we have enough of. These engagement sessions will help shape the future direction of trails.

Date	Time	Town	Location
Sept. 5	5:00pm – 7:00pm	Parson	Parson Community Hall
Sept 5	12:00pm – 2:00pm	Nicholson/Habart	Event Pavilion, Golden Eco Adventure Ranch
Sept 6	5:00pm – 7:00pm	Blaeberry/Donald	Hillside Lodge & Chalets
Sept 7	12:00pm – 2:00pm	Golden	Arena Lounge
Sept 7	5:00pm – 7:00pm	Kicking Horse Resort	Whitetooth Grill (Day Lodge)
Sept 8	5:00pm – 7:00pm	Field	TBC

If you prefer to chat in a less formal setting, come find us for a coffee. We'll have these "casual coffee" opportunities for you to share any information that tickles your fancy with us.

Date	Time	Town	Location
August 8	2:00 pm	Parson	Twig and Berry Store
August 21	2:00 pm	Golden	Purcell Coffee Roasters
Sept 18	2:00 pm	Kicking Horse Resort	Double Black Cafe
Oct 2	2:00 pm	Golden	Whitetooth Brewery
Oct 16	2:00 pm	Parson	Twig & Berry Store
Oct 30	2:00 pm	Field	Truffle Pigs