



MEDIA RELEASE

August 17, 2018

CSR D AUTHORIZES ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FUNDING TO ASSIST WITH RAILS TO TRAILS PROJECT GRANT APPLICATION

The Columbia Shuswap Regional District Board unanimously approved allocating funds in an effort to secure additional grant money for the Rails to Trails project.

The grant application is another step towards creating a trail network along the former railway corridor from Sicamous to Armstrong.

The application to the BC Rural Dividend Fund is for a \$500,000 grant towards Rails to Trails project management and preliminary design costs. In order to secure the BC Rural Dividend Fund grant, a funding commitment to the project is also required from the applicant.

As part of this application process, the CSR D Board approved a commitment of \$168,000 from the Sicamous and Area E Economic Opportunity Fund. The District of Sicamous will fund the remaining \$168,000 contribution. Donations and in-kind contributions could become a part of the funding plan, however, to secure the BC Rural Dividend Fund grant application, the funding sources need to be secured.

Mayor Terry Rysz, Municipal Director for Sicamous, was pleased with the support of the CSR D board for the grant application.

“This is an important step in getting the development of the rail trail moving forward,” Rysz told the CSR D Board at its regular meeting on Thursday, August 16, 2018.

CSR D’s allocation of funds meets the criteria that the money be used to stimulate economic development within Sicamous and Area E (Rural Sicamous/Malakwa).

The CSR D and District of Sicamous will await the decision on the BC Rural Dividend Fund grant application before making their financial contribution to the project.

**For further information please contact Tracy Hughes, CSR D Communications Coordinator at
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