

**Resident Directed Grants
Summary of 2024/2025 Proposals
District of Elkford**

Organization / Project / Description	Basin Communities	Amount Requested
Blue Lake Forest Education Society		
Blue Paddle Campaign		
The Blue Paddle Campaign provides subsidies for local youth to attend Blue Lake Camp programs. Our programs can range from one day to week long programs. There are overnight options, and day long options. This money will be used to support kids getting outside, learning about the natural world, and improving their leadership skills. This money will go to individual kids who's families have a financial barrier to participating. This funding will ensure every child can attend camp without their families' finances being a burden to them.		
	District of Sparwood	\$2,400.00
	Village of Canal Flats	\$1,800.00
	Village of Radium Hot Springs	\$1,000.00
	Electoral Area A	\$2,400.00
	Electoral Area B	\$1,200.00
	Electoral Area C	\$3,000.00
	Electoral Area E	\$2,400.00
	Electoral Area F	\$2,400.00
	Electoral Area G	\$2,400.00
	City of Cranbrook	\$6,000.00
	City of Fernie	\$3,000.00
	City of Kimberley	\$2,400.00
	District of Elkford	\$1,200.00
	District of Invermere	\$2,400.00
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		\$34,000.00

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Organization / Project / Description	Basin Communities	Amount Requested
Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network		
Wild Voices for Kids in RDEK		
<p>Wild Voices for Kids supports school-based environmental education in the Columbia Basin by connecting pre K-12 teachers and students to hands-on presentations and field-studies, based on the local environment. These presentations and field-studies are created and delivered by community educators who are experts in their field, including biologists, ecologists, geographers, foresters, mountain guides, and cultural liaisons.</p> <p>The goals of the Wild Voices program include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assisting teachers in reaching their curriculum goals in engaging and innovative ways. 2. Facilitating learning opportunities that foster ecologically literate students. 3. Providing access to environmental learning for students and teachers in the Columbia Basin through at least 100 fully subsidized and 100 heavily subsidized presentations each school year, with unlimited presentations available at slightly subsidized rates. <p>Since 2008, students across the Columbia Basin have received curriculum-linked presentations and hands-on field studies through Wild Voices. Funding would be used to cover honoraria for Community Educators delivering presentations and bussing expenses for student travel to field-based studies for Wild Voices presentations delivered to students in RDEK.</p>		
	City of Cranbrook	\$4,500.00
	City of Fernie	\$2,300.00
	City of Kimberley	\$2,000.00
	District of Elkford	\$500.00
	District of Sparwood	\$500.00
	Electoral Area A	\$500.00
	Electoral Area B	\$300.00
	Electoral Area C	\$900.00
	Electoral Area E	\$500.00
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		\$12,000.00

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Organization / Project / Description	Basin Communities	Amount Requested
Columbia Basin Institute of Regional History		
Making History Public		
Columbia Basin Institute of Regional History (CBIRH) will undertake work to extend and expand the Columbia Basin Image Bank, by digitizing, preserving and making publicly accessible 600 new historical photographs of the East Kootenay District. Through this project CBIRH will bring historical photos that are currently inaccessible to the general public. The photographs will be accessible for public viewing for free on CBIRH's website www.basininstitute.org .		
These are the communities/areas: City of Cranbrook - 110 images; City of Fernie - 50 images; City of Kimberley - 80 images; District of Elkford - 30 images; District of Sparwood - 50 images; Electoral Area A - 40 images; Electoral Area B - 100 images; Electoral Area C - 110 images; Electoral Area E - 30 images.		
	City of Cranbrook	\$2,250.00
	City of Fernie	\$750.00
	City of Kimberley	\$2,000.00
	District of Elkford	\$750.00
	District of Sparwood	\$1,000.00
	Electoral Area A	\$750.00
	Electoral Area B	\$2,500.00
	Electoral Area C	\$2,550.00
	Electoral Area E	\$450.00
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		\$13,000.00

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Organization / Project / Description	Basin Communities	Amount Requested
East Kootenay Invasive Species Council		
Spreading the Word, NOT the Invasives - Reducing the Spread of Invasive Species through Education and Outreach		
This project will promote increased environmental stewardship and positive behaviour change for invasive species prevention. EKISC will directly increase community knowledge, awareness, and understanding of the impacts of invasive species on natural environments and the region as well as identification and best management practices.		
This project will provide invasive plant and animal education and awareness through in person workshops and training; interactions at events such as farmers markets; connecting with youth through schools and girl guides/scout groups; interactions with boat owners at boat launches to spread the message of Clean, Drain, Dry; connecting with pet stores about the Don't Let It Loose program; weed pulls which enable hands-on experience identifying and controlling invasive plants; distributing invasive plant resources and spending one-on-one time with landowners; and online communications such as webinars and engaging social media posts.		
This project will aim to increase engagement with community members and groups that EKISC has not worked with previously or groups in which there is a lack of or need for invasive education.		
The funding from last year was used at events such as plant walks, invasive plant pulls, our "Watercolour With Weeds" workshop and community garden presentations, there was much gratitude from the community for our presence and feedback showed the public appreciated these engaging events and there was demand for more such events.		
	City of Cranbrook	\$2,000.00
	City of Fernie	\$2,000.00
	City of Kimberley	\$2,000.00
	District of Elkford	\$2,000.00
	District of Invermere	\$1,000.00
	District of Sparwood	\$1,000.00
	Village of Canal Flats	\$1,000.00
	Village of Radium Hot Springs	\$1,000.00
	Electoral Area A	\$1,000.00
	Electoral Area B	\$1,000.00
	Electoral Area C	\$1,000.00
	Electoral Area E	\$1,000.00
	Electoral Area F	\$500.00
	Electoral Area G	\$500.00
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		\$17,000.00

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District of Elkford**

Organization / Project / Description	Basin Communities	Amount Requested
East Kootenay Regional Science Fair Society		
East Kootenay Regional Science Fair		
We host the East Kootenay Regional Science Fair on an annual basis. Students in grades 6 to 12 from around the East Kootenay can compete in the fair and possibly qualify for Canada-Wide Science Fair. Each year four winning students from the regional fair travel to the national fair with their project. Science fair is an opportunity for students to develop their own experiments or complete research projects to further their scientific understanding. It is also an opportunity for students to present their work and defend their ideas to a series of judges. The regional fair is a gateway to the national fair where students can represent their home region.		
	City of Cranbrook	\$815.00
	City of Fernie	\$500.00
	City of Kimberley	\$500.00
	District of Elkford	\$500.00
	District of Sparwood	\$500.00
	Electoral Area C	\$500.00
		<u>\$3,315.00</u>

Elk River Watershed Alliance

Elk River Floodplain Restoration

The Elk River Alliance seeks ReDi support for purchasing fencing supplies and watering systems to support streambank restoration on three historical pasture fields along the Elk River. In 2024-25, work will focus on installing protective fencing, watering systems and revegetation along 600 m of Elk River streambank. Two sites are located between Elkford and Sparwood: The 'Big Ranch' and 'Elk River Lodge'. The third 'Morrissey Meadows' site is located 18 km south of Fernie.

Livestakes (cut branches) and seedlings of cottonwood, red osier dogwood, and willows will be collected from existing groves. They will be re-planted within 10 m of the riverbank to produce dense barrier vegetation. A watering system will be installed to maintain soil moisture for two years, which will allow the plants to create a viable self-sustaining root network. Temporary fencing will be installed to protect young plants from herbivores.

The project will stabilize banks, restore terrestrial and aquatic habitats, and improve flood resilience. Dense roots will trap soil and stones and allow the bank to resist water erosional forces naturally. Riparian vegetation will also be vital for a healthy habitat for mammals, birds, and fish. This work will forward a long-term goal of developing a functional floodplain forest ecosystem on the sites, and connect the floodplain corridor along the Elk Valley.

City of Fernie	\$10,000.00
District of Elkford	\$10,000.00
District of Sparwood	\$10,000.00
Electoral Area A	\$4,606.00
	<u>\$34,606.00</u>

**Resident Directed Grants
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Organization / Project / Description	Basin Communities	Amount Requested
Elk Valley Hospice		
Wind Phones for the Elk Valley & South Country		
The Elk Valley Hospice Wind Phone Project proposes to design, construct and install a Wind Phone in each of the following communities: Elkford, Sparwood, Fernie and the South Country.		
Wind Phone's provide a powerful opportunity to ease suffering and are a meaningful resource for people journeying with end of life, loss, and grief. There are many different varieties of Wind Phones but at their most basic they provide grieving community members access to an unconnected phone in nature. This unconnected phone allows them to connect with loved ones who have passed and share their thoughts and feelings. It also provides an opportunity to say the things you wished you could have but did not.		
The first Wind Phone was created in Japan as a shrine to mindfully connect people to their loved ones who had died in the 2011 earthquake and subsequent tsunami. Since then, Wind Phone's have been established all over the world with the "...wish that [a] path leads you to a telephone of the wind as you walk with grief, a place where the wind will take your words to the ones you love who have walked ahead." (Amy Dawson).		
	City of Fernie	\$3,400.00
	District of Elkford	\$3,400.00
	District of Sparwood	\$3,400.00
	Electoral Area B	\$3,400.00
		<u>\$13,600.00</u>

Elkford Curling Centre Society

Ice-Cube Machine Purchase

The Elkford Curling Club (ECC) requires a new ice machine to replace the existing unit which is no longer functioning reliably, due to its age (manufacture date 1990). Based on equipment age, replacement has become the more financially sound option versus repair.

The ECC has serviced the community for the last 49 years by providing recreational curling October through February each year. The club relies on beverage sales for a significant part of its operational cost funding. Currently the ice machine is used regularly three days per week, in addition to special events such as bonspiels which occur multiple times within a year. For example, the most recent 2024 Wildcat Bonspiel hosted 26 teams (104 players), along with numerous spectators, with approximately 2,000 beverages sold over one weekend.

District of Elkford \$4,699.00

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Organization / Project / Description	Basin Communities	Amount Requested
Elkford Housing Society		
Maintenance Equipment Shed		
The equipment shed will be of a size to include the storage of winter snow removal equipment (ie snowblower, shovels, etc) and lawn and gardening equipment (ie mowers, fertilizer, etc). The shed will be a minimum 300 sqft to a maximum of 625 sqft, depending on the type of building acquired. Included in the building of this structure will be a concrete pad, a garage door (or 2 depending on size and cost), electrical, heater and labour.		
	District of Elkford	\$20,000.00
	Electoral Area A	\$10,000.00
		<u>\$30,000.00</u>
Fernie Pets Society		
Elk Valley Spay Neuter Incentive Program (SNIP)		
This program provides subsidies to area residents who require financial assistance in order to spay or neuter their cats. Approved applicants pay a nominal fee of \$50 per cat with the remainder of the costs covered by the Society. The program also covers the full cost of spay & neutering surgeries and other veterinary fees for feral cats in order to reduce the unwanted cat population.		
	City of Fernie	\$900.00
	District of Elkford	\$300.00
	District of Sparwood	\$900.00
	Electoral Area A	\$900.00
		<u>\$3,000.00</u>

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Fernie Pride Society

Elk Valley Pride Festival

The 8th Annual Elk Valley Pride Festival is a 5-day celebration of diversity, inclusion, and Pride for 2SLGBTQ+ individuals and allies and takes place primarily in Fernie, BC. The 8th annual celebration is scheduled for September 18-22, 2024 and will feature cultural events for all ages, educational opportunities, a queer arts day, and a myriad of other events.

The Elk Valley Pride Festival format in 2024 will again be a hybrid one. The Festival has demonstrated growth year-to-year and in 2021, the growth allowed us to create an exciting new component; Spectrum Queer Arts Day. Spectrum has become a cornerstone of the Festival and features live music, refreshment garden, info booths, a skateboard jam, and an art market.

In addition, 95% of Festival events are free to attend, take place only in universally accessible venues, and are appropriate for people of all-ages. We work directly with local suppliers as much as we can and value our community partnerships and the efforts they invest for marginalized communities.

City of Fernie	\$7,500.00
District of Elkford	\$1,500.00
District of Sparwood	\$2,000.00
Electoral Area A	\$2,000.00
Electoral Area B	\$2,000.00
	<u>\$15,000.00</u>

Ghostrider Adventure Camp Foundation

Ghostrider Adventure Camp

The Ghostrider Adventure Camp provides a one week residential program for the children of the Elk Valley who do not have the opportunity to experience a week away at camp due to their home social environment. We offer a range of activities including rafting, hiking, crafts, survival skills, canoeing to name a few. All of our activities are designed to increase self esteem, self-reliance and develop stronger social skills. This year we hope to raise \$30000 to be able to accommodate 36 kids aged 8-12yrs and 6 teens in our leadership training program all from the Elk Valley.

City of Fernie	\$1,400.00
District of Elkford	\$1,400.00
District of Sparwood	\$1,400.00
Electoral Area A	\$1,400.00
Electoral Area B	\$1,400.00
	<u>\$7,000.00</u>

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Organization / Project / Description	Basin Communities	Amount Requested
Mountain Meadows Golf Club Society		
Refuse Collection Container Replacement		
Install 5 animal proof garbage/recycling containers on Mountain Meadows golf course. This project will allow us to more efficiently deal with garbage and recycle materials as well as preventing wildlife from accessing materials found within. This will be achieved by purchasing 5 "Hide-a-Bag Containers" that will be mounted on concrete pads at 5 locations around the golf course.		
	District of Elkford	\$11,332.00
Northern BC Friends of Children - East Kootenay Branch		
East Kootenay Family Support		
The East Kootenay Family Support Project will assist families travelling to access necessary medical care for their ill or injured child. We provide fuel, food, and accommodations to families who must leave their home community along with emotional support and access to other agencies.		
	City of Cranbrook	\$11,000.00
	City of Kimberley	\$4,000.00
	District of Elkford	\$500.00
	Electoral Area A	\$500.00
	Electoral Area C	\$1,000.00
	Electoral Area G	\$500.00
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		\$17,500.00
Rocky Mountain Village Auxiliary Society (RMVAS)		
Keeping Elk Valley and South Country Senior's Warm and Happy		
Project Warm: We would like to purchase two more blanket warmers, and 96 flannel blankets to keep residents warm and comfortable during stressful times. We are in the process of buying our first blanket warmer currently.		
Project Happy: we would like to purchase 3 sets of virtual reality goggles to allow residents to safely travel to a place of their choice.		
	City of Fernie	\$5,100.00
	District of Elkford	\$5,100.00
	District of Sparwood	\$5,100.00
	Electoral Area A	\$600.00
	Electoral Area B	\$3,600.00
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		\$19,500.00
Total Funding Requested:		<hr/>
		\$63,181.00