



# Fruitvale & Area A News

April 2020

*Keeping the Community Informed*

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTACT INFORMATION



### VILLAGE OF FRUITVALE

1947 Beaver Street  
Fruitvale, BC V0G 1L0  
Ph: 250-367-7551  
Fax: 250-367-9267  
Public Works &  
After Hours Emergencies:  
250-367-6162

#### General Email

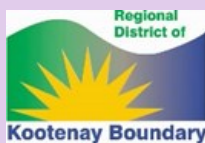
[info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca](mailto:info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca)

#### Web

[www.village.fruitvale.bc.ca](http://www.village.fruitvale.bc.ca)

#### Facebook

Village of Fruitvale



### Regional District of Kootenay Boundary

202 - 843 Rossland Ave  
Trail, BC V1R 4S8  
Ph: 250-368-9148

#### General Email

RDKB email addresses are most often [first initial, last name @rdkb.com](#) (For example Joe Smith would be [jsmith@rdkb.com](mailto:jsmith@rdkb.com))

#### Web

[www.rdkb.com](http://www.rdkb.com)

Area 'A' Director Ali Grieve  
[aligrieve@telus.net](mailto:aligrieve@telus.net)

## VILLAGE OF FRUITVALE MESSAGE FROM MAYOR MORISSETTE

I hope this month sees everyone in good health as we are in unprecedented times. This is not a time to be fearful and hoard supplies but a time to be cautious, helpful and compassionate to our neighbours. If you have elderly or health compromised neighbours and/or friends offer to pick up things for them or do whatever they need to allow them to stay home and in contact with as few people as possible.

Chief Administrative Officer Kelli Tuttle and I participated in a Mayor's conference call with BC Health Minister Adrienne Dix, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing Selina Robinson and Chief Medical Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry on Tuesday, March 17. They shared a lot of information with us, including:

- The Province has declared it a public health emergency which gives them additional flexibility around further actions as necessary;
- They expect to have tested 20,000 people by weeks' end. As of March 19, there were 271 confirmed cases in BC.
- Coronavirus is not as infectious as the flu but symptoms can be more severe.
- People that experience symptoms are encouraged to call 811 for advise/assistance.
- The Province is holding daily calls with Regional Emergency Coordinators (in our case, that is the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Emergency Coordinator).
- The Province will continue with weekly regional conference calls with mayors to keep us updated.

The Province is being very pro-active and all area Municipal Governments are sharing information and working together to manage this health crisis.

The Village of Fruitvale is taking proactive cautionary steps to protect our staff and residents. Effective immediately, all non-essential services will be paused, the Fruitvale Memorial Center will be closed, including the Age Friendly Gym, and all bookings cancelled. The Beaver Valley Age Friendly and Beaver Valley Youth Action Network programs are on hold until further notice. The Village of Fruitvale office and public works will be closed to walk in traffic but will continue to be open for phone calls and emails. We are working on a plan to get garbage bags to those who have not yet picked them up. There will be unforeseen issues that we will be working through as the days pass. The Village will be carrying on with all essential services such as water, sewer, garbage, road maintenance, etc.

There are still a lot of great things to do in our community - go for a walk/hike/bicycle ride/x-country ski or snowshoe. Spend some newly available time with family, watch a good movie, play a board game or cards, support our local businesses - don't be afraid to grab a coffee or some take out food from our restaurants or a gift from Country Roads or Fruitvale Pharmacy to cheer up someone that is homebound.

**Don't be fearful; be cautious, be positive, and use any extra time you have due to this health crisis in a positive way with your family.**

**VILLAGE OF FRUITVALE UPDATE**

Due to the **COVID-19** recommendations from the Provincial Health Minister for social distancing, the Village of Fruitvale office will be **closed to the public until further notice**. Village employees will be working to continue to provide all essential services, but customers and residents are being asked to help us in our attempts to contain the spread of the virus through social distancing.

If you have any business to conduct at the Village Office please call the office at 250-367-7551 or email [info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca](mailto:info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca). We will respond to your enquiry within 24 hours.

**UTILITY PAYMENTS**

With the Village Office being closed to the public, please choose one of the options below to make your payment before March 31, 2020 to take advantage of the discount:

- Through on-line banking
- Drop your payment in the mail slot at the front entrance of the Village Office
- Mail your payments to the Village Office
- Use the PayTM app on your phone or tablet

**GARBAGE BAG DISTRIBUTION**

For residents needing garbage bags, please call the Village Office to make arrangements for getting them.

Please check the Village website, [www.village.fruitvale.bc.ca](http://www.village.fruitvale.bc.ca), and Facebook page for up-to-date details as they develop.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this office closure may cause and thank you for your understanding; working together, we can make a difference. Stay healthy.

**VILLAGE OF FRUITVALE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

A reminder from the public works department. The sewer system is designed to handle only the three P's - **Poop, Pee and Toilet Paper**. It is **not** designed to handle facial tissues, toilet wand pads, feminine hygiene products, cleaning wipes, flushable wipes, paper hand towels, dental floss, condoms, cosmetic wipes, etc. Just because something is marketed as 'flushable' doesn't mean it's good for the collection system.

**It is extremely important that residents DO NOT flush anything but the three P's.**

**Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in keeping our sewer system running smoothly.**

**HOW TO STAY HEALTHY DURING THE COVID19 PANDEMIC**

- from BC Centre for Disease Control website

**Follow the same advice that public health officials recommend for the cold and flu season: wash your hands often with soap and water, cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, avoid others who are unwell, and stay home when you are sick.**

**Cover your mouth when you cough so you're not exposing other people. If you are sick yourself, stay away from others. Contact your health-care provider ahead of time so you can be safely assessed.**

**The most important thing you can do to prevent coronavirus and other illnesses is to wash your hands regularly and avoid touching your face. When outside your home, remember to practice social distancing by keeping 2 metres from others when possible.**

**If you have to go out in public, it is important to practice social distancing when going out in public if you can. Also, follow the same procedures as what is recommended during cold and flu season. This includes washing your hands often with soap and water, covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, avoiding others who are unwell and staying home when you are sick.**

**For more information and updates on COVID19/Coronavirus visit the following websites:**

**BC Centre for Disease Control** - <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/>

**Interior Health Authority** - [www.interiorhealth.ca](http://www.interiorhealth.ca)

**Public Health Agency of Canada:**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>

**OPEN BURNING**

No Open Burning



The Village Office has received complaints about the smell and the smoke coming from illegal open burning fires and wood stove/fireplace fires.

Residents are reminded that there is **NO OPEN BURNING** allowed in the Village of Fruitvale and **burning any materials other than seasoned firewood IS NOT allowed.**

**The only permissible outdoor fires are small back-yard campfires (0.5 m X 0.5m in size) and ONLY seasoned firewood is to be burned. Flames are to be kept low.**

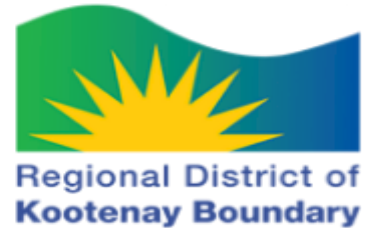
All paper and cardboard products must be recycled appropriately.

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY AREA 'A' UPDATE**

# RDKB

## ACTIONS

in response to COVID-19



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|--|--|--|
| <h3 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">1</h3> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>EOC<br/>Activated</b></p>                   | <p><b>Emergency Operations Centre</b> activated to Level 2. Daily reassessment of facility closures &amp; service levels. Go to <a href="http://emergency.rdkb.com">emergency.rdkb.com</a> for more information.</p>   |  |
| <h3 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">2</h3> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>REC<br/>FACILITIES<br/>Closed</b></p>       | <p>All recreation facilities are closed &amp; front counter services are suspended. Public access to fire stations is restricted until further notice.</p>   |  |
| <h3 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">3</h3> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>OTHER<br/>SERVICES<br/>Continue</b></p>     | <p>Contact us by phone or email. We are happy to serve you! Call 1-800-355-7352 or email <a href="mailto:administration@rdkb.com">administration@rdkb.com</a>. Planning &amp; Building services will continue, as will essential services like sewer, water, fire rescue &amp; emergency response.</p> |  |
| <h3 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">4</h3> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>LANDFILLS<br/>Open</b></p>                  | <p>Hours have changed. Go to <a href="http://rdkb.com">rdkb.com</a> to check when each landfill is open. And please make sure any wet wipes or synthetic cloths go into the garbage, not into the compost or recycling!</p>  |  |
| <h3 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">5</h3> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>MEET<br/>Us Online</b></p>                  | <p>We have gone digital. Engage &amp; meet with us online at <a href="http://jointheconversation.rdkb.com">jointheconversation.rdkb.com</a> Contact us if you need help signing up: 1-800-355-7352 or <a href="mailto:communications@rdkb.com">communications@rdkb.com</a>.</p>                        |  |
| <h3 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">6</h3> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>STAY<br/>HEALTHY<br/>&amp; informed</b></p> | <p>We will update you often through the media and on our website. We thank all RDKB residents for following recommendations &amp; orders from the BC Provincial Health Officer &amp; Interior Health Authority. Stay safe and well.</p>  |  |

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX PROGRAM (CVITP) – FREE TAX SERVICE

The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program's free income tax service has been suspended until further notice. The CRA is extending tax filing deadlines, therefore organizers are hoping to resume the volunteer service at a later date.

### BEAVER VALLEY LIBRARY PROGRAMS

All Beaver Valley Library Programs are cancelled until further notice and the Library is closed.

### BV YOUTH ACTION NETWORK

All Beaver Valley Youth Action Network programs have been cancelled until further notice.

### BEAVER VALLEY RECREATION PROGRAMS

All Beaver Valley Recreation programs have been cancelled and the BV Arena is closed until further notice.

### BEAVER VALLEY CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Nominations are being accepted for the 2020 Beaver Valley Citizen of the year. Nomination forms can be found on the Village of Fruitvale website. Completed forms can be emailed to [info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca](mailto:info@village.fruitvale.bc.ca) or dropped in the mail slot at the Village of Fruitvale office. **Deadline for nominations is April 17, 2020.**

### BV LIONS BINGO

The Beaver Valley Lions Bingo has been cancelled until further notice.

## BV AGE FRIENDLY NEWS

**ALL BEAVER VALLEY AGE FRIENDLY EVENTS ARE CURRENTLY CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO COVID-19.** We understand this is a very difficult time for the seniors and everyone with respect to the Coronavirus. Please make sure you are keeping up on the information: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

- Please contact your pharmacy for medication concerns. Your pharmacist is the best resource to talk to about home delivery of medications.
- Check with local grocery stores as adjustments have been made to support seniors' safety. Also, there are various individuals and groups working together to support shopping needs and meals for seniors as seen through social media.
- Beaver Valley Age Friendly program is working in partnership with the **Better at Home program** for seniors' check-ins and shopping. Stephanie Haukaas, Better at Home Coordinator, can be reached at 250-364-2326.

The Beaver Valley Library <https://beavervalley.bc.libraries.coop/> and Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy <http://www.cbal.org/trail--area.html> have online programs to access on their websites.

### AGE FRIENDLY COORDINATOR SHARED CONTRACT

Effective April 1, 2020, the Beaver Valley Age Friendly Contract will be shared between Barb Cole and Shawna Bradford. Barb and Shawna have worked together as Registered Nurses and Health Care Managers and in seniors' care over the past several years. Both come from an "age friendly" and health promotion focus. Shawna also currently works part-time at the BV Clinic as a R.N. As a team, they will build even further capacity and sustainability of the Beaver Valley Age Friendly Program!

### LOCK BOXES

The one-year funding is complete for the Selkirk Security monitoring connected to the Lock Box pilot project. The 14 participating seniors were provided contact information for Selkirk Security in the event any seniors wanted to follow up with continued home monitoring. 12/14 seniors wanted to keep their boxes on their homes. Lock boxes are great to help family members, neighbors, home support and other health care services be part of the safety net for seniors.

### ACTIVE AGING

Check out the following website for seniors. It has a lot of great information: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/seniors/health-safety/active-aging>

