

## 15. Parks and Trails

### Background

Rossland's spectacular setting in the alpine environment gives the community much of its special appeal. The residents of Rossland lead active lifestyles year-round, and have a variety of recreation opportunities. Parks, open space, trails and recreation are highly valued by residents.

### 15.1 Objectives

- .1 To maintain and develop a well-integrated and linked system of parks, trails and associated recreational facilities to serve the needs of residents and visitors.
- .2 To ensure green spaces and parks are publicly accessible and well distributed through the community and enable residents and visitors of all ages to enjoy these spaces.
- .3 To ensure a world class network of designated, connected, accessible and well maintained trails exists throughout the community.

### 15.2 Policies

- .1 Develop an Integrated Greenspace, Trails and Recreation Master Plan that considers the community's requirements and clearly sets out which parks have priority for improvement when funding permits. In



addition, it should include a plan for revitalizing, establishing or extending parks.

- .2 Consideration will be given to density bonusing of development proposals which include a high degree of parkland dedication and open space.
- .3 Consider improvements to existing park facilities prior to developing new parks and facilities in order to avoid high construction and maintenance costs.
- .4 Recognize the significance of the "Chinese Gardens" by developing an interpretive centre and incorporating this into the parks and trails system.
- .5 Support the establishment of pedestrian linkages beneath/over/across Highway 3B for year-round access between:
  - a. The Red Mountain Base area and the Blackjack Cross Country Ski Club;
  - b. The lower Rossland Happy Valley Area and the Redstone Golf Course area, with the specific intent on establishing a connection to link the



historic Rossland cemetery with the historic Wagon Road.

c. Pinewood neighbourhood area and lower Rossland.

- .6 Continue working with and supporting local trail user groups to create and maintain a comprehensive trail inventory.
- .7 Seek easements on private land parcels that currently host trails wherever possible.
- .8 Identify and secure pedestrian corridors between neighbourhoods and amenities in town, and between town and the resorts, and between the town and the trail system.
- .9 Ensure trail connectivity is maintained when new areas are developed in Rossland or across municipal boundaries.
- .10 Ensure there is good public access to the key natural amenities.
- .11 The provision of usable parkland or money in lieu of parkland at the time of subdivision for any developments throughout Rossland shall be at the discretion of the municipality pursuant to the *Local Government Act* in order to implement the policies and designations in the Official Community Plan.
- .12 Work with other user groups and other agencies to explore multi use corridors in Rossland to avoid user conflicts.
- .13 Encourage the development of a trail along Trail Creek.
- .14 Explore ways to restore the old Railgrade through town.

.15 Support the development of informational brochures to highlight the linkages within settled areas of Rossland.

.16 Further develop the parks and trails system consistent with the Trails Map - Schedule C. This would include creating bike paths along the edges of paved roads.

.17 Support collaboration with the region's municipalities to identify and develop off-road pedestrian/cycling routes, specifically a Rossland to Nelson route via Salmo and Castlegar and to Christina Lake via the Old Cascade Highway.



## 16. Community Services & Facilities

### Background

Rossland residents consider their community to be relatively safe, inclusive and welcoming. Residents of all ages are engaged in the town's arts and cultural activities and offerings, and actively participate in community groups and celebrations of community spirit. The small town character and feel of the community is currently thriving, but steps need to be taken to protect this valuable social amenity. Rossland has a wide variety of recreation facilities that goes well beyond other communities of a similar size, partially due to the high level of volunteerism to maintain the facilities.

### 16.1 Objectives

- .1 To ensure new residents, non-permanent residents and visitors of all ages, ethnicities, cultures, and lifestyles are welcomed and integrated into the community.
- .2 To encourage residents of all ages to engage in the town's arts and cultural activities and offerings, and actively participate in community groups and celebrations of community spirit.
- .3 To ensure schools, public amenities and community facilities are operated and designed in ways that provide residents and visitors of all ages and abilities with safe, accessible and convenient spaces for



Photo: David Dudeck

- social, artistic and cultural expression and activity.
- .4 To encourage integration and shared community use of schools and other institutional facilities to provide amenities to the community.
- .5 To have a broad range of educational opportunities provided within Rossland, including public school education, post-secondary education, early childhood education, continuing education, and specialized and alternative education programs.
- .6 To maintain and enhance Rossland's unique sense of place and promote community identity.
- .7 To conserve energy, water, materials and other resources in institutional buildings.
- .8 To develop a diverse amount of appropriate facilities, programs, and services for the community to meet present and future needs including but not limited to services for youth, seniors, children and families.



- .9 To ensure a full curriculum of public education from kindergarten through grade 12 is provided within Rossland.

## 16.2 General Policies

- .1 Consider proactive methods to welcome newcomers to the community and encourage diverse ethnicities, cultures and lifestyles.
- .2 Consider establishing a coordinated strategy for arts and cultural events in the community.
- .3 Design and operate public amenities, schools and community facilities in ways that provide residents of all ages with safe and convenient spaces for social, artistic and cultural expression and activity.
- .4 Locate community facilities and uses in areas where they best serve the needs of residents and visitors while optimizing positive economic impacts.
- .5 Direct local, provincial and federal government offices to areas designated as Downtown Core and Mixed Use in Schedule B.
- .6 Use institutional facilities (new and old) to showcase sustainable alternative building standards.
- .7 Develop a signage bylaw outlining size, colour, style and other details pertaining to acceptable use of signs within the City.

## 16.3 Recreation and Community Facilities Policies

- .1 Establish a multi-use community centre/ facility(s) where appropriate, and when funding is available.
- .2 Permit Churches and other places of worship in areas designated as Residential "R", provided facilities not include a school or a large dormitory.
- .3 Consider establishing community gardens where feasible and appropriate.
- .4 Conduct a demand and supply study of community recreational and leisure facilities and consider preparing a plan to revitalize the arena.
- .5 Support the continuation of library services in Rossland.

## 16.4 Education Policies

- .1 Continue to encourage dialogue with the School Board to ascertain the status of existing school facilities and size, number, location, and timing of anticipated new school facilities.
- .2 Cooperate with governments and their agencies at all levels, and with community organizations and businesses, to expand the use of Rossland's secondary and elementary schools.
- .3 Wherever possible enable the provision of a broad range of educational opportunities, including public school education, post-secondary education, early childhood education, continuing education, and



specialized and alternative education programs within Rossland.

- .4 Cooperate with the community's education, business, heritage, cultural and recreation sectors in order to provide the community with a broad range of opportunities, facilities, and extra-curricular activities which complement and strengthen core public education in Rossland.
- .5 Encourage the sharing of fields, playgrounds and recreational facilities with the School District.
- .6 Consider partnering with higher education institutions to provide post secondary education opportunities in Rossland.

### **16.5 Intergenerational Policies**

- .1 The essential role of seniors in Rossland is gratefully acknowledged. It is important that their changing housing needs and support services be recognized and properly addressed within the community.
- .2 Support the use of City owned lands to site facilities for children, youth and seniors including but not limited to day care, a skateboard park and elderly care.
- .3 Develop a diverse amount of appropriate facilities, programs, and services for the community to meet present and future needs including but not limited to services for youth, seniors, children and families.
- .4 Establish strategies to retain and attract healthcare services and facilities in Rossland and to provide convenient

transportation access for the aging population.

### **16.6 Safety Policies**

- .1 Collaborate with the RCMP on crime prevention efforts where possible to enhance the safety and vitality of Rossland.
- .2 Continue supporting police and fire protection services using Crime Prevention through Environment Design principles in order to ensure a safe and liveable community.

