

January 5, 2022

Dear Interested Members and Friends of the Elk River,

The RDEK Board of Directors is moving forward with review of “Bylaws 3102 & 3103 Galloway Lands” to allow the proposed Galloway housing development to proceed by amending the Elk Valley Official Community Plan (OCP) and amending existing zoning designation to permit a residential subdivision comprising up to seventy-five 2-5 acre estate lots.

These proposed changes to existing land use and the estate housing development along the lower reaches of Lizard Creek will affect residents throughout the Elk Valley, given the importance of the Lizard Creek drainage to Westslope cutthroat trout recruitment and as a corridor for grizzly bear and other wildlife species.

The ERA has noted its concerns in our first letter sent to you on [November 29th \(Read Here\)](#). We will be appearing as a delegation before the RDEK Planning and Development Services Committee on [January 13th](#) to directly present these concerns to the RDEK Board of Directors.

Overall, we are concerned that the proposed development is not consistent with maintaining *intact* the values this important land and water corridor provides to citizens – fish and fishing, wildlife, low-impact recreation – all of which are highly valued by Fernie and area residents.

If the RDEK Board advances the proposed amendments in first and second reading at its meeting on [January 14th](#), it will then proceed to Public Hearing likely in late January or February. We will inform you once the date is confirmed. This Public Hearing would provide the most effective opportunity for citizens to express their views by appearing/presenting and by submitting letters directly to the RDEK for these to be on the public record. Details are provided below.

MORE INFORMATION

- A website put together by a group of concerned citizens: rethinkgalloway.com
 - [Our first letter to you](#)
 - [The Galloway development application](#)
 - [An infographic with core information you can share with others](#)
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ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE

1. REGISTER for **Open House** by the developer Handshake Holdings – **Thursday January 6th at 6 pm** via Zoom

Advance Registration for this webinar is required. To register go to: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KVa1OhTGQWi8afSmqhHg7A

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

To submit a question for the open house, please send to: info@gallowaylands.com. We will also accept questions on the night of the open house as time permits.

2. OBSERVE by Zoom the ERA presentation to the RDEK Planning and Development Services Committee meeting on **January 13th**

To sign up go to: https://www.rdek.bc.ca/meetings_events/agendas/

The link will be available the evening of January 11th or on January 12th

3. FOLLOW the RDEK Board meeting **January 14th** for which we will inform you of the result.

4. WRITE a letter directly to the RDEK to be on the public record, stating your concerns and position on the proposed development and amending by-laws 3102 and 3103 Galloway Lands and noting clearly that you are either *Opposed* or *Have Concerns* or *In Favour*

Such letter can be addressed to Rob Gay, RDEK Regional Chair director.gay@rdek.bc.ca

With copies to

- *The RDEK Area A (our area) Director Mike Sosnowsk sosnowski@rdek.bc.ca*
- *Area Mayors who are members of the RDEK Board*
- *Ange Qualizza ange.qualizza@fernie.ca*
- *Dean McKerracher mayor@elkford.ca*
- *David Wilkes mayor@sparwood.ca*
- *Lee Pratt lee.pratt@cranbrook.ca*
- *Don McCormick mayor@kimberley.ca*
- *The RDEK Development Services Manager Andrew McLeod dsmanager@rdek.bc.ca*

5. REGISTER as a delegate to speak/present at the Public Hearing for the proposed RDEK amending Bylaws 3102 & 3103 Galloway Lands

https://www.rdek.bc.ca/meetings_events/publichearings/

I trust you are finding these communications useful; and I hope you will further engage by expressing your views through the review process for the proposed Galloway lands Development - to ensure the health of Lizard Creek and the integrity of the surrounding lands.

Thank you,

George

George Greene (he/him)

Chair, Board of Directors

Elk River Alliance

cell: (613) 261 4227

<http://www.elkriveralliance.ca/>