



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY

**Kaslo and Area D Economic Development
Commission S109
OPEN MEETING AGENDA**

1:00 p.m.
Monday, February 13, 2023
Village of Kaslo Council Chambers

To promote openness, transparency and provide accessibility to the public we provide the ability to attend all RDCK meetings in-person or remote.

Join by Video:

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84838839557>

Meeting ID: 848 3883 9557
One tap mobile
+16475580588,,84838839557# Canada
+17789072071,,84838839557# Canada

Join by Phone:

+1 778 907 2071 Canada
Meeting Number (access code): 848 3883 9557
Meeting Password: 848 3883 9557
In-Person Location: 413 4th St, Kaslo BC – City Hall

Commissioner Hewat	Village of Kaslo
Commissioner Lang	Village of Kaslo
Commissioner Davie	Village of Kaslo
Commissioner Watson	Area D
Commissioner Brown	Area D
Commissioner Jones	Area

STAFF

Stuart Horn	CAO, RDCK
Catherine Allaway	CO, Village of Kaslo
Karissa Stroshein	Secretary

_____ out of _____ voting Commission members were present – quorum was met.

GUESTS

Erin Rooney	Community Futures Central Kootenay
Eric Burton	Factor Five

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Matthew Brown called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We acknowledge and respect the indigenous peoples within whose traditional lands we are meeting today.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED and seconded,
AND Resolved:

The Agenda for the February 13, 2023 Kaslo & Area D Economic Development Commission S10 meeting, be adopted as circulated.

Carried/Defeated/Referred

4. RECEIPT OF MINUTES

The January 23, 2023 Kaslo & Area D Economic Development Commission S10 minutes have been received.

5. DELEGATE

5.1 Erin Rooney, from Rural Northern Immigration Pilot Program will present to the Commission.

The PowerPoint Presentation from Erin Rooney, Regional Coordinator, Community Futures Central Kootenay, re: Rural Northern Immigration Pilot Program, has been received.

6. STAFF REPORTS (If there are no staff reports this item can be called OLD BUSINESS)

6.1 Update from Factor 5 (First Point of Contact & Steering Committee)

The Committee Report from Eric Burton, Factor Five, re: First Point of Contact Roles & responsibilities, has been received.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Strategic Planning Discussion – Projects for 2023

The Committee Report dated January 23, 2023 from Eric Burton, Factor Five, re: 2023 Strategic Planning Workshop, has been received.

7.2 Direction to Imagine Kootenay Steering Committee Representative

7.3 Greenhouse in Kaslo

7.4 Support the Kaslo Chamber of Commerce

7.5 Redip Grants

7.6 Economic Trust of the Southern Interior

7.7 Factor Five

7.8 Budget Recommendations

8. PUBLIC TIME

The Chair will call for questions from the public at 2:45 p.m.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next Kaslo & Area D Economic Development Commission S10 meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and seconded,
AND Resolved:

The Kaslo & Area D Economic Development Commission S10 meeting be adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Carried/Defeated/Referred



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY

**Kaslo and Area D Economic Development
Commission S109
OPEN MEETING AGENDA**

1:00 p.m.

Monday, January 23, 2023

Village of Kaslo Council Chambers

To promote openness, transparency and provide accessibility to the public we provide the ability to attend all RDCK meetings in-person or remote.

Join by Video: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4857930110>

Join by Phone: +1 780 666 0144

Meeting Number: 485 793 0110

In-Person Location: Council Chambers – City Hall, 413 Fourth Street, Kaslo, BC

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Commissioner Hewat	Village of Kaslo
Commissioner Lang	Village of Kaslo
Commissioner Davie	Village of Kaslo
Commissioner Watson	Area D
Commissioner Brown	Area D
Commissioner Jones	Area D

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF

Stuart Horn	CAO, RDCK
Catherine Allaway	CO, Village of Kaslo

5 out of 8 voting Commission members were present – quorum was met.

GUESTS

Eric Burton	Factor 5
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1. CALL TO ORDER

CAO Horn called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Commissioner Watson nominated Commissioner Brown.

No other nominations were received.

Commissioner Brown was elected by acclamation.

DECLARATION OF CHAIR

CAO Horn ratified the appointment of Commissioner Brown as Chair of the Kaslo and Area Economic Development Commission S109 Committee for 2023.

CAO Horn left the meeting at 1:06 p.m.

3. CHAIR'S ADDRESS

Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

4. TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We acknowledge and respect the indigenous peoples within whose traditional lands we are meeting today.

5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED and seconded,

AND Resolved:

The Agenda for the January 23, 2023, Kaslo & Area D Economic Development Commission S109 meeting, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

6. RECEIPT OF MINUTES

The 2022.08.08 Kaslo & Area D Economic Development Commission S109 minutes have been received.

7. DELEGATE - Nil

8. STAFF REPORTS - Nil

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Imagine Kootenay

The Imagine Kootenay Steering Committee minutes dated January 9, 2023, have been received.

Eric Burton will provide commissioners with a copy of the policy guidance for the First Point of Contact.

Moved and seconded,

AND Resolved:

THAT Eric Burton contact the Chamber of Commerce to explore their interest in taking on the role of First Point of Contact for Imagine Kootenay.

Carried

9.2 Grid Resilience Project

The Grid Resilience Pilot Program Report and the Household/Business Power Needs Survey Report from the Lardeau Valley Opportunity LINKS Society, re: Power Stability Project, have been received.

9.3 2023 Meeting Schedule

Moved and seconded,
AND Resolved:

THAT the 2023 meeting schedule be amended and approved as follows:

February 13

April 3

June 12

August 14

October 16

December 11

Carried

9.4 Strategic Planning for 2023

Eric Burton led commissioners through an exercise to identify priorities for 2023.

Eric Burton left the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

10. PUBLIC TIME

The Chair called for questions from the public at 2:45 p.m. No questions were received.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next Kaslo & Area D Economic Development Commission S109 meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 13, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

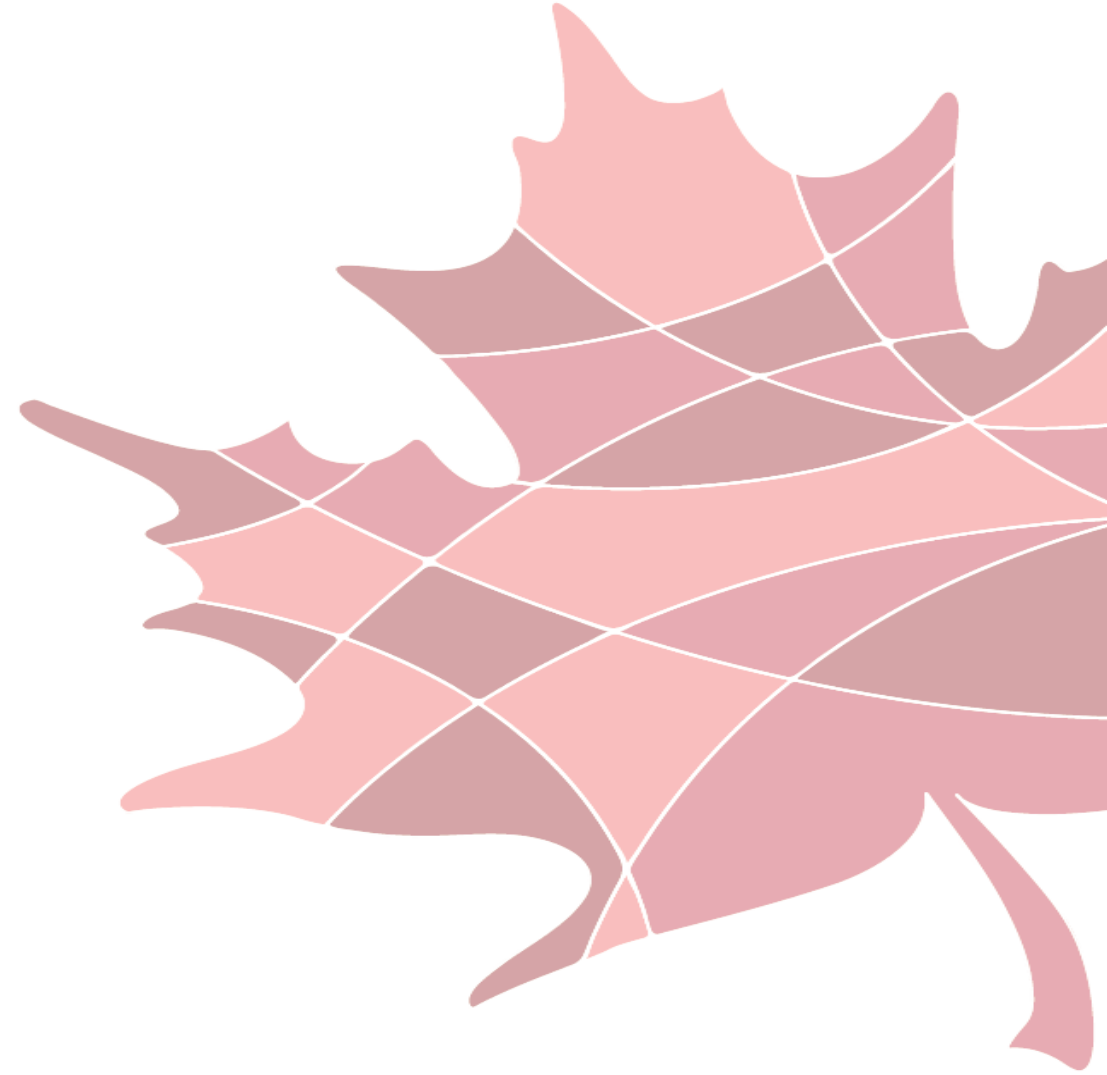
12. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and seconded,
AND Resolved:

The Kaslo & Area D Economic Development Commission S109 meeting be adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

Carried

Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada

Canada

What is RNIP?

- A community-based immigration pilot, **offering a pathway to permanent residence**, that tests targeted attraction and settlement approaches at the local level.
 - An experimental approach in a small number of diverse communities. It provides an opportunity for innovation.
- Guiding Principles:
 - Community-driven and responsive to local economic development needs.
 - Focused on retention and economic independence of newcomers.
 - Complementary to other federal and provincial immigration initiatives.
 - Part of the solution, not the only solution.

Addressing the challenge at the community level allows for tailored approaches

Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot Program

Federal Eligibility Requirements

- 1. Offer of employment
- 2. Work experience (unless exempt)
- 3. Education
- 4. Language
- 5. Funds (if applicable)
- 6. Intent to reside
- 7. Community Recommendation





6. Intent to Reside

- **Intent to reside** must be shown by the applicant and is based on information available at the time of assessment.
- Intention to reside is a forward looking assessment. Some factors that could be examined to establish intention to reside are: knowledge of the community, actions taken to put plans into place to establish in the community, linkages to the community, linkages to other communities, etc.
- One way in which to determine intention to reside could be by way of interviews.

1.

- Offer of employment

2.

- Work experience or exemption

3

- Education

4

- Language

5

- Settlement funds

6

- Intent to reside

7

- Community recommendation



West Kootenay Community Criteria

The **West Kootenay Community Criteria** is developed by the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot Steering Committee. It is done in consultation with local businesses and stakeholders.

The Community Criteria is designed to:

- Find candidates who best fit the community's skilled workforce needs.
- Prioritize those who intend to reside in the community.

The Community Criteria may be adjusted over time, depending on the workforce needs of the region.

All Candidates applying to the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot must complete the Community Criteria Form and score 26 points or higher. The only exception are Candidates who have a job offer in a West Kootenay Priority NOC.

<https://wk-rnip.ca/community-criteria/>

Rural & Northern Immigration Pilot 2020-2022 Statistics

**Total Community
Recommendations**
(2020-2022)

302

JOBS

30 Business, Finance & Administration Occupations

- 15 Accountant, accounting technicians & bookkeepers
- 6 Executive & Administrative Assistants
- 3 Warehousing/shipping receivers & supervisors
- 6 Miscellaneous

3 Natural & Applied Sciences & Related Occupations

48 Health Occupations

- 45 Health Care Aides
- 3 Licensed Practical Nurse

42 Occupations in education, law & social, community and government services

- 29 Early Childhood Educators & Assistants
- 12 Social & Community Service Workers
- 1 Registrar

1 Occupations in arts, culture, recreation and sport

132 Sales & Service Occupations

- 81 Food & Beverage (*cooks, supervisors, managers*)
- 32 Retail (*managers, supervisors, salesperson*)
- 17 Accommodation (*managers, supervisors, front desk agent, housekeeping, etc.*)
- 2 Security Services Supervisor

44 Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations

- 27 Drivers (*transport trucks, taxicabs, taxi supervisor*)
- 8 Construction (*managers, supervisors, carpenters, painters*)
- 6 Mechanics (*heavy-duty, commercial vehicle/ automotive technician*)
- 3 Miscellaneous

1 Natural resource, agriculture & related production occupations

1 Occupations in manufacturing and utilities

IMAGINE KOOTENAY PARTNERSHIP

FIRST POINTS OF CONTACT ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Provision of Community Information

- economic development information – providing information on existing strategies, local statistics, development processes and regulations, investor information
- evaluation data – tracking inquiries and investor follow-ups, tracking relevant local marketing initiatives
- marketing materials – provide photos, investor success story recommendations, testimonials, local workforce profiles and approval of IK print and web-based content when applicable

Community Level Coordination

- support outreach and awareness of Imagine Kootenay from the local to international level
- seek and encourage local opportunity holders to list on the Imagine Kootenay website; approving new listings
- seek and encourage local businesses to profile their business on the website and to cross reference website
- provide reporting on Imagine Kootenay performance and local information as required to community members, partners and local governments as required

Advisory Participation & Planning

- attendance at quarterly Steering Committee meetings and annual strategic planning session
- sharing IK-related information with local partners and stakeholders

Servicing Investors

- monitoring and follow-up on website and database-generated inquiries
- fielding in-person and phone-call inquiries
- cross-community referrals when applicable

IK emails for FPC's and steering committee members

The following are samples of emails that you may wish to use as a starting point to connect with potential buyers and sellers.

New investor registrations

Hi and welcome to the Imagine Kootenay website.

My name is **Tom Thomson**. I'm the **Executive Director of the Nelson & District Chamber of Commerce**, and I am your contact person for the **Nelson** area. I am happy to help if you have any questions about a certain business for sale, about our community, or if you have any questions about the website. Alternatively, you can also contact Imagine Kootenay staff at lisa@imaginekootenay.com.

Last year alone we had 132 new investors, 92 new opportunities and 893 direct inquiries on businesses listed for sale. We also had 7 businesses sold as a direct result of our website, with a value of \$1.18 million, and an additional 51 business transactions tracked for a total value of \$23.9 million.

We hope you find what you're looking for on our website.

Inquiries on your business listing

Hi **Bill**. I noticed you had an inquiry on your business listing recently. I just want to make sure you followed up with this inquiry, because it sounds like a good lead.

Let me know if I can be of any assistance, and as always, please do let us know if your business sells and if we were able to help you out with the sale. Although this service is free of charge, our funders like to know their money is working for them.

How to register your business for sale

Hi **Bill**,

Thanks for your interest in listing your business on Imagine Kootenay. It's super easy to register and post your business for sale, and best of all it's a free service.

First, go to the website here <https://imaginekootenay.com/opportunities/>. You will want to register as an **opportunity holder**. Once you've done that, you just follow the steps to list your business.

The better and more descriptive your listing is, the better the chances of attracting the right person to your listing. Be specific, be clear and keep it simple. Check for spelling and grammatical errors, and correct url links.

A picture is worth a thousand words! In this case, this is very true. Sometimes you only get one chance to impress a potential buyer – make it count.

Once you've listed your business, we will get an email to approve the listing. Please allow up to 72 hours to get your listing approved, especially if you're posting on a weekend. Chances are we might not see your listing until Monday morning.

Last year alone we had 132 new investors, 92 new opportunities and 893 direct inquiries on businesses listed for sale. We also had 7 businesses sold as a direct result of our website, with a value of \$1.18 million, and an additional 51 business transactions tracked for a total value of \$23.9 million.

We hope you find a successful match for your business through our website.

We are proud to offer this service to you free of charge, but we do ask that you let us know how our website helps you if your business sells. This helps to ensure that the program continues to run with the help of our funders.

As your local first point of contact, I am also available for help if you need support.

Thanks!

Following up on a listed business

Hi Margaret,

I'm the project coordinator for Imagine Kootenay www.imaginekootenay.com. Our website promotes the Kootenay region as a great place to live, work and invest. We offer free business listings for businesses trying to sell, as a way to keep the business in the community.

I'm trying to make sure all of the listings are up to date.

You have a listing on our website:

<https://imaginekootenay.com/opportunities/trail-rossland-area/all-opportunities> (choose correct community) since September, 2015.

Selkirk Motel & RV Park

Is this business still for sale? If so, do you want to make any changes to the listing?

If sold, can you please tell me so that I can either mark it as sold or take it off the website. If the business is sold through somebody seeing it on our website, we appreciate hearing about it.

Of course there is absolutely no cost to you or the buyer, but our funders want to know that the website is doing its job.

Please let me know if and how I can help.

Thanks,

Kaslo and Area D Economic Development Commission
2023 Strategic Planning Workshop
January 23, 2023

1. Chair Brown handed the floor to Factor 5 CEO Eric Burton to facilitate strategic planning for 2023. Eric highlighted that the commission regularly discusses pertinent and specific business matters, but rarely gets the opportunity to share broader perspectives or discuss informally what is happening in the community, and what can be done. This session is intended to facilitate open discussion that leads to the identification of priorities.
2. The first discussion question was an ice breaker - "What interests you in economic development?"
 - a. Commissioner Brown - Improving quality of life, housing, cost of living and building community prosperity
 - b. Commissioner Hewat - ensuring economic diversity, building wellbeing through amenities and recreation, supporting volunteer organizations and retaining youth
 - c. Commissioner Watson - baseline service capacity (ie. power, phones), environmental, social and economic sustainability, housing for employee attraction and retention
 - d. Commissioner Lang - development of public and private lands, tourism and growing the community in a controlled way
 - e. Commissioner Davie - Property development, pulling the community together, youth entrepreneurship and the need for diverse industries include resource industry
 - f. Commissioner Jones - Community capacity building, sources and resources, housing and employee retention, networking
3. The second discussion started with a few minutes of private reflection, followed by open discussion of the following four questoins
 - a. What are the current strengths of the local economy?
 - i. Young entrepreneurs
 - ii. Remote working opportunities
 - iii. Kaslo Infonet Society
 - iv. Beautiful location
 - v. Local support for local businesses
 - vi. Farmland in Lardeau Valley
 - vii. Creative and self-sufficient culture
 - b. What are the current weaknesses of the local economy?
 - i. Long distance from markets
 - ii. Fire, water and other core services
 - iii. Cost of building
 - iv. Volunteer dependency
 - v. Housing insecurity
 - vi. Employee attraction and retention
 - vii. Supply chains

- viii. Energy prices
 - ix. Low wages
- c. What are opportunities for the Commission to lead economic development?
 - i. Leverage taxation through grants
 - ii. Build chamber capacity to lead
 - iii. Network with other communities
 - iv. Improve communication about economic development in the community
 - v. Diversify communication channels ie not just social media
- d. What are threats facing the Commission?
 - i. Need to attract new members
 - ii. Lack of available funding
 - iii. Lack of paid staff
 - iv. Volunteer recruitment and burnout in partner organizations
- 4. The final item was a roundtable discussion of 2023 priorities, based on earlier discussions.
 - a. Brown - Innovative communications strategy to recruit new members and encourage active participation
 - b. Hewat - Work with Chamber to understand business needs and provide funding to increase capacity
 - c. Watson - Build chamber capacity to take the lead on economic development, while supporting improvement of baseline services by identifying and addressing gaps
 - d. Lang - Communication and support for chamber
 - e. Davie - Housing that improves employee attraction and retention
 - f. Brown - Sustainable systems, including food and energy security

[View this email in your browser](#)



Community & Business Advisors to Assist Communities Impacted by Forest Sector Changes

ETSI-BC is pleased to launch a new Forest Impact Recovery (FIR) Program, with funding from the Province of BC's Rural Business and Community Recovery Initiative (RBCRI). Through this partnership, ETSI-BC will provide up to \$1.35 million in grant funding to support rural communities and their business support organizations as they take on the challenging task of supporting economic development in communities affected by on-going changes in the forest sector.

This program will assist rural communities in the Southern Interior of BC with populations under 25,000 and non-profit business support organizations serving those communities by providing funding to create Forest Impact Recovery (FIR) Advisor positions.

These new positions will enhance local capacity to create and implement community economic recovery plans, support local businesses, and create new opportunities for growth. Program funds will be available for local governments, First Nations, and non-profit business support organizations serving Southern Interior communities that have been impacted by recent changes in the forest sector.

"Building on the highly successful Rural Business & Community Recovery (RBCR) Program that ETSI-BC delivered in 2021-22, this new funding will allow us to continue working with partners to help address challenges Southern Interior communities face due to impacts from forestry disruptions," says Laurel Douglas, the CEO of ETSI-BC.

The RBCR Program has had many positive outcomes illustrating the value of the Business Recovery Advisors it supported. One example is from Chase, BC: *"Our Business Recovery Advisor with Community Futures Thompson Country carries an extensive vision for the Economic*

Assistant Diploma Training Centre in Chase, BC. We expect to graduate 38-54 CareAide workers annually, who will be able to fill many essential Healthcare jobs in the region.” Amit Goel, Goel Recruiting & Settlement Solutions Ltd.

The value of the RBCR Community Recovery Advisors is shown by this example from Merritt, BC: *“Our Community Recovery Advisor engaged with the business community and residents to develop a 10-year Economic Development Strategy, which has five priority focus areas. Through her community engagement activities, the Community Recovery Advisor gained real insight into the needs and concerns of business owners and residents. She became the main point of contact for businesses and provincial agencies after the flood and helped secure additional economic development funding. She formed strong connections with local business support agencies, and that group developed a joint e-newsletter for businesses and met bi-weekly to stay informed and work collaboratively to support the business community.”*

Funding will be available through the new FIR Program to support a minimum of 18 Forest Impact Recovery Advisors in the region. Eligible applicants will receive up to 100% of eligible costs to a maximum of \$75,000 per position.

The funding intake is scheduled to open March 15, 2023, with the possibility of a second intake in the fall of 2023. The Application Guide, FAQ page and funding intake details will be posted by February 15, 2023 at www.etsi-bc.ca/forest-impact-recovery-program.

An Info Session will be hosted on March 10, 2023 at 10 am Pacific time. [Click here](#) to register.

After reviewing the Application Guide, interested applicants are welcome to contact the ETSI-BC Program Administrator at admin@etsi-bc.ca or (236) 420-3680 ext. 1 to schedule a meeting with the appropriate Project Consultant.



About ETSI-BC

ETSI-BC, the Economic Trust of the Southern Interior, was created in 2006 with a \$50 million endowment to help the economies in the Southern Interior of BC to grow and diversify. The Trust is governed by a 13-member Board of Directors, receiving input from Regional Advisory Committees made up of elected officials from both the Thompson-Okanagan and Columbia-Kootenay regions. We help communities in the Southern Interior to achieve their economic development goals, providing funding, resources and knowledge. Our Strategic Pillars include:

1. Building economic development capacity
2. Supporting business resilience and growth
3. Developing human capital
4. Innovating and advancing key sectors
5. Creating value for the economic development ecosystem

For more information about ETSI-BC, visit us at www.etsi-bc.ca.

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www.etsi-bc.ca

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Canada

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2023 Draft Financial Plan

S109 Economic Development-Kaslo and Area D

INCOME			
Account	Description	2023 Budget	Note
41010	Requisitions	20,581.00	
41020	Grants in lieu of Taxes	0.00	
43025	Grants - Specified	0.00	
45500	Transfer from Other Service	0.00	
49100	Prior Year Surplus	13,000.00	
Total Income		33,581.00	

EXPENSES			
Account	Description	2023 Budget	Note
52010	Travel	0.00	
53020	Admin, Office Supplies & Postage	0.00	
53040	Advertising	0.00	
54030	Contracted Services	14,750.00	Remaining Amount for CERIP - estimated.
54040	Consulting Fees	0.00	
57010	Grants	16,881.00	Amount available for leveraging or other projects
59510	Transfer to Other Service - General Admin. Fee	1,950.00	
Total Expenses		33,581.00	

Total Service	0.00
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