

Big White Mountain Community Development Association (BWMCDA) Annual Report 2022

Everyone Welcome!

The Big White Mountain Community Association is a place for everyone. We are a diverse community that includes visitors, pass holders, residents, business owners, investors, and workers. If the mountain holds a special place in your heart, become a member, get connected, enjoy the benefits, and have a positive impact.

We just like to welcome our members, non members and our special guests to our annual general meeting.

The BWMCDA has never been one to hype about all their accomplishments, we are just a hard-working team of Volunteers that love this community as much as you. Here are just some of our accomplishments we've been able to complete this year and some news on future endeavours as well.

In February 2022 we held a Mini retreat for our board of directors, the goal to review our constitution and ongoing issues and to refocus on who we truly represent and the projects that impacted the community most, but more important, we could accomplish. It was an amazing session thank you Carla for facilitating that for us. We are a diverse group with many passions, but we wanted to focus on those items we felt helped the community best and that we could complete. We came up with a new vision statement and we've refocused on the projects that we know are important, but mostly ones we know we can get done.

First and foremost, we needed to a website, something that we lost access to a few years previous. We knew we needed it to not only communicate with our members but as a source for grant applications. We had talked a lot about it, had a few false starts but we did not get very far!!! Well, in November 2021 we got lucky, Carla joined our team as our communications Director and her partner Richard is an IT specialist. They did their magic and build us our wonderful website we now have, 100% volunteer time, how wonderful is that. THANK YOU, Richard, and Carla. This year we plan to expand the site, add a member only piece where BWMCDA minutes and financial documents will be available and add a place to register for events and even accept donations. This is a huge win for us, onward and outward they say, we can't wait.

Wellness: See attached vision statement

Food Security – With our new, high altitude, heavy snow load community Greenhouse we are now able to extend our growing season 3-fold. We're looking at incorporating community plots plus a area for micro greens that we hope to be able to sell back to the local restaurants. Revenues from these 2 items will offset any operational costs we see go forward.

Healthy affordable activities – Covid killed this program for a few years but there is light at the end of the tunnel. We are working on re-establishing our wellness program again this year. Free or extremely discounted activities may include, fitness classes, snow shoeing, craft nights and/or cooking classes. The wellness program started to give those in the community alternate activities to enjoy, a want emphasised as a need in many surveys and even meetings held. Thanks to the board working hard and successfully receiving grants we hope to be able to rent facilities if need be and pay instructors when necessary.

Food Banks – We continue to participate in the Boundary Food Security Program, and should there be a need to supplement households with food boxes we know we can count on them again for support. Thanks to your board of directors last year, we still have our Food Program with the Kelowna Okanagan Food bank should any family need to supplement their cupboards. If you or you know of anyone who needs more information on this program, especially with the hard times we are seeing now, get in touch, its 100% confidential.

Partnerships/Memberships- We know we are nothing without you and the support of business and Big White Ski Resort. Finding synergies and win win situations are always the best solutions. Therefore, we upped our effort and have partnered with many businesses on the mountain, Total Restoration, the Tea Bar, the Bullwheel, the Underground, and the many businesses and Strata's that support our refundables program. We now have a liaison seat on our board with the Chamber of Commerce. We hope to establish the same with either Big White Ski (BWSR) or the Fire Department. By partnering with the Chamber of Commerce, BW Fire Department and Big White Ski Resort we have found win/win situations and have coordinated in pushing forward projects that will benefit both the business and the residential community. We will continue to work in building our relationships and are seeing many opportunities for the future.

Even though we don't always take the lead on items we do support the efforts of others. As requested by our community we have supplied letters of support to the Ministry of Transport, Blessing Food bank, and supported the effort to bring more events like the Arkells to our community. We also will help where needed to the Chamber of Commerce in its efforts to get public transportation on mountain.

Children's Programs – Rachele has been our champion of these programs for years and she continues her effort thanklessly. The summer camp was a success last year as was our Early Learning Center. The 2022 Summer camp again is a huge success. Rachele lead has enabled us to fund these programs with very successful grant applications and amazing fund-raising events. We also have been able to provide bursaries for those families needed a little more help with childcare needs.

Communications – Last fall we worked on putting together an information presentation on our Wellness Program as well as additional information on Boundary Services that we can tap into.

This year we hope to work with BWSR and other businesses to get this presentation out as part of the regular pre-season training.

Future projects in the Works

Working with some of the businesses and Big White ski resort, we hope to be able to put together a video that will be shared with businesses and residents alike. Its goal to educate businesses and residents on what can be recycled and what cannot be recycled. Thank you, Liz, for championing this project for us.

We have also, with Big White Ski Resort’s support, started the conversation with TELUS regarding Cell Service expansion on Big White Road. The BWMCDA see this as a safety issue and in such stepped up, thank you Don for leading this project on our behalf

Finally we will be working on reinstating the Block watch program. Originally it was thought that this program would transfer over to the community policy office but after a year of review they decided that it didn't fit into their program. Instead of having tis program die the board decided to take it back as a priority and place it under our Community Development Officers portfolio. There it will get the management needed to succeed. We are working with Roy Morgan to get approval to reinstate the program and have also opened the conversation up to the possibility of a Citizens action group. The latter may be harder to incorporate but we are willing to explore the opportunities, stay posted.

Big White Mountain Community Development Association Wellness Program 2019/2022		
Wellness 1 (Current & Managed by CA)	Age Friendly Community Program (Emotional & Physical Wellbeing)	FOOD SECURITY (Community Garden & Hamper Program)
Fitness Classes Tai Chi Snowshoeing Movie Nights Arts & Crafts Frisbee Golf Cooking Classes	Letters to Santa (initiated in 2019/2020 managed by CA) Xmas Hamper (initiated in 2019/2020 managed by CA) Stockings for Seniors (initiated in 2021 managed by CA) Isolation/Safety App (Keeo) Healthy Places & Spaces for all ages, Outdoor Classroom & Community Health, Safety & Harm Reduction Presentations Wellness Training Programs to Temporary Staff Review of Affordable Housing Opportunities	Donations-Food Banks (initiated in 2020/2021 managed by CA) Garden relocate and expansion at BW School Family Support Programs (Connection to Family Services) Learning Garden-Child Garden Club Greenhouse Implementation Work with local Restaurants (food recovery/composting) Shopping Angel Program Food preservation at harvest, dehydration, canning, etc.
Stakeholders	Stakeholders	Stakeholders
BW School District 51 Big White Fire Department Mountain Medical (Ski Hut - seasonal) Big White Ski Resort	BW School District 51 Interior Health Big White Medical Office (Seasonal) Big White Fire Department RDKB Committees and Council Family Boundary Services Big White Ski Resort	BW School District 51 Interior Health Big White Medical Office (Seasonal) Boundary Family Services RDKB Committees and Councils Local Restaurants Big White Ski Resort
Glossary		
Programs Implemented 2019/2020		
Programs planned for/or implemented in 2022		