

2023 – Making the Leap from Surviving to Thriving!

Following a resurgence of activity and growth in 2022, RVCC continued its march toward our goal of long-term sustainability and expanded its role as the center of our thriving community this year. Some highlights:

- ✓ An astounding outpouring of support from our membership in completing our greatest Annual Fund and Membership campaign ever, swelling our ranks to over 800 members and raising unrestricted revenues to help recoup shortfalls in fundraising and rental income during the pandemic;
- ✓ Another record-smashing year for the Treasure Chest thrift store, led by manager Ricki Shepherd and assistant Kyndal Steele and their phenomenal team of volunteers;
- ✓ The return of an active, post-pandemic class schedule, with the yoga room filling back up, exercise classes in full swing and a host of new classes and events, including the sponsorship of three new “Micro Books & Brews” events celebrating the work of local authors;
- ✓ A hearty “Welcome Aboard” to our new kitchen tenant “Coquito Kitchen”, keeping our streak of 100% lease occupancy alive for the ninth straight year;
- ✓ The inauguration of RVCC’s amazing new skate park – our largest infrastructure project to date – with a highly-successful “SK8 Nelson Festival” that raised enough funds to cover our ever-increasing insurance costs;
- ✓ The purchase of a new electronic sign for the front of the building, which will provide information to the public about our programs, events, tenants and facilities;
- ✓ Our first annual “Summer Sunset” party – a season-ending celebration of our devoted and irreplaceable volunteer corps with food, drink, entertainment and heartfelt thanks;
- ✓ A new “Rock Hall of Frames” in the West hallway, featuring repurposed window sashes from our “Windows ‘16” replacement project, and highlighting the many capital projects that have maintained and improved RVCC over the years;
- ✓ A busy and successful year for our Rockfish Gallery & Gifts store, which supports over 40 local artists by displaying and selling their beautiful and creative arts & crafts to our members and guests;
- ✓ Installation of 66 more photovoltaic cells on our East roof to complete our “Rock & Sol Revival” project, boosting our energy production to over 50% of our total consumption, helping to offset recent hikes in electricity prices, and further reducing our carbon footprint on the planet;
- ✓ The triumphant completion of our fundraising effort for “Play it Up!” – our playground expansion and improvement project that will double the current playground footprint and add a new kids’ play area in the recently-completed skate park in early 2024; and
- ✓ The formation of our new Recreation Committee, composed of both RVCC members and other community stakeholders, which is empowered to plan the evolution of our outdoor athletic and entertainment spaces and to guide their use.