



Playing in the snow in the Basin-Boundary!

Winter recreation is in full swing. Local Basin-Boundary residents are fortunate to live in an area that is endowed with some of the best access to winter activities including internationally recognized backcountry skiing and [snowshoeing](#).

Four of the seven national parks in British Columbia are found in our region as well as at least 60 provincial parks ([2017 State of the Basin](#))! These parks provide access to a large array of winter activities ranging from downhill skiing, cross country trails, snowshoeing and various backcountry adventures. The Basin-Boundary is known as a hub of culture and recreation and communities in our region have recognized

this by committing to cultural pursuits through a general [upward trend](#) in [funds](#). The Kootenay region, for example, has increased spending from 2011-2016 on information, culture and recreation by 17% over a five year period ([2017 State of the Basin](#)). The Basin is a highly desirable national and international tourist destination and this is supported by current data on increasing tourist visitation rates. Data for 2017 indicates that over 400 000 tourists made use of visitor centres in the Kootenay Rockies (although this is not limited to winter visits). Visitors bring significant economic benefit and development to local communities (i.e. through visiting [BC Parks](#)).

Future considerations impacting winter recreation in our region will need to incorporate local and elevation-sensitive climate projections. Current models predict warmer weather resulting in less precipitation as snowfall - especially in lower elevations (based on climate model projections built at RDI for the Columbia Basin – find data source [here](#)). Warmer winters with less snowfall will likely impact recreation and tourism in the area. Specifically looking at the ski industry, warmer winters will have serious economic implications on winter tourism. Climate data projections can help support public and industry related planning efforts for future winter tourism in the area.

Enjoy the remaining weeks of the ski season!

Geospatial Data Collection

Selkirk College's [Applied Research and Innovation Centre](#) offered a demonstration day featuring two of the newest tools used for geospatial data collection. This demonstration was made possible by Selkirk

College's \$2 million [NSERC](#) funded Forest Innovations applied research and workforce development program.

Smart Kootenays Challenge at the Tech Summit

Selkirk College's Applied Research and Innovation Centre will be sharing our [Smart Kootenays](#) challenge at the upcoming [Tech Summit](#) next month.



Selkirk College RDI Focus is a monthly e-blast highlighting stories of well-being in our region. You are receiving this email because you have attended an RDI event or have subscribed to receive updates on RDI.

[About Us](#) | [Communities](#) | [Research Areas](#) | [Resources](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute
Selkirk College
301 Frank Beinder Way
Castlegar BC V1N 4L3

 Like

 Tweet

 Share

 Forward

[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)