

**For Immediate Release**

**Date:** July 8, 2025

## **EVR and Elk Valley Field House Society announce \$1 million donation towards a new community field house in Fernie**

**Fernie, BC –** Elk Valley Resources (EVR) and the Elk Valley Field House Society today announced a \$1 million donation by EVR to the Elk Valley Field House Society to support the design and construction of a new recreational facility in Fernie.

The proposed facility, to be developed and operated by the Elk Valley Field House Society (EVFHS), will provide a much needed indoor recreational and gathering space for residents of the Elk Valley region.

The field house will be located next to the Fernie Aquatic Centre and feature a multi-use indoor space for a wide range of recreational, sporting and community needs.

“Our contribution towards a new field house underscores EVR’s commitment to investing in the communities where we live and operate,” said Mike Carrucan, CEO, EVR. “We recognize how important it is for the people of the Elk Valley to have an accessible, year-round space for health, wellness and connection—and are proud to be contributing to a project that brings the community together.”

The \$1 million donation from EVR represents a major investment in the project, which began after the sudden closure of the Fernie Community Centre in June 2024. Since then, the EVFHS has been working closely with local groups and community members to create a sustainable, community-focused gathering space.

“The support from EVR is a game-changing investment for our organization and the entire community,” said Antony McElwee on behalf of the EVFHS. “Their \$1 million donation reinforces their strong regional support and commitment to creating long-term benefits for all Elk Valley residents.”

The planned facility will feature multi-purpose gym space and flexible community areas to accommodate everything from sports to social events.

With the donation from EVR, the field house project can move forward with design, planning, and fundraising, bringing the community one step closer to regaining essential indoor facilities.

“We encourage other local businesses and industry partners to step forward and support this important facility,” added Mike Carrucan. “By working together, we will create lasting benefits for the region.”

The City of Fernie has also confirmed a \$525,000 contribution from its Resort Municipality Initiative (RMI) program, a provincial tourism funding program for resort municipalities, towards a new field house and has committed to a long-term lease of city-owned land to support the initiative.

**Additional quotes from key stakeholders:**

"We are deeply grateful to Elk Valley Resources for their generous investment in this community-led initiative, and to the Elk Valley Field House Society for their vision and leadership in championing this vital recreation facility," said Nic Milligan, Mayor, City of Fernie. "The City of Fernie is proud to support this project by contributing City-owned land, RMI funding, and working in partnership with the Society to bring this exciting new space to life for our residents."

"The new field house facility project is an urgent and critical need for the community and the Elk Valley," said Jikke Gyorki, Executive Officer, Tourism Fernie. "It will also support the area economy by creating venue space for sports, recreation, events, competitions, programming and more. Tourism Fernie has been a partner and supporter since the beginning, and is excited to see EVR support the project and Valley."

**Media Assets:**

Download a high-resolution image of the cheque presentation [here](#).

Photo credit: EVR/Vince Mo. Pictured in the photo from left to right: Antony McElwee (EVFHS), Mike Carrucan (EVR), Mayor Nic Milligan (City of Fernie), Dennis Staples (EVFHS), Bill Phillips (EVFHS) and Aysha Haines (EVFHS)

**About Elk Valley Resources**

Elk Valley Resources (EVR) operates four steelmaking coal mines in the Elk Valley of British Columbia, providing jobs for more than 5,000 people. We are committed to responsible resource development, environmental performance and building strong partnerships with communities and Indigenous Peoples. Headquartered in Vancouver, British Columbia, EVR is part of the Glencore Group, one of the world's largest diversified natural resource companies. Learn more at [evr.com](http://evr.com).

**About the Elk Valley Field House Society**

The Elk Valley Field House Society is a not-for-profit organization built by passionate community volunteers. We are committed to supporting the physical, mental, economic, and social well-being of residents in the Elk Valley. Through funding, building, and operating a multi-use recreational and gathering facility, we aim to enrich the lives of community members.

**Media Contacts:**

Elk Valley Resources  
Chris Stannell  
[chris.stannell@evr.com](mailto:chris.stannell@evr.com)  
1.236.484.2241

Elk Valley Field House Society  
Antony McElwee  
[admin@fernierc.com](mailto:admin@fernierc.com)  
1.403.689.7245