



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

INFORMATION RELEASE

May 1, 2018

Electoral Area “D” Division – Confirmed!

The RDOS has been advised that the new Lieutenant Governor has approved the Order in Council which sees the division of Electoral Area “D” into two separate Electoral Areas. This division will officially come into effect this October at election time, where residents of the new Area “I” will have the opportunity to vote in their new electoral director.

What does this mean for residents?

New Boundary: The new electoral Area “D” includes the communities on the east side of Skaha Lake – Okanagan Falls, Skaha Estates, Heritage Hills, Upper Carmi and Vaseux Lake. The new electoral Area “I” includes the communities on the west side of Skaha Lake – Kaleden, Twin Lakes, St. Andrews, Marron Valley and Apex.

Additional Electoral Area Director: there will be an additional director on the RDOS Board. This new director will be voted in at the upcoming elections this October.

New Directors Represent Smaller Population: The existing Area “D” is made up of a number of unique communities and is currently the largest RDOS electoral area in terms of population, which can make it a challenge for one electoral area director to represent all of the area at the RDOS Board. Now with the creation of two electoral areas, the electoral directors will have increased capacity to attend meetings across the area and will be able to better understand and represent the views of the residents and property owners.

New Advisory Planning Commissions:

If the directors for the new areas choose to have commissions (an APC is not mandatory), the existing APC for Area “D” will be re-established with local representatives from the communities on the east side of Skaha Lake, and a new APC will be established for Area “I” with representatives from the communities on the west side of the Lake. This change would increase the input that local communities have on matters relating to land use planning and management.

Rural Project Funding and Priorities:

The Province of BC provides funding to the RDOS for rural projects through gas tax funding. The division will see the existing gas tax funding (ie., the funding provided to the whole of Area “D”) divided between the new Area “D” and Area “I”, based on the populations of these new areas. The division does not result in a reduction or increase in the total gas tax funding across the area;



however, the new directors of each area will have the ability to identify and fund priority projects in each of their electoral areas.

For more information please contact Christy Malden, Manager of Legislative Services, at cmalden@rdos.bc.ca or by phone at (250) 492-0237.

Karla Kozakevich

Karla Kozakevich, Chair
Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

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