

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

INFORMATION RELEASE

August 7, 2018

Royal Bank of Canada Salutes Partners in Water Stewardship

The RBC Blue Water Project Completes a 10 Year, 50 Million Dollar Grant Funding Commitment

The RDOS has been fortunate to be a partner in this valuable project and the recipient of five- RBC Blue Water Project Grants over the past six years. **Grants totaling \$ 290,000.00**

“The RBC has been very supportive of the ‘One Valley, One Water’ concept, understanding how important and yet fragile the water systems are in the Okanagan and Similkameen. The ability to augment existing water management programs and develop new outreach campaigns would not have been possible without the grants,” says RDOS Projects Coordinator, Zoe Kirk

The RBC Blue Water Project was an innovative 10-year global commitment to help provide access to drinkable, swimmable, fishable water now and for future generations. As we celebrate the impact of the RBC Blue Water Project and reflect back on the past 10 years, we know that none of this could have been achieved without the work of our partners.

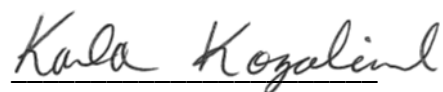
RBC invested in organizations and programs that brought **2 million** people to the water’s edge and made them realize that they were connected to water. And, because people made those connections to water, some pretty amazing things happened. Visit: [Watch The RBC Blue Water Project 10 year Celebration Video](#)

RBC funded projects in the RDOS:

- 1) 2012/13 - Rain Barrel workshop Grant - \$45,000
- 2) 2013-14 - Rain Water Capture/ Re-Use Workshops/Four Demonstration Rain Gardens - \$90,000
- 3) 2014-15 - Riparian Stewardship Workshops - \$45,000
- 4) 2015-16 – Quagga/Zebra Mussel Prevention Program (Interpretive Trailer/Program) - \$100,000
- 5) 2016-17 - Quagga/Zebra Mussel Prevention Program - \$10,000

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For further information, please contact, Zoe Kirk, RDOS Public Works Projects Coordinator at (250 – 490-4110) or zkirk@rdos.bc.ca.



Karla Kozakevich, Chair
Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen



RBC Blue Water Project™

The RBC Blue Water Project was an innovative, 10-year global commitment to help provide access to drinkable, swimmable, fishable water, now and for future generations.

Our purpose as an organization is to help our clients thrive, and communities prosper. We are proud of having supported so many causes to support this urgent issue in a meaningful way.

10 YEARS • \$50 MILLION • 13 COUNTRIES • 773 ORGANIZATIONS



SUPPORTED TWO
TRANSBOUNDARY
WATER
AGREEMENTS



CONDUCTED
ANNUAL
CANADIAN WATER
ATTITUDES STUDY
(FIRST OF ITS
KIND)



\$8.8 MILLION OF
SUPPORT
PROVIDED TO
UNIVERSITIES FOR
WATER
PROGRAMS



OVER 1 MILLION
PEOPLE
EDUCATED ABOUT
WATER
MANAGEMENT



538,537 PLANTS &
TREES PLANTED



3,469,277
KILOGRAMS OF
WASTE REMOVED
FROM SHORELINE



OVER 1 BILLION
GLASSES OF
WATER
CONSERVED



891,577 KM² OF
SHORELINE
STABILIZED



BLUE WATER DAY:
LARGEST
EMPLOYEE
ENGAGEMENT
EFFORT IN RBC'S
HISTORY



\$10 MILLION
VISIONARY
GRANT GIVEN TO
ONE DROP
FOUNDATION



Rain Garden "Team"



Lisa Scott of OASISS and Zoe Kirk – the Trailer is ready to roll



Rain Water Re-use Workshop, Penticton BC



RBC Cheque Presentation