

# REGIONAL CONNECTIONS

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

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### 2017 RDOS Budget

*Budget received first reading from RDOS Board.*

### ELECTORAL AREA "F"

*Seeking members for Electoral Area "F" Citizens Committee.*

### QUEEN'S COUNSEL

### FREE WORKSHOP

*Protecting our natural assets along the water's edge.*

### BOARD HIGHLIGHTS



## 2017 RDOS BUDGET Budget Impacts for Rural Area Residents

The 2017 – 2021 Five Year Financial Plan has received first reading from the Board. This is a DRAFT budget until it receives final approval by the Board in March.

Find the full DRAFT budget document at [www.rdos.bc.ca](http://www.rdos.bc.ca).

To help Electoral Area residents understand the budget impacts in their particular area, we have created a Budget Information Summary for each Electoral Area.

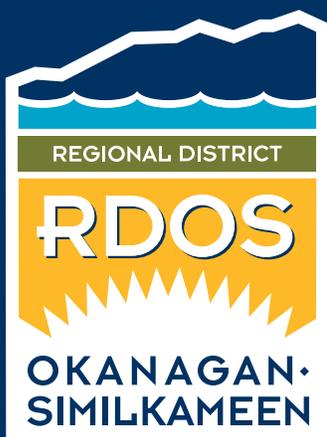
To learn more about the 2017 budget impacts for your Area, click on your Electoral Area document below:

- [Area "A" Budget Information](#)  
(Rural Osoyoos)
- [Area "B" Budget Information](#)  
(Cawston area)
- [Area "C" Budget Information](#)  
(Rural Oliver)
- [Area "D" Budget Information](#)  
(Okfalls, Kaleden and Apex areas)

- [Area "E" Budget Information](#)  
(Naramata Area)
- [Area "F" Budget Information](#)  
(West Bench and Faulder areas)
- [Area "G" Budget Information](#)  
(Hedley, Olalla areas)
- [Area "H" Budget Information](#)  
(Rural Princeton)

The Board values public input on the budget process. If you have any questions, or wish to provide any feedback on the 2017 DRAFT budget, please follow the contact links provided in each Area's Budget Information Summary and send us your feedback by February 22, 2017.

For residents of our member municipalities, the impacts of the budget have been sent to the Chief Financial Officer of your municipality. As the RDOS budget is only a part of your overall tax requisition, please contact your municipality directly for further information on the 2017 budget impacts within your municipality.





## SEEKING MEMBERS FOR ELECTORAL AREA "F" CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE

Residents of Electoral Area "F", in the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen, are invited to participate on an Official Community Plan (OCP) Citizen's Committee. Electoral Area "F" is situated on the west and partially on the east side of Summerland and includes areas in and around West Bench, Sage Mesa, Faulder, Greata Ranch, North Beach, Darke Lake and Eneas Lakes Provincial Parks and Meadow Valley.

"We are looking for a broad range of community members to provide insight, vision, enthusiasm and commitment to this process", states Electoral Area "F" Director, Michael Brydon. "It is a great opportunity for residents to help shape the future direction of their community". It is expected

that it will take about two years to complete this project with ample opportunities for public consultation.

An Official Community Plan (OCP) is a provincially mandated, legal document containing objectives and policies to guide local government decisions on planning and land use management. It establishes land use designations, environmental, social and economic policy directions to support the plan's larger objectives. It describes the long term vision for the community and includes policies on such things as housing, commercial, industrial and institutional use, agriculture, recreation, transportation, infrastructure, and environmental protection.

A Rural Land Use Bylaw (RLUB) was adopted for Area "F" in 1988 with a review and update completed in 1997. In 2008 the RLUB was re-formatted; however, there were no substantive changes done at that time. The OCP for Electoral Area "F" is certainly ready for a review and update!

Anyone interested in helping to shape their community and help set strategic direction for the entire electoral area is encouraged to apply.

Application forms are available on the RDOS website ([www.rdos.bc.ca](http://www.rdos.bc.ca)) and hard copies are available at the RDOS office, 101 Martin Street, Penticton.

For more information, please contact Evelyn Riechert, Planner, at 250-492-0237.

- RDOS Board of Directors**
- MARK PENDERGRAFT  
Area "A" - Osoyoos Rural
  - GEORGE BUSH  
Area "B" - Cawston
  - TERRY SCHAFER  
Area "C" - Oliver Rural
  - THOMAS SIDDON  
Area "D" - Kaleden/Okanagan Falls
  - KARLA KOZAKEVICH  
Chair  
Area "E" - Naramata
  - MICHAEL BRYDON  
OSRHD Chair  
Area "F" - Okanagan Lake West/West Bench
  - ELEF CHRISTENSEN  
Area "G" - Keremeos Rural/Hedley
  - BOB COYNE  
Area "H" - Princeton Rural
  - ANDREW JAKUBEIT  
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Town of Princeton
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Village of Keremeos



## RDOS LAWYER RECEIVES QUEEN'S COUNSEL

Under the Queen's Counsel Act, the Lieutenant Governor in Counsel, on the recommendation of the Attorney General, may bestow on lawyers in British Columbia the honorary title of Queen's Counsel (QC) to recognize exceptional merit and contribution to the legal profession.

The Queens Counsel designation is given to lawyers who demonstrate professional integrity, good character and excellence in the practice of law. It's how the Province recognizes lawyers for their contributions to their communities, the justice system and our province.

Richard Paul Thompson has

practised law since 1974 and has been with Gilchrist & Company in Penticton since 2007. He was appointed the solicitor for the City of Penticton from 1993 to 2008 and for the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen from 2008 to the present. He acts as teacher and mentor to other lawyers to improve skills, ethics and professionalism. Mr. Thompson has been appointed the honorary title of Queen's Counsel.

The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen congratulated Mr. Thompson at the January 19, 2017 Board meeting by presenting him with a plaque recognizing his achievement.

## PROTECTING OUR NATURAL ASSETS ALONG THE WATER'S EDGE

Join three experts for this FREE workshop and learn about protecting our shoreline habitats. These workshops will be of particular interest to homeowners or businesses on lakefront, oxbow, wetland and creek side properties, but all are welcome.

Participants will gain an understanding of:  
**Function** of riparian areas and how they contribute to ecosystem health and water quality  
**Regulations** of riparian areas for homeowners along waterways, shorelines and beach fronts, as they protect both the land value and biological value of waterfront properties  
**Landscaping** with easy-care, hardy native plants, shrubs and trees suitable to plant along the shoreline to act as buffers and to protect banks from erosion  
**Invasive species**, aquatic/ terrestrial species information and control

**Presenters:** Don Gayton, award winning author and coordinator of the Okanagan Wetlands Strategy; Alison Peatt, Shared Environmental Planner for South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program; and Eva Antonijevic, Coordinator for this series.

Sat, Feb 25, 10 am – 12:30 pm, Regional District of Similkameen-Okanagan, 101 Martin St., Penticton.

For more information and to pre- register: Please contact Eva Antonijevic by email [eva.anton@shaw.ca](mailto:eva.anton@shaw.ca)

These events are generously co-sponsored by:



# RDOS BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

*Selected highlights from the regular meetings of the Board of Directors of the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen held January 5 and 19.*

The Board of Directors awarded the Electoral Area “F” Official Community Plan (OCP) Review and Update project to EcoPlan International Inc. in the amount of \$109,293 plus taxes. The review and update of the Electoral Area “F” OCP is a strategic Board priority noted in the 2016/17 Business Plan. The scope of the work to complete the OCP update will include a background report, land inventory and trend research. A diverse community engagement strategy. Technical reports that include summarizing geological hazards, infrastructure capacity, groundwater and fire risk assessment, as well as bylaw preparation, mapping, aligning with the Regional Growth Strategy and OCP policies.

The Naramata Library Capital Works Reserve Fund Expenditure Bylaw authorizing up to \$50,000 for roof improvements on all buildings on the library property was adopted. The Naramata Library, Thrift Shop and Old Age Pensioners buildings are all in need of roof replacement. All three buildings are located on the same property. The project is expected to be completed in early 2017

The RDOS 2017 – 2021 Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw was given first reading by the Board of Directors. The complete plan can be found on the RDOS website at: <http://www.rdos.bc.ca/departments/finance/2017-budget-information/> and the public have until February 22 to provide comments.

The RDOS has entered into a bulk water purchasing agreement with the City of Penticton for the West Bench Water System. Part of the agreement was to implement a robust water conservation program that included the installation of water meters. The goal for 2017 was to initiate water rates for the West Bench area based on consumption. Several rate options have been evaluated to recover the full revenue requirement with a different proportion of rates recovered from a fixed monthly charge and a variable charged based on consumption. The Board of Directors have approved the formula of 70% of revenue

from fixed charges (\$63.47/month); 30% from variable charges (\$0.309/cm<sup>3</sup>) and a 50% discount on variable charge for farm customers (\$0.154/cm<sup>3</sup>).

The Board of Directors have approved a letter of support be provided to the Lower Similkameen Indian Band and Village of Keremeos requesting additional policing in the Keremeos, B.C. detachment.

The Naramata water system project will carry out design and construction activities for the upgrading and replacement of watermains and equipment at seven identified priority locations. The Board of Directors approved the expenditure of up to \$400,000 for the consulting services for the 2017 Naramata Water system Rehabilitation and Expansion project.

The Board of Directors will make application to the Province for a License of Occupation over the former Granite Creek Townsite, containing 1.18 hectares, more or less for the purpose of preservation of historical improvements and maintenance of the site for a period of 10 years. Subsequent to the Board’s resolution on June 4, 2015 to make application to the Province for a License of Occupation over the former Granite Creek Townsite, the Crown offered a License of Occupation for a limited portion of the lands due to a competing mineral claim for the same area. Following successful negotiations between Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen, the Crown, and the Granite Creek Preservation Society through September and October of 2016, a new License of Occupation has now been offered for a revised area of the historical Granite Creek Townsite.

The Board of Directors adopted the Electoral Area “A” Victims Assistance Contribution Service Establishment bylaw. An alternative approval process for this bylaw completed on January 6, 2017. The number of elector response forms needed to prevent the bylaw was 168, and zero were received. Elector approval was obtained

and the Board of Directors have adopted the bylaw.

The Board of Directors adopted the Electoral Area “C” Victim Assistance Contribution Services Establishment bylaw. An alternative approval process for this bylaw completed on January 6, 2017. The number of elector response forms needed to prevent the bylaw was 306, and zero were received. Elector approval was obtained and the Board of Directors have adopted the bylaw.

The Board of Directors adopted the Electoral Areas “D”, “E”, and “F” Victim Assistance Contribution Service Establishment bylaw. An alternative approval process for this bylaw completed on January 6, 2017. The number of elector response forms needed to prevent the bylaw was 842, and zero were received. Elector approval was obtained and the Board of Directors have adopted the bylaw.

The Board of Directors adopted the Electoral Area “C” Loose Bay Campground Service Establishment bylaw. An alternative approval process for this bylaw completed on January 6, 2017. The number of elector response forms needed to prevent the bylaw was 306, and 13 response forms were received. Elector approval was obtained and the Board of Directors have adopted the bylaw.

The Town of Oliver and Area “C” have been jointly funding the Visitor Information Services and Tourism Initiatives based out of the Oliver Visitor Information Centre since 2011. This funding has been provided through a three-year renewable agreement and the Board resolved to renew the agreement most recently from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2016. The RDOS, the Town of Oliver and the Oliver Tourism Association have renewed the agreement for a three year term, from January 2017 to December 2019.

## REGIONAL CONNECTIONS

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Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen