



## REGIONAL DISTRICT OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN PRESS RELEASE January 22, 2008

### Potential Growth Areas Identified

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On January 10, 2008, the RDOS Board of Directors reconsidered and re-read second reading of the South Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) Bylaw and is once again inviting the public to comment on the bylaw at a series of open houses in January and February.

The key consideration at this stage prior to commencing to public hearing is changes to the growth areas to which future development will be directed. Proposed primary growth areas are Osoyoos, Oliver, Okanagan Falls, Summerland and Penticton. Proposed secondary growth areas include Apex, Kaleden, Naramata, Regal Ridge, Skaha Estates/Eastside Road, Gallagher Lake, St. Andrews, Twin Lakes and Willow Beach.

The RGS was launched in November 2004 to address growth management concerns of south Okanagan residents. Rural and urban south Okanagan communities of Osoyoos, Oliver, Summerland, Okanagan Falls, Naramata and Penticton have put forward their vision for the future for the region. RDOS staff has worked with the communities, five advisory committees and a number of provincial government agencies to develop the RGS. "It is important for the Regional District to have public feedback on the Growth Strategy." said Dan Ashton, Chair of the Regional District. "The RGS is a made in the Okanagan initiative that addresses sustainability and is a general guide for growth management in our region." added Ashton.

Six public open houses will be held throughout the south Okanagan to gather comments on the RGS Bylaw 2421, 2007, currently at second reading.

#### Dates and locations:

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>January 29</b>	<b>Naramata</b>	<b>Community Centre Loft - (3375 3<sup>rd</sup> St)</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>January 30</b>	<b>Oliver</b>	<b>Community Centre - (36003 79<sup>th</sup> St)</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>January 31</b>	<b>Summerland</b>	<b>Community Arena - (8820 Jubilee Rd)</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>February 5</b>	<b>Osoyoos</b>	<b>Sonora Community Centre - (8505 68<sup>th</sup> Ave)</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>February 6</b>	<b>Okanagan Falls</b>	<b>Community Centre - (1141 Cedar St)</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>February 7</b>	<b>Penticton</b>	<b>RDOS Board room - (101 Martin Ave)</b>

Each session will be held from **7:00 pm to 9:00pm** in the respective communities.

The RGS can be viewed on the RDOS website at [www.rdos.bc.ca](http://www.rdos.bc.ca). For more information on the RGS contact David Arsenault at 250-490-4137 or 1-877-610-3737 extension 4137. Written comments are also welcome at 101 Martin Ave. Penticton, BC.V2A 5J9.

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D. Ashton

#### DISTRIBUTION:

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