

ELECTORAL AREA "D" GOVERNANCE STUDY COMMITTEE INFORMATION RELEASE

April 4, 2016

RDOS Electoral Area "D" Governance Study Update

The Area "D" Governance Study has now passed the halfway point in the year-long project. The study is designed to consider methods to improve governance and services to the communities of Electoral Area "D" and their surrounding areas.

Through the fall of 2015 and early winter of 2016, the residents and property owners of Kaleden, Okanagan Falls, Twin Lakes, Lakeshore Highlands, Heritage Hills, Vintage Views, Upper Carmi, Skaha Estates, Vaseux Lake, St. Andrews, Apex and their surrounding areas were introduced to the study and were presented with a series of "Fact Sheets" which gave a comprehensive description of services provided by the RDOS.

In March, the public attended three Governance Study Forums in Okanagan Falls, Kaleden and Apex where they were invited to learn about the study, ask questions and discuss their views on local governance and services.

At the same time, public were invited to participate in a survey to express their attitudes toward the current governance framework for service and to provide an opportunity to identify issues and to note concerns or positive aspects of the current system.

Information from the surveys and Forums is now in the hands of the study consultants, Leftside Partners who will be analyzing it and recommending options to the Committee for responding to the governance and service related issues that are identified.

Next steps:

Through spring and early summer, a second series of detailed "Fact Sheets" which describe the implications related to each of the possible governance changes will be prepared for the RDOS website, and distributed to the public throughout Area "D." The Committee will also invite the public to participate in a second survey which will ask for their preferences of the possible changes.

By the end of summer, the consultants will have compiled the results of the second survey, and included them in the final report. The report will be presented to the Committee and RDOS and be made available to the public.

To keep informed about the Area "D" Governance Study progress, go to the RDOS website at <u>www.rdos.bc.ca</u> and click on "popular links."

The Governance Study Committee continues its regular meetings which are open to the public. The next two meetings are April 4 and May 2 at 6:30pm in the Club Room at Okanagan Falls Community Center.