



Regional District Okanagan - Similkameen Electoral Area "D" Governance Study

Talking Points for Governance Study

Purpose: To review and consider methods to improve governance and services to the communities of Electoral Area "D" and their surrounding areas. To achieve this, the provincial government has elected to fund a study to look at a range of options for improvement of governance and services for all of the communities in Electoral Area "D" and their surrounding areas within the context of the regional district structure.

This study is not about incorporation!

Communities of Electoral Area "D": Apex; Heritage Hills/Lakeshore Highlands; Kaleden; Okanagan Falls; Skaha Estates; St Andrews; Twin Lakes; Upper Carmi; Vaseux Lake; and their surrounding areas.

Governance Study Process:

1. Research identifying and evaluating the manner in which communities receive or participate in: governance; services; stewardship of community assets; and economic, social and environmental well-being.
2. Public engagement identifying issues of greatest concern to their communities, and how they envision future governance options.
3. Analysis identifying options within the regional district framework for addressing the most pressing interests of the communities.

Who is Involved?

1. A committee of citizens from communities throughout Area D will guide and manage the process.
2. A consulting company, Left Side Partners will carry out research and analysis and prepare a final report with appropriate recommendations for improvement.
3. The citizens of Electoral Area "D" will provide information pertinent to their communities.

How Can the Public Participate? Public involvement is the key to a successful study! The citizens from each community can:

1. Follow the process on the RDOS website www.rdos.bc.ca
2. Attend monthly scheduled Committee meetings, generally the first Monday of each month – check the website for any changes. These meetings are open to the public
3. Attend Community Forums
4. Participate in surveys (hard copy/on line)
5. Provide written submissions with their views on governance and services to areadgovernance@rdos.bc.ca
6. Provide recommendations for improvement of governance and services to areadgovernance@rdos.bc.ca or to an area champion.

How to Keep Informed? The public can find information about the study on the RDOS Website; regular articles in Apex Matters; Skaha Matters; Western News; Penticton Herald; web-based news, e.g. OK Falls Daily News, Castanet, and Shaw Cable

Timeline: The study is to be completed by fall of 2016