



ATTENTION RESIDENTS OF:

Kaleden, Okanagan Falls, Twin Lakes, Lakeshore Highlands, Heritage Hills, Vintage Views, Upper Carmi, Skaha Estates, Vaseux Lake, St. Andrews, Apex and surrounding areas.

Get Informed. Get Involved. Have Your Say!

This newsletter is intended to provide you with information regarding the Governance Study currently underway in Electoral Area “D”.

It is intended to provide clarity with regard to:

- The purpose of the governance study
 - Why it is necessary
 - Who is involved in the study
- And**
- Your role in the study

Purpose:

- To examine the present system of governance and delivery of services by the RDOS
- To look at a range of options to improve the current system of government and services for all communities and rural areas within the district within the regional district framework of governance.

- 1) Read the Fact Sheets** (online or paper copies available)
- 2) Complete Survey #1** (see attached)
Deadline to submit your survey is March 13, 2016.
- 3) Attend a Governance Open House Forum:**

March 2: Okanagan Falls Community Centre
1141 Cedar Street 6 – 8 pm

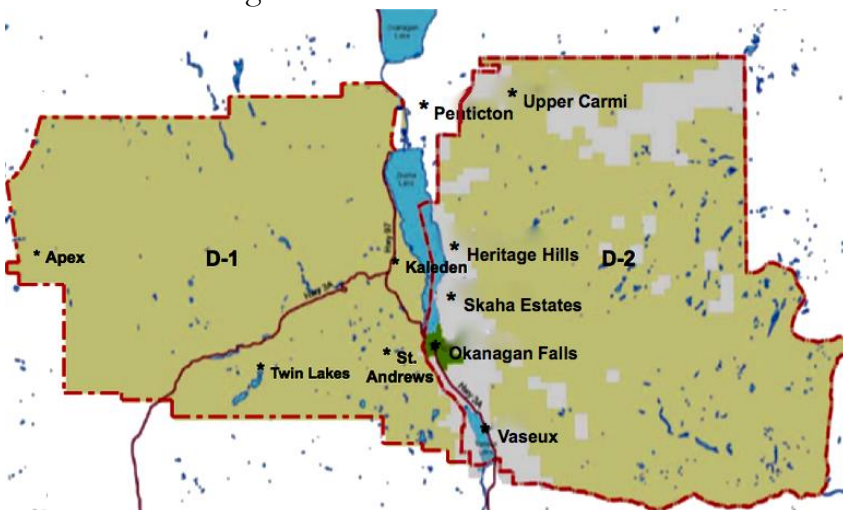
March 3: Kaleden Community Hall
340 Lakehill Road 6 – 8 pm

March 5: Apex Mountain Inn
Rock Oven Room 3 – 5 pm

Why is a study necessary?

Area “D” is a large and diverse part of the RDOS and is comprised of a number of unique communities. A one-size-fits-all approach to local government may not meet the changing needs of all of the communities. Is our current system adequately addressing our current needs?

Will the present governance structure and services be capable of dealing with potential population changes? Will they be able to keep up with the challenges related to land and water issues in communities and surrounding areas?



Currently, the Electoral Area D has one director who is responsible for the entire Electoral Area.

Did You Know? (2011 Census)

- Area D is the largest and most populated electoral district in the RDOS.
- Population of RDOS: 80,742
- Population of Electoral Areas A-H: 20,148 (25% of RDOS)
- Population of Electoral Area D: 5,717 (not including the PIB) This is 28% of all electoral areas and 7% of the RDOS

Population Trends (from Stats Canada)

Projections indicate the population of Area ‘D’ could grow to 5,910 by 2021 (an increase of 3.3% over 2011), with a return to 2006 levels 6,115 (7% growth) by 2031.

Who is involved in the study?

Although funded by the Province, the study is being guided by a Governance Study Committee comprised of 10 local Area “D” community resident volunteers. Leftside Partners Consulting was hired to carry out research and analysis and, with cooperation and support from RDOS staff, prepare a final report with options and recommendations for improvement.

What is your role? **Get Informed. Get Involved. Have Your Say!**

You, the citizens of Area “D”, will be asked to provide information and opinions on governance and services relevant to your communities.

Read the Fact Sheets:

Get to know your Regional District! There are probably services you never even knew the RDOS provided (and perhaps some you thought it did that it doesn't). As a first stage in the process of evaluating how services are being governed and delivered, “Fact Sheets” have been prepared to outline each of the services the RDOS currently provides to each community within Area “D.” Each Fact Sheet provides an overview of the service, how it's delivered, how decisions are made, and the costs.

Volume 1 (1-6)	Regional District Governance; Solid Waste Management; Fire Protection & Emergency Services; Library Services; Transit; Parks, Trails and Recreation.
Volume 2 (7-13)	Economic Development Services; Administration; Sewer & Waste Water Services; Water Service; Planning & Building Services; Bylaw Enforcement & Animal Control; Invasive Plants & Pest Control.

Fact Sheets are available online at www.rdos.bc.ca or in hard copy at the following locations:

- **Apex:** Administration Office & The Edge Bistro
- **Twin Lakes:** Twin Lakes Store
- **St. Andrews:** St. Andrews by the Lake Office
- **Kaleden:** Irrigation District Office & Library
- **Skaha Estates, Vaseux Lake, Heritage Hills, Lakeshore Highlands, Vintage Views & Okanagan Falls:** Pharmasave, Library, 3 Winds Hair Design, Dr. Browne's Office, Dr. Robertson's Office, Royal Lepage Realty, Interior Savings, Seniors Centre, The Bear Bean Café, Johnston Meier Insurance, H&M Thriftee Shop, Noble Ridge Winery, & the Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen Rural Services Office.
- **Upper Carmi:** RDOS Office - 101 Martin Street, Penticton

Complete Survey #1: Please see attached. **Deadline to submit is March 13, 2016.**

The purpose of the first survey is to solicit feedback from residents regarding their attitudes toward the current governance framework for service and to provide an opportunity to identify issues, note concerns or positive aspects of the current system. It will also allow residents to express opinions on what changes (if any) they would like to see.

The more we understand the issues, the better we can develop options to address them. Fill out the attached survey, or complete it online at www.rdos.bc.ca. Completed surveys can be dropped off at locations identified on the survey, emailed to areadgovernance@rdos.bc.ca, mailed to Area D Governance Study, 101 Martin Street Penticton, BC V2A 5J9 or left at the forum you attend.

Attend a Governance Study Open House Forum (March 2, 3 or 5, 2016):

- Come and discuss your ideas and concerns at one of three Governance Study Forum events across Area “D”.
- Ask questions, learn about the study, discuss your views, share your perspective on local services and governance.
- Take part in a roundtable discussion and share your perspective on what is working or what needs improvement.
- Facilitated roundtable discussions will take place in the last hour of each forum, but the open house drop-in to discuss the study and ideas with staff and consultants is open throughout the two-hour event.

Find a Forum near you:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| ○ Okanagan Falls Community Centre – 1141 Cedar Street | March 2 | 6 – 8 pm |
| ○ Kaleden Community Hall – 340 Lakehill Road | March 3 | 6 – 8 pm |
| ○ Apex Mountain Inn – Rock Oven Room | March 5 | 3 – 5 pm |

Send Us a Letter:

If you don't find sufficient room in the survey to detail your concerns, issues or ideas, or if you have more information that you would like to contribute, feel free to share your ideas and thoughts in a more comprehensive written submission. You can submit it at any of the Governance Study Forums or by email to areadgovernance@rdos.bc.ca OR by mail to: Area D Governance Study, 101 Martin Street, Penticton, BC V2A 5J9.

Next Steps:

Once your views are received through Survey # 1, written submissions and the Governance Study Open House Forums, the Committee and Consultant will collate the information, analyze issues and develop possible options to improve governance and service delivery to Area “D.”

By Spring 2016, the Committee will prepare summaries of the options (and the implications), and will again seek your preferences through **Survey #2**. Summaries and Surveys will be available online, as well as in print form.

Complete Survey #2:

Survey # 2 will give you the opportunity to comment on the various options developed in response to first survey and the public open house forums.

Final Report:

By the end of Summer 2016, the consultants' report with options will be submitted to the Governance Study Committee and will be made available to the public. The Governance Study Committee is responsible to provide recommendations to the RDOS Board of Directors. The Board will consider these recommendations and submit a final report to the Province.

What you need to know!

- ✓ We need you! Public involvement is the key to a successful study.
- ✓ The views of all Area “D” communities and residents are important to this process.
- ✓ The study is not an incorporation study – final options proposed will be within the current regional district structure.

How do I stay informed?

- ✓ Sign up for email updates at areadgovernance@rdos.bc.ca
- ✓ Find more info on the RDOS website at www.rdos.bc.ca
- ✓ Look for updates in the media: *Apex Matters, Skaha Matters, Penticton Western News, Penticton Herald, OK Falls Daily News, Castanet and Infonews.*
- ✓ Talk to your local Committee Contacts – there’s one in your area. Call 250-490-4146.

General Questions?

Email: areadgovernance@rdos.bc.ca

RDOS: 250-492-0237

Website: www.rdos.bc.ca

Specific Questions?

Contact your Community Contact Person

Call: 250-490-4146

Governance Study Committee Community Contacts			
Who	Responsible for	Who	Responsible for
Bob Daly (chair)	Upper Carmi	Larry Kenyon	Twin Lakes
Tamara Browne	Okanagan Falls	Doug Lychak	Heritage Hills/Vintage Views
Navid Chandry	Lakeshore Highlands	Myleen Mallach	Apex
Leslie D’Andrea	St. Andrews	Jerry Stewart	Skaha Estates/Vaseux Lake
Sam Hancheroff	Kaleden	Eleanor Walker	Okanagan Falls

