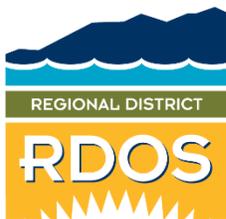


South Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy Review - Consultation Plan (2026)



1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Consultation Plan is to establish an engagement process as the Regional District reviews the South Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) Bylaw No. 2770, 2017.

This Consultation Plan is intended to meet Sections 434(1) and (2) of the *Local Government Act* that requires the RDOS to provide consultation opportunities relating to proposed changes to a Regional Growth Strategy. Section 434(2) of the Act specifically states that:

...as soon as practicable after the initiation of a regional growth strategy, the board must adopt a consultation plan that, in the opinion of the board, provides opportunities for early and ongoing consultation with, at a minimum, the following:

- (a) its citizens,*
- (b) affected local governments,*
- (c) First Nations,*
- (d) boards of education, greater boards and improvement district boards, and*
- (e) the Provincial and Federal governments and their agencies.*

The Board is further required to consider whether the Consultation Plan should include a public hearing to provide an opportunity for individuals and organizations to make their views known before proposed amendments to the RGS are submitted for acceptance by “affected local governments”.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL IDENTIFICATION

In order to satisfy the “early and ongoing consultation” requirements of the *Local Government Act*, it is being proposed that the following affected local governments, first nations, boards of education, greater boards and improvement district boards and Provincial and federal governments and their agencies be apprised of the RGS Review and given an opportunity to provide feedback:

Local Government	First Nations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Penticton • District of Summerland • Town of Oliver • Town of Osoyoos • Central Okanagan Regional District • Fraser Valley Regional District • Kootenay Boundary Regional District • Thompson Nicola Regional District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penticton Indian Band (PIB) • Osoyoos Indian Band (OIB) • Lower Similkameen Indian Band (LSIB) • Upper Similkameen Indian Band (USIB) • Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA)

Boards of Education, Improvement District, and similar	Provincial and Federal agencies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School District No. 53 • School District No. 67 • Apex Mountain Resort • Boundary Line Irrigation District • Farleigh Lake Water Users Community • Fairview Heights Irrigation District • Kaleden Irrigation District • Lakeshore Water Works • Lower Nipit Improvement District • Meadow Valley Irrigation District • Osoyoos Irrigation District • Red Wing Resorts (water system) • Rolling Hills Waterworks District • Skaha Estates Improvement District • Vaseux Lake Improvement District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Land Commission • BC Parks • Integrated Land Management Bureau • Interior Health Authority (IHA) • Mountain Resort Branch (Province of BC) • Ministry of Agriculture & Food • Ministry of Energy & Climate Solutions • Ministry of Housing & Municipal Affairs • Ministry of Infrastructure • Ministry of Mining & Critical Minerals • Ministry of Transportation and Transit • Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship • Canadian Wildlife Service • Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory (DRAO) • Environment Canada • Fisheries and Oceans Canada • Parks Canada

Other community groups, organizations and jurisdictions that may be identified during the RGS Review could be incorporated into the engagement process.

3. ENGAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

This Consultation Plan uses a variety of techniques intended to encourage participation from a diverse cross-section of the community. The goal is to educate the community and support collaboration and communication throughout the project.

3.1 Education Techniques

- **Project materials:** documents and links posted on the RDOS website and RDOS Regional Connections including information releases, reports, and videos (as applicable).
- **Presentations:** public information meetings (live and recorded)

3.2 Communication Techniques

- **Online - RDOS website:** through the course of the project, all project materials will be posted online including draft bylaws, reports, presentations and other links.
- **Media Releases:** scheduled information releases (using the RDOS information release process*) for project updates and upcoming consultation opportunities.
- **Mass notification system:** app based, email, text and phone call notifications advertising upcoming events and activities.
- **Newspapers:** notices will be published in consecutive editions of local newspapers.
- **Notices:** notices will be posted on the RDOS event calendar on the RDOS website.
- **Physical copies:** Physical copies of the materials will be available at the RDOS office.

3.3 Collaboration Techniques

- **Technical Advisory committee (TAC):** may review materials and provide feedback, as directed by the Regional District Board.
- **Electoral Area Advisory Planning Commissions (APCs):** will review draft versions of the project documents and provide recommendations to the Regional Board at the request of the Regional Board.
- **Referrals:** impacted groups and agencies will be invited to comment on draft versions of the project documents and will be asked at the beginning of the process how they wish to engage. This may include in-person or electronic meetings (including telephone).
- **Project webpage:** public notices and feedback forms.
- **Public meetings:** public information meetings will include presentations and opportunities for dialogue with participants (Q&A).

The RDOS website (www.rdos.bc.ca) will act as the principal information portal for the project and provide opportunities for ongoing public engagement and feedback.

Through the course of the project, all project materials including information releases, reports, videos and other links will be posted online.

4. ACTIVITIES AND TIMING

The table below shows the proposed timing of different consultation activities and identifies the roles and responsibilities of the Regional District. The scheduling of these events is indicative only and dependent upon earlier stages of engagement being successfully completed on schedule as proposed:

WHO	WHAT	WHEN	HOW
STAKEHOLDERS	ITEM	TIMELINE	CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES
Preparation and adoption of Consultation Plan			
RDOS Committee of the Whole	Board resolution	January 22, 2026	Report to Committee of the Whole to initiate revised RGS Amendment Bylaw
RDOS Staff	Prepare Consultation Plan	January 23 – February 6, 2026	Draft Consultation Plan to be prepared
RDOS Board of Directors	RDOS Board Resolution to adopt Consultation Plan	February 19, 2026	As per s. 434 of the LGA, the Board must adopt a consultation plan, as soon as practicable after the initiation of the RGS review. At this time, the Board must consider whether the consultation plan should include the holding of a public hearing.
RDOS Board Chair	Letter to Minister	February 2026	As per s. 433(4) of the LGA, the Board must give written notice of an initiation of a Regional Growth Strategy to the minister.
Consultation activities following Board approval of Consultation Plan			
Affected local governments	Referrals	February – March 2026	RDOS staff to formally refer to municipalities (Osoyoos, Oliver, Penticton, Summerland)
Affected Agencies and Organizations	Referrals	February – March 2026	RDOS staff to formally refer to Affected Agencies and Organizations for comment. As per s. 434(2) of the LGA this must include boards of education, greater boards and improvement district boards; the provincial and federal governments and their agencies
First Nations	Referrals	February – March 2026	As per s. 434(2) of the LGA refer to First Nations for comment.

WHO	WHAT	WHEN	HOW
Municipal Councils (Penticton, Oliver, Osoyoos, Summerland)	Present to Penticton Council	April 2026 (TBD)	RDOS Staff to present RGS Amendment Bylaw to Municipal Councils.
	Present to Oliver Council	April 2026 (TBD)	
	Present to Osoyoos Council	April 2026 (TBD)	
	Present to Summerland Council	April 2026 (TBD)	
Public	Engagement	April – TBD 2026	RDOS to request input in the form of physical (i.e. in-person) or digital written submissions (i.e. webpage feedback forms, email) until the close of the public hearing.
Public	PIM – Online via Webex	May 2026	RDOS to host public information meetings.
Electoral Area APCs	Advisory meeting	May – June 2026	RDOS Staff to prepare report to Electoral Area APCs for consideration and to provide recommendations to the RDOS Board.
RGS TAC, Affected Agencies/ Organizations	Advisory meeting/ engagement	June 2026	Review draft RGS Amendment Bylaw and Growth Management Map and provide final comments
RDOS Staff	Draft RGS Amendment Bylaw	June 2026	RDOS Staff to update RGS Amendment Bylaw, considering input received to date and referral comments.
Board gives first and second reading & decides whether to host a Public Hearing			
RDOS Board	1 st and 2 nd Reading of RGS Amendment Bylaw	July 2026	As per the LGA, recommend that the Board give first reading to the RGS Amendment Bylaw.
Public, RDOS Staff	Public Hearing	TBD	Provide public notification of Public Hearing
Affected municipalities	Referrals and acceptance of RGS Amendment Bylaw	July – September 2026	As per s. 436 of the LGA, before it is adopted, a regional growth strategy must be accepted by the affected local governments; 60 days are required for this referral period. Revisions to be made, if necessary, based on referral comments and recommendations.
Board consideration third reading and adoption			
RDOS Board	Third Reading and Adoption of RGS Amendment Bylaw	September/ October 2026	As per the LGA, recommend that the Board give third reading and final adoption to the RGS Amendment Bylaw

WHO	WHAT	WHEN	HOW
RDOS Staff	Final Engagement update	October 2026	Update webpage and other media as appropriate.
Affected Local Governments, Affected Agencies & Organizations, First Nations,	Distribution of Adopted Bylaw	October 2026	As per s. 443 of the LGA, as soon as practicable after adopting a regional growth strategy, the Board must send a copy of the regional growth strategy to: the affected local governments; any greater boards and improvement districts within the regional district; and the minister.