Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) Consultation Plan

Regional Board Meeting

July 16, 2026

1450 K.L.O. Road
Kelowna, BC, V1W 3Z4
rdco.com

Regional District of Central Okanagan

Purpose

To consider adoption of the Regional Growth Strategy Consultation Plan.

Regional Board Resolution

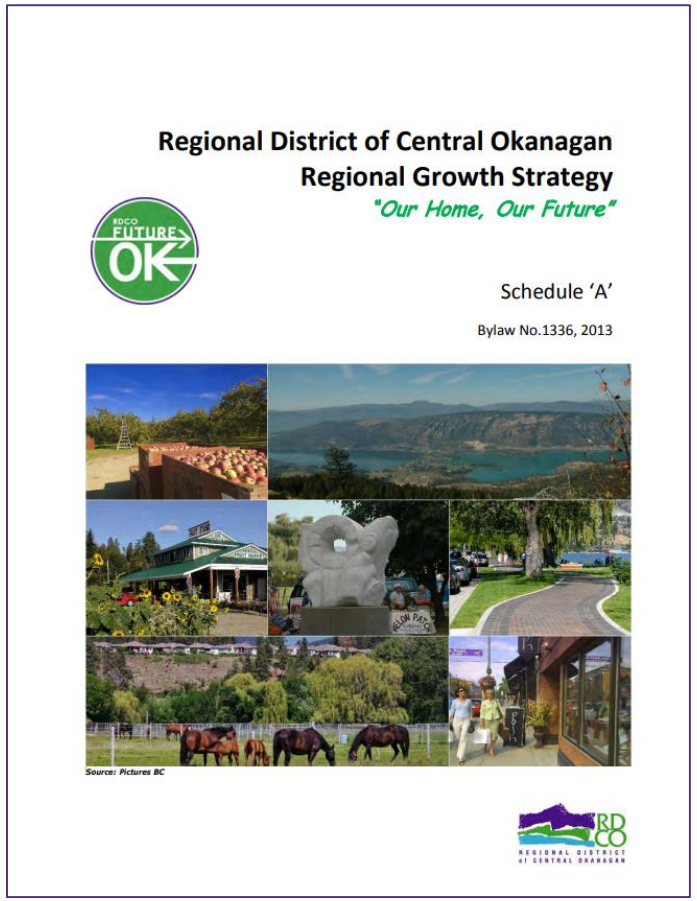
- On November 20, 2025 the Regional Board directed staff to initiate the development of a new Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) and report back to the Regional Board with an RGS Consultation Plan.
- Adoption of an RGS Consultation Plan by the Board is a requirement under Section 434 (2) of the Local Government Act.

What is a Consultation Plan?

Legislated framework and purpose	• Guiding how the RGS consultation will be conducted
Defined audiences/partners (Who)	• Grounded in IAP2 principles and RDCO engagement policy
Methods and Inclusive Outreach (How)	• Tailored to urban and rural communities
Engagement Approach (When)	• Phased timeline to gather input at the right time to inform content
Reporting and evaluation	• Continuous improvement and ‘What We Heard’ reports

Regional Growth Strategy (RGS)

- The RGS has been ensuring a coordinated approach to regional matters for over 25 years.
- Central Okanagan's first RGS adopted in 2000
- Central Okanagan's current RGS (Bylaw No. 1336) adopted in 2014



The RGS Drivers

- Population Growth
- Provincial Housing Legislation
- Increased prevalence of extreme heat, wildfire and floods



Major changes influencing both ***how much*** and ***where*** development in our region is occurring

Tangible RGS Outcomes

- Build off and complement latest member government OCPs, CCPS, and master plans

- Member governments provided with:
  - updated regional population and employment projections
  - updated regional mapping layers
  - updated regional policy guidance
  - regional performance metric reporting tool

- All content will be broken down for member governments to adapt and incorporate into local contexts.

Benefits to Member Governments

- Streamlined **integration with 2030 OCP update timelines**, minimizing re-work and reducing burden on staff
- A **clear, modern regional policy framework** that can be easily incorporated into future OCP updates and topic-based master plans



Benefits to Member Governments (cont.)

- Proactive, collaborative approach to complex, inter-jurisdictional issues **avoids duplication of effort, fragmented approaches, and promotes cost efficiencies**

- Refreshed RGS will help **address risks** and **protect what matters**, so we can **support sustained investment** in our region



Project Team

DIALOG



ELEANOR MOHAMMED
Partner-in-Charge / Senior Consultant - Project Lead / SME Urban Governance & Land Use

✓ 14+ years in senior municipal roles

✓ Director of Planning & Engineering,General Manager, CAO

✓ RPP, LPP, FCIP, MTCP, EP

✓ Chair, UN-Habitat Prodessionals Forum



CAROLYN DONNELLY
Project Manager, Planner & Facilitator

✓ Public and private sector planning, sustainability, communications, graphic design, project management

✓ Leading large scale projects

✓ Coordinating multidisciplinary teams

✓ IAP2 certified



MOLLY STEEVES
Senior Consultant & Engagement Lead

✓ Non-profit management, arts and culture, education, marketing and communications, project management

✓ Working with Indigenous communities and seldom heard groups

✓ IAP2 certified

Project Team



MARA BAUM
DIALOG
Role: Supporting Partner / SME Climate & Environment



ELIZABETH HAND
DIALOG
Role: SME Environment & Resilience



BRENDAN DAWE
MXD
Role: SME Housing



ANDREW FAYN
MXD
Role: SME Economic Development



AMANDA MCCULLEY
GROUNDED PLANNING & ENGAGEMENT
Role: SME Public Health



JANINE DE LA SALLE
URBAN FOOD STRATEGIES
Role: SME Agriculture & Food



JOHN DANAHY
CASLYS
Role: SME GIS & Data



JOSEPH CHOW
BUNT & ASSOCIATES
Role: Transportation & Mobility Specialist



CHRISTEPHEN CHENG
BUNT & ASSOCIATES
Role: SME Transportation & Mobility



MIKE COULTHARD
DIAMOND HEAD
Role: SME Parks Planning



ALISON CHOW
DIAMOND HEAD
Role: Ecological Specialist

Consultation Plan - Development Process

1. Kickoff + Visioning Activity

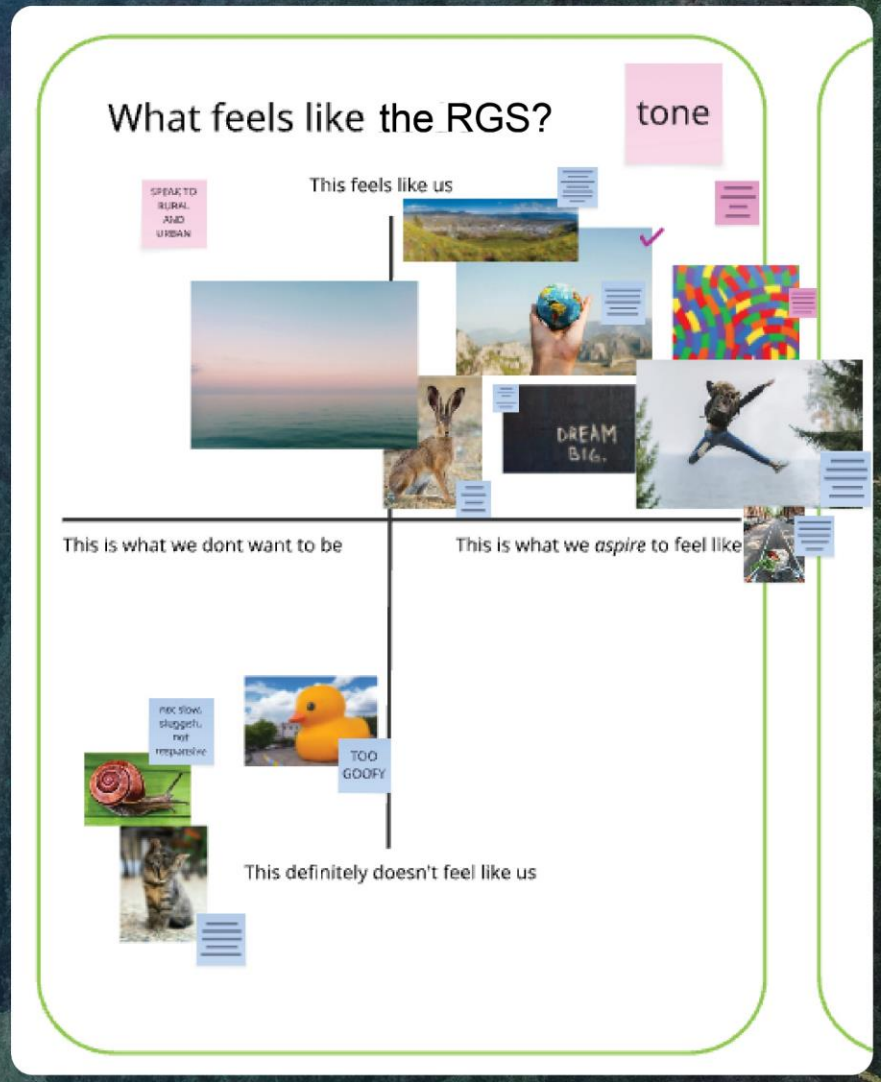
2. Meetings with member municipalities, First Nation Government partners and organizations:

   - ✓ District of Lake Country
   - ✓ District of Peachland
   - ✓ City of West Kelowna
   - ✓ City of Kelowna
   - ✓ Interior Health
   - ✓ Westbank First Nation
   - ✓ Okanagan Indian Band

3. Legislative requirements

4. Committee review & comments

5. Implementation of comments



RGS Committee Structure

CAOs around the region



CAO Committee (new)

Planning Directors and senior planning staff around the region (member municipalities and First Nation Governments), as well as Provincial Government agency representatives

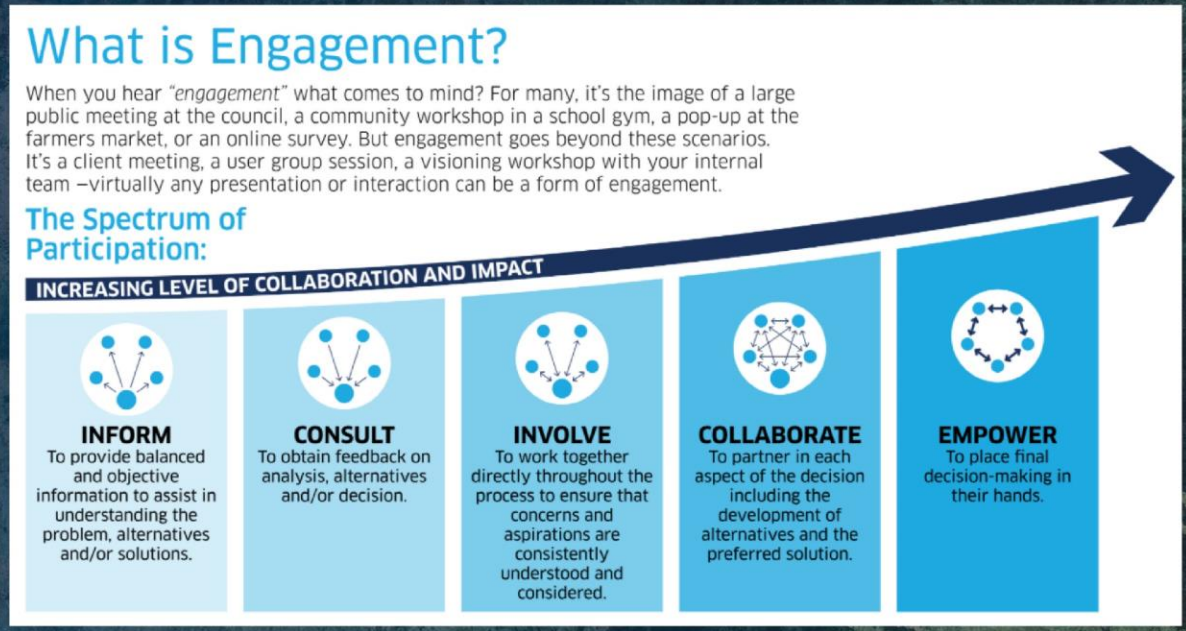


Intergovernmental Advisory Committee (new)

Consultation Plan Overview

- ✓ Committed to engagement that is genuine, inclusive, and transparent
- ✓ Committed to communicating openly about what is within scope, what decisions have been made, and how input will be used
- ✓ Committed to starting early so residents and interested parties will have a say before draft policies are written
- ✓ Grounded in IAP2 core values and the RDCO Public Engagement Policy

IAP2 Spectrum of Participation:



Audiences: Who are we engaging?

- The general public
- Westbank First Nation & Okanagan Indian Band
- Affected local governments & elected officials
- Development industry, business, & agricultural interests
- Environmental & community organizations
- Provincial & federal agencies
- Underrepresented groups (youth, seniors, renters, newcomers, etc.)

Engagement Objectives

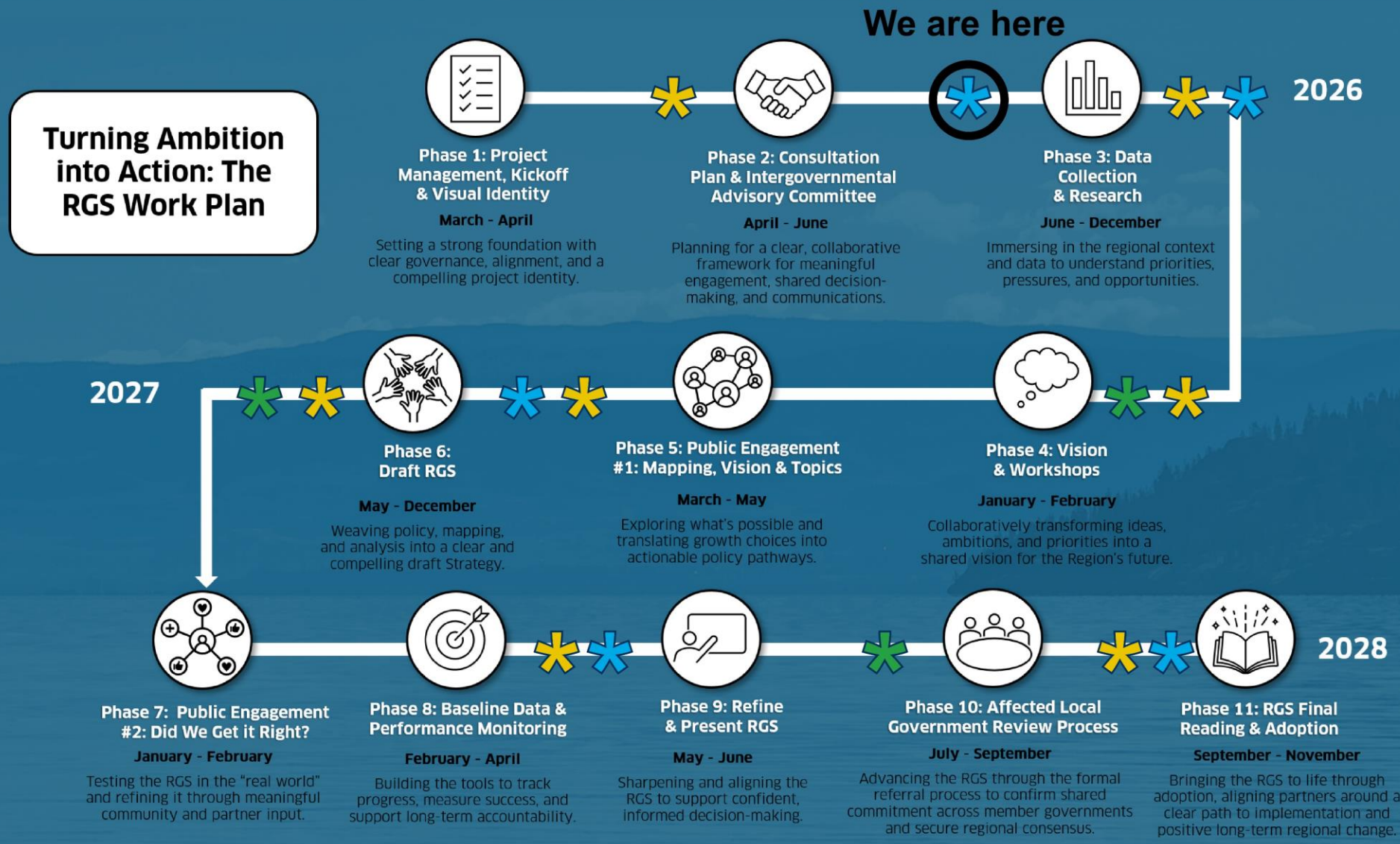
- ✓ Build broad awareness & why the RGS matters to everyday life
- ✓ Understand community values, priorities, & long-range aspirations
- ✓ Identify key issues & trade-offs residents want the RGS to address
- ✓ Gather place-specific input from different parts of the region
- ✓ Conduct genuine, inclusive and transparent engagement, including with our First Nation government partners and Indigenous community members
- ✓ Build trust, relationship, & confidence in the planning process

→ Demonstrate **shared value for the region**

Regional Board & Council Touchpoints

- Regional Board Presentations
- Regional Board + Council Presentations
- IAC/ CAO Committee Meetings

Elected Official Communiques at the end of Tasks 3 to 10



Public Engagement Touchpoints, Methods & Tactics

- ✓ Urban & rural considerations
- ✓ What's appropriate?
- ✓ 2x public engagement periods
- ✓ Ongoing Committee meetings, Board presentations, & Council touchpoints
- ✓ Methods & tactics to be confirmed closer-to the events



Next Steps

- Phase 3: Data Collection & Research (Summar/Fall 2026)
  - Population & Employment Projections
  - Land Use, Housing and Mobility Report
  - Regional Parks, Natural Spaces and Ecosystems Report
  - Economic Development & Prosperity Report
  - Public Health, Poverty and Wellness Report
  - Agriculture & Food Report
  - Climate Adaptation & GHG Reduction Report
- Phase 4: Visioning Workshops (Winter 2026/2027)
- Phase 5: Public Engagement Round 1 (Spring 2027)

Recommendation

All Directors – Unweighted Corporate Vote – Simple Majority (LGA s.208)

THAT the Regional Board adopt the Regional Growth Strategy Consultation Plan as outlined in the report from the Director of Development and Engineering Services, dated July 16, 2026.