

OPEN HOUSE

Welcome to the North Westside Governance & Services Study Community Open House!

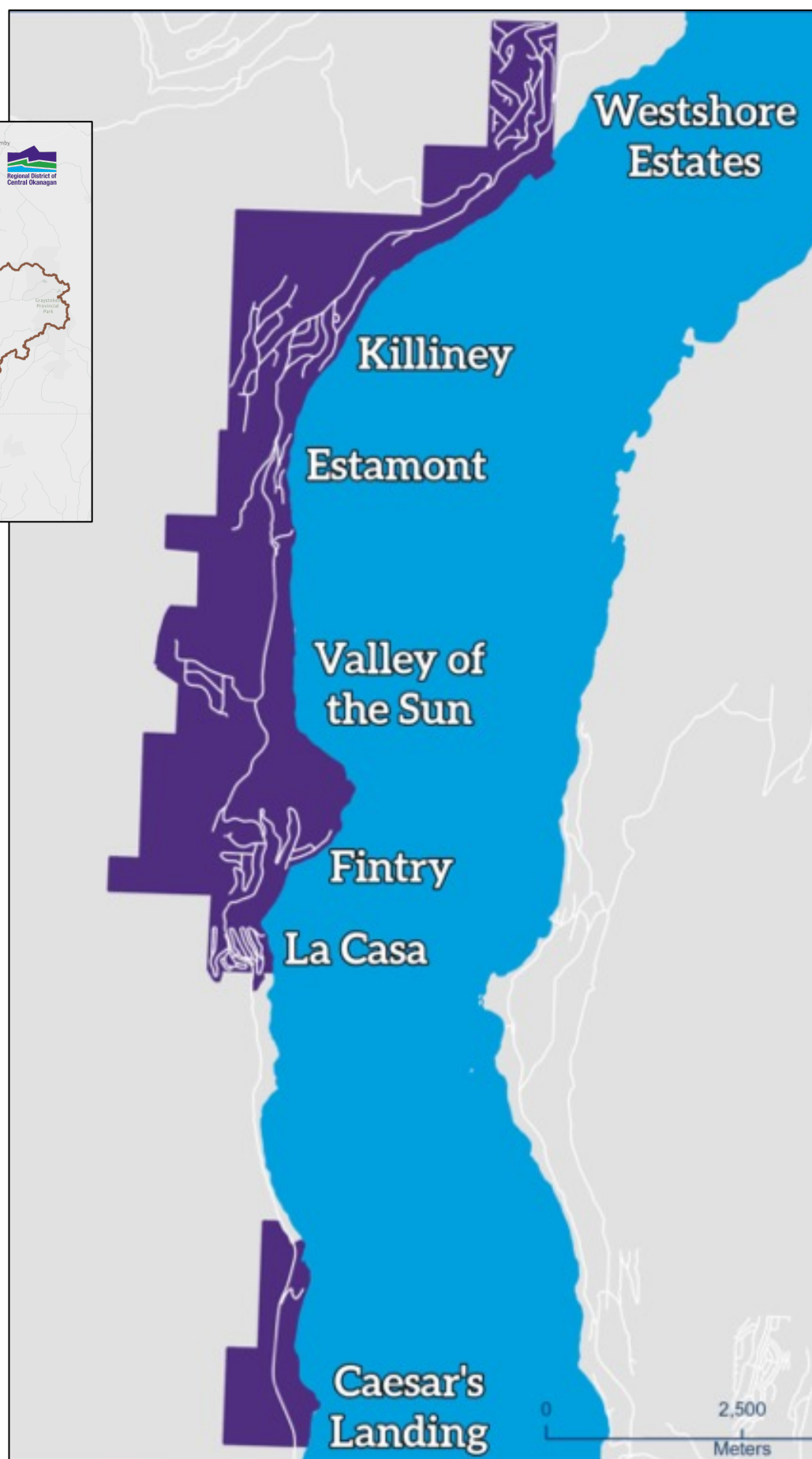
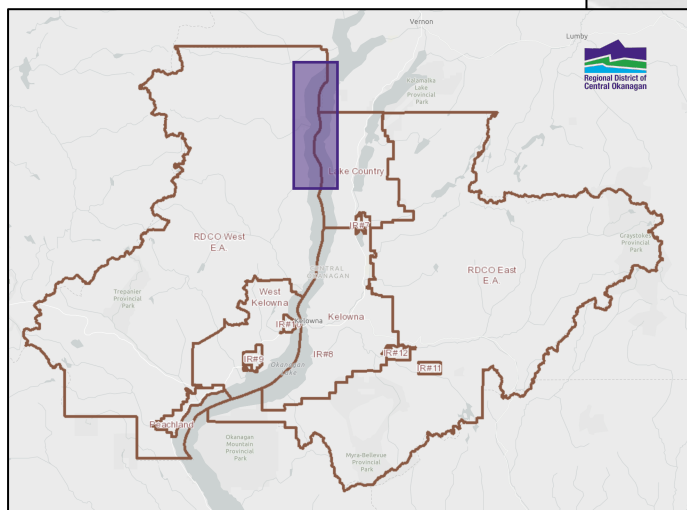
Please review the poster boards to learn about the study, and to familiarize yourself with local governance and service provision in the North Westside communities of Central Okanagan West Electoral Area. The Governance & Services Study Committee and the study consultants are here to discuss the topics and to answer any questions you may have.

Be sure to take a copy of the North Westside Governance & Services Study overview handout. Please also take a moment to provide your views on North Westside services and governance by completing the feedback form. The overview and feedback form are also available online at yoursay.rdco.com along with all other study materials.

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?



Place a pin on the map to show where in the North Westside you live.



NORTH WESTSIDE GOVERNANCE & SERVICES STUDY



PURPOSE

The North Westside Governance & Services Study is underway in the Central Okanagan West Electoral Area of the Regional District of Central Okanagan. The purpose of the study is threefold:

- to document the local governance and service provision in place today in the North Westside
- to understand the interests and concerns of residents related to governance and services
- to identify governance and service options to address the most pressing concerns brought forward

Some of the options identified through the study may call for changes that can be undertaken within the existing RDCO service and governance frameworks. Other options may prompt a re-thinking of Regional District boundaries or structure.

STUDY COMMITTEE

The study is guided by the RDCO's North Westside Governance & Services Study Committee, a body made up of North Westside residents who, taken together, represent the diversity of the communities in the North Westside. The Committee is an objective, fact-finding body, in place to gather and assess information, engage the community, and make recommendations to the RDCO Board on changes to consider. A team of local government consultants supports the Committee in its work.

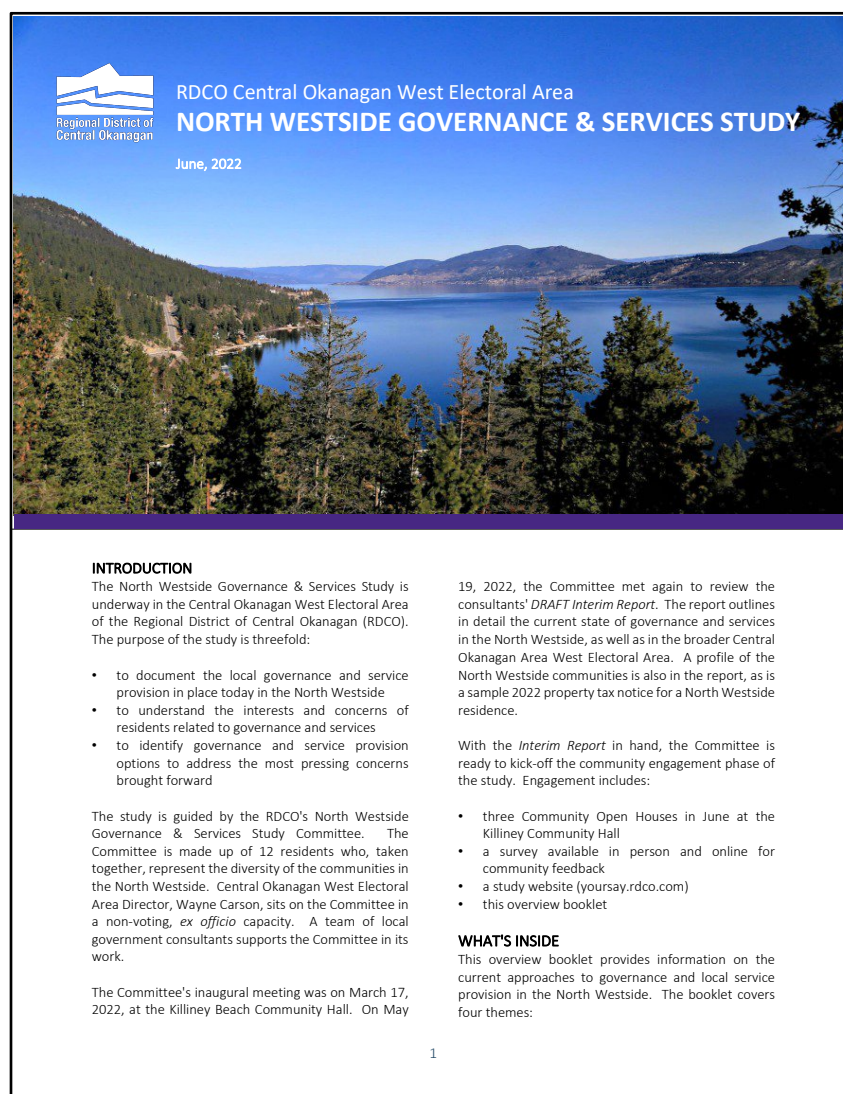
The Committee's 12 voting members include:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| ➤ Scott Graham
(Committee Chair) | ➤ Eric Dennison |
| ➤ Josh Galloway
(Vice Chair) | ➤ Donna Green |
| ➤ Brian Arquilla | ➤ Darryl Hordo |
| ➤ Kerri Cooke | ➤ Dwain Johanson |
| ➤ Colin Copp | ➤ Tim Jones |
| | ➤ Rick Sanderson |
| | ➤ Callie Simpson |

Central Okanagan West Electoral Area Director, Wayne Carson, serves on the Committee in a non-voting, *ex officio* capacity. All Committee meetings are advertised on the study website (yoursay.rdco.com) and are open to the public. Recordings of every meeting are available on the website.

INTERIM REPORT

In late May, the Committee released its *DRAFT Interim Report* on the current system of local governance and service provision in the North Westside. The report sets the stage for the study's community engagement phase, a key part of which is this Community Open House. A full copy of the report is available to review and download on the website; the key information is presented in the overview booklet which is available online or in hard copy at the Community Open Houses.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN NORTH WESTSIDE TODAY

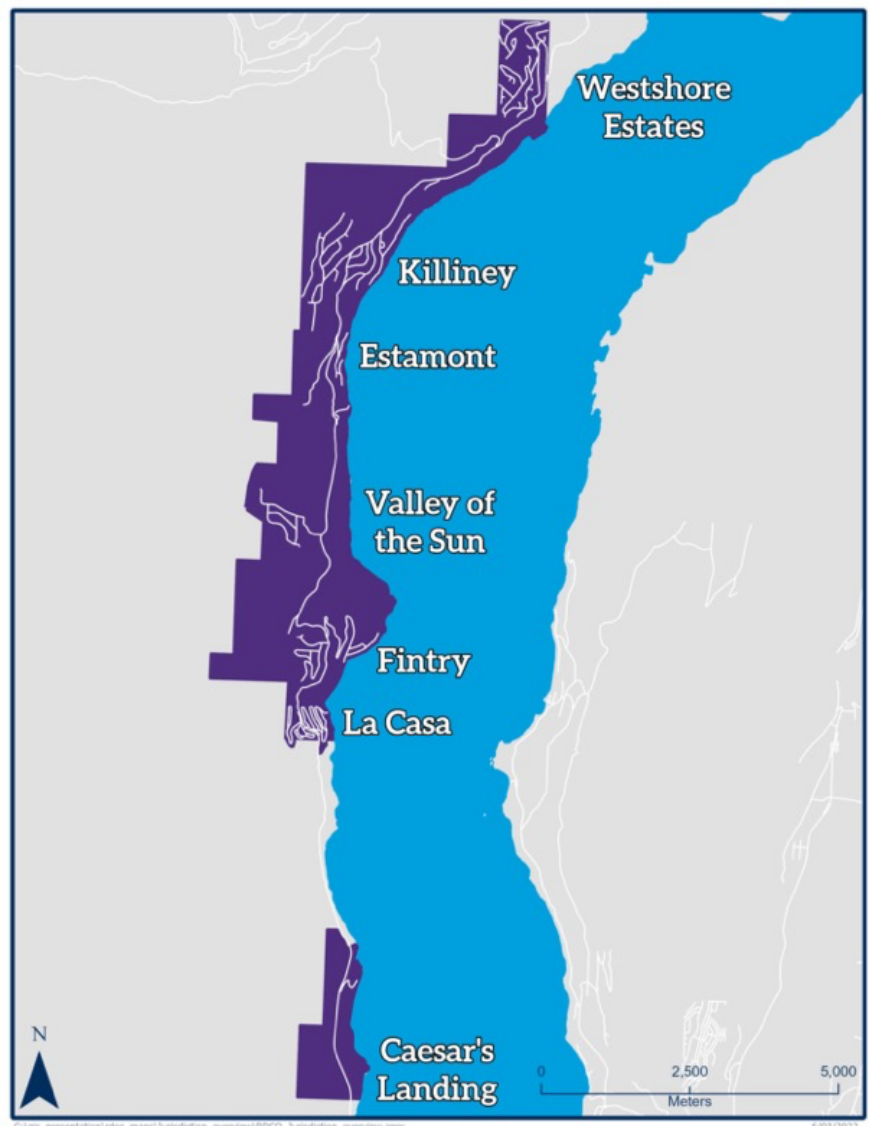
NORTH WESTSIDE

The North Westside is a collection of communities along the western shore of Lake Okanagan in the Central Okanagan West Electoral Area. The communities are concentrated within the North Westside Fire Protection Service Area, and include Caesar's Landing, Nahun, La Casa, Upper Fintry, Fintry Delta, Fintry Park, Valley of the Sun, Fintry North, Muirallen Estates, Ewings Landing, Estamont, Summersands, Aspen Shores, Forest House, Killiney Beach, Marshbank, Wainman Cove, Evelyn, and Westshore Estates. The local government for the area is the Regional District of Central Okanagan, governed by the Board of Directors. The Board is made up of 13 voting directors with one representative for the broader Central Okanagan West Electoral Area.

REGIONAL DISTRICTS

Regional Districts are federations of unincorporated electoral areas and incorporated municipalities. In the Central Okanagan there are two electoral areas — Central Okanagan West and Central Okanagan East — and four municipalities: the Cities of Kelowna and West Kelowna, and the Districts of Lake Country and Peachland. The entire RDCO is situated on the unceded traditional territory of the syilx people.

North Westside
RDCO Central Okanagan West Electoral Area



Regional districts exist to provide local government services in response to the needs and instructions of their members. Regional districts play three service-related roles:

- they are the local government for electoral areas, responsible for provide basic services
- they provide region-wide services to all electoral areas and municipalities
- they provide sub-regional services to different combinations of municipalities and electoral areas that choose to receive the services

SHARED COSTS AND DECISION-MAKING

Jurisdictions that participate together in services provided by regional districts share in the costs of the services, and in decision-making for the services. The sharing of service costs and decision-making power by jurisdictions is a key feature of the regional district model. It can also be a source of tension in cases where individual jurisdictions feel that they are either paying a disproportionate amount for a service, or that they do not have sufficient input into or decision-making authority over matters that affect them. Tensions that arise can result in studies, such as the North Westside Governance & Services Study, to fully understand the concerns of affected residents, and to identify changes aimed at addressing those concerns.

NORTH WESTSIDE SERVICES



RDCO

The Regional District of Central Okanagan, as the local government for the North Westside, is the primary local service provider. RDCO provides a total of 36 services to North Westside residents.

- ▶ *Region-Wide* — Fifteen services are provided across the entire Central Okanagan to all municipalities and electoral areas, including the North Westside in Central Okanagan West. Examples of region-wide services include Regional Parks, Regional Planning, Dog Control, Economic Development and Regional Rescue.
- ▶ *Sub-Regional* — Thirteen services are sub-regional in nature, provided to Central Okanagan West and at least one other jurisdiction. Examples of sub-regional services include Building Inspection, Weed Control, Insect Control, Bylaw Enforcement and Air Quality.
- ▶ *Local* — Three services — Westside Community Parks, Central Okanagan West Grants in Aid, and Central Okanagan West Administration — are provided only to the Central Okanagan West Electoral Area (including North Westside). Five other services are specified-area local services, provided just to residents within the North Westside. These services include North Westside Fire Protection, the Killiney Community Hall, and various Regional District local water systems.

GOVERNANCE & SERVICES STUDY

The North Westside Governance & Services Study seeks to understand the views of residents related to local services and governance in the North Westside communities.

Based on the feedback received, the Study Committee will identify options that may be pursued to address concerns and interests raised. Some options may call for changes that can be undertaken within the existing RDCO service and governance frameworks. Other options may prompt a re-thinking of Regional District boundaries or structure.

Options identified as part of the study will inform any recommendations the Committee chooses to make at the end of the Governance & Services Study. The need for additional work to fully examine the feasibility of possible changes will be determined by the RDCO and Ministry of Municipal Affairs, based on their consideration of recommendations put forward.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

The RDCO is the primary local service provider to North Westside residents, but not the only provider. In unincorporated areas of British Columbia, including in Central Okanagan West, local roads and local policing are provided by the provincial government, not regional districts. The province also operates Fintry Provincial Park, oversees the Fintry Protected Area, and runs the Evelyn Recreation Site in North Westside. As well, the province provides ambulance, education and health care.

OTHER PROVIDERS

A number of private water utilities exist in the North Westside, including La Casa on the Lake, Watson Waterworks and Fintry Utilities Ltd. These systems are provided to neighbourhoods that are not serviced by RDCO's local water utilities.

INTERIM REPORT

The Committee's *DRAFT Interim Report*, available on the study website at yoursay.rdco.com, provides details on all North Westside services.



NORTH WESTSIDE SERVICES & GOVERNANCE STUDY

DRAFT INTERIM REPORT

NEILSON  partners inc.

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Innovation Centre
105-450 Doyle Avenue, Kelowna, BC, V1Y 0C2
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May, 2022

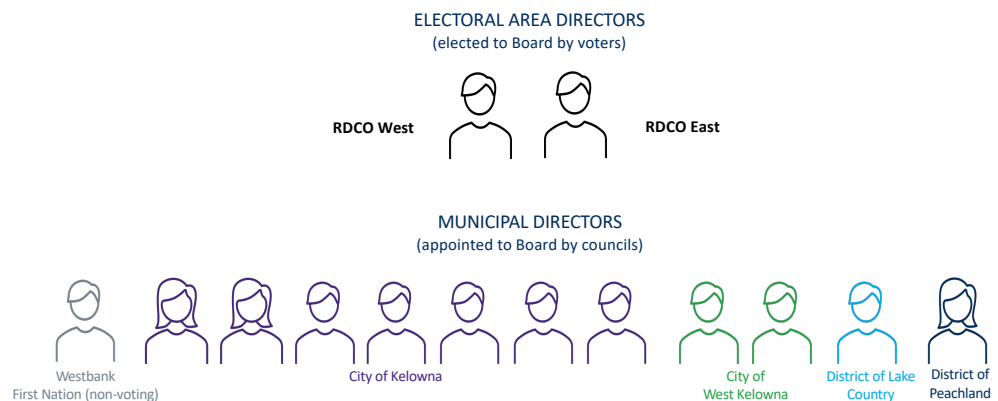
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RDCO BOARD TODAY

Like every regional district in the province, the RDCO is governed by a board of directors with two types of directors:

- electoral area directors who are directly elected to the board for four-year terms by voters in their electoral areas
- municipal directors who sit on local municipal councils, and who are appointed to the regional board by their councils on an annual basis

Figure 1
RDCO Board Today
(voting unit of 4,000 people; 2016 Census)



The current RDCO Board consists of 13 voting directors, including one from Central Okanagan West Electoral Area, which includes the North Westside, along with one from Central Okanagan East, the District of Peachland and the District of Lake Country. The City of West Kelowna is represented by two directors, whereas the City of Kelowna has seven. Figure 1 shows the Board as it exists today.

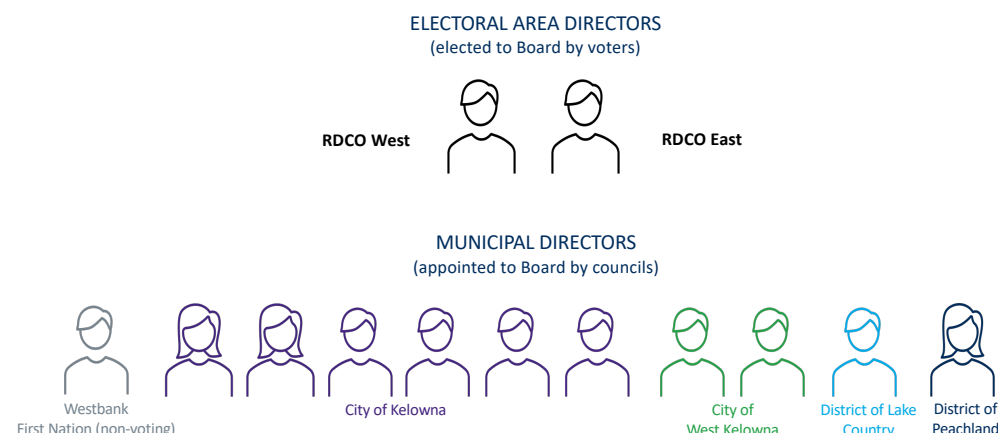
The difference in levels of representation among jurisdictions is a function of population and the Regional District's "voting unit". The RDCO's current voting unit is 4,000 people, which means that each jurisdiction receives one vote for every 4,000 residents (or portion thereof), including people who live on First Nations Reserves. For municipalities, the resulting voting strength is divided by five to determine the number of directors on the Regional District Board.

RDCO BOARD AFTER UPCOMING ELECTIONS

The current voting unit of 4,000 persons is applied to the 2016 Census population numbers to determine the make-up of the Board today. After the upcoming local government elections (October 2022), the 2016 numbers will be replaced by the more recent, and considerably higher, 2021 Census figures.

At the current voting unit of 4,000, the higher 2021 population figures would result in a larger Board with one extra director for the City of Kelowna. To avoid this expansion, the RDCO has requested the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to increase the voting unit to 5,500 people. This change will reduce the Board from 13 to 12 voting directors. The City of Kelowna's representation will fall slightly from seven to six directors. Figure 2 shows the Board as it will exist after the elections.

Figure 2
RDCO Board After Elections
(voting unit of 5,500 people; 2021 Census)



DECISION-MAKING



VOTING RULES

In municipalities, voting rules are simple: each member of the municipal council, including the mayor, votes on every question and receives one vote. Voting rules in regional districts are much different. Some decisions are made by the entire board of directors; other decisions are made by only the directors from the jurisdictions that participate in the particular service. Decisions that involve all directors are made using *corporate votes*, of which there are two types:

- *Corporate Unweighted Votes* — These votes are those in which every director votes, and every director receives one vote. They are used to establish new services, make bylaws to exercise a regulatory authority, set rules to govern the conduct of the board's business, and take certain other actions.
- *Corporate Weighted Votes* — All directors vote on these matters but receive different numbers of votes based on voting strength. Corporate weighted votes are used to buy property, pass budgets and approve borrowing.

Decisions on services in which only a portion of the region's jurisdictions participate are made using *stakeholder votes*. These votes are used for decisions, including bylaws, to guide the administration and operation of a service. Directors from all participating jurisdictions — that is, from *stakeholder* jurisdictions — are entitled to vote; others are not. All stakeholder votes are weighted, with directors receiving different numbers of votes based on their jurisdictions' voting strengths. When there is only one jurisdiction in a regional district service, decisions are made by the entire board. This rule applies to decisions on services that are provided only to the Central Okanagan West Electoral Area, or only to the North Westside portion of the Electoral Area. North Westside Fire Protection and the local water systems are examples of such services.

DECISIONS FOR NORTH WESTSIDE

The communities of North Westside receive 36 different services from the RDCO. A total of 15 of these services are region-wide, 13 are sub-regional, and eight are local in nature, provided only within Central Okanagan West. The regional district voting rules mean that every decision in the North Westside involves directors from at least one other jurisdiction.

The voting rules in place in the RDCO apply to all regional districts in the province. The involvement of directors from other jurisdictions in North Westside service decisions, therefore, would occur even if North Westside belonged to a different regional district. What differs among regional districts, however, is the level of influence that individual jurisdictions, based on their voting strength, have in decision-making.

The RDCO is one of the few regional districts in which voting power is concentrated in the largest jurisdiction. On the RDCO Board today, the City of Kelowna's directors are able to determine all votes when they vote as a bloc. This dynamic applies to corporate unweighted votes, in which each director receives one vote, but also to weighted votes that take into account voting strength. When the RDCO's voting unit changes after October's election, Kelowna's directors (voting together) will continue to be able to determine the outcome of weighted votes. On corporate unweighted votes, Kelowna's directors will be able to block any initiative, but will no longer be able to advance decisions without the support of at least one other director. Figure 1 shows the numbers.

Figure 1
Voting Strength for RDCO Jurisdictions

Jurisdiction	Today <i>2016 Census; Voting Unit 4,000</i>			Post-2022 Election <i>2021 Census; Voting Unit 5,500</i>		
	Pop	Directors	Strength	Pop	Directors	Strength
Central OK West	11,009	1	3	13,797	1	3
Central OK East	3,824	1	1	4,258	1	1
City of Kelowna	129,044	7	33	144,576	6	27
City of West Kelowna	32,655	2	9	36,078	2	7
District of Lake Country	12,922	1	4	15,817	1	3
District of Peachland	5,428	1	2	5,789	1	2
Total	194,882	13	52	220,315	12	43

PROPERTY TAXES



Property taxes are the most common revenue source for all local services in the RDCO (and all other regional districts). Figure 1 presents the 2022 residential property taxes for the North Westside. For each service the total property tax revenue collected in the North Westside is listed. Also listed is the tax paid on an average North Westside residence assessed at \$635,000.

Figure 1
2022 Residential Property Taxes — North Westside

1. RDCO services for North Westside (2022)

Administration	Property Tax per \$635,000 home	Total property tax collected in North Westside
Central Okanagan West Grants in Aid	\$0.24	\$397
Board	\$5.25	\$8,658
Electoral Area Administration	\$0.47	\$778
Central Okanagan West Administration	\$9.34	\$15,404
Regional Grants in Aid	\$0.20	\$323
Surveyor of Taxes	\$46.38	n/a
Planning & Development		
Electoral Area Planning	\$72.93	\$120,324
Regional Planning	\$4.84	\$7,992
Building Inspection	\$10.11	\$16,681
Transportation Demand Management	\$2.57	\$4,247
Bylaw Enforcement		
Noise ¹	\$1.56	\$3,083
Untidy Premises ¹	\$2.46	\$4,878
Insect Control	\$0.22	\$367
Weed Control	\$0.86	\$1,415
Dog Control	\$8.02	\$13,228
Solid Waste		
Solid Waste Parcel Tax	\$43.00	\$59,727
Garbage Collection User Fee ²	\$167.06	\$232,046
Economic Development		
Economic Development Commission	\$9.29	\$15,333
Parks & Recreation		
Regional Parks	\$67.81	\$111,865
Westside Community Parks	\$89.74	\$148,054
Okanagan Regional Library	\$59.14	\$97,558
Environmental Services		
Okanagan Basin Water Board	\$17.93	\$29,587
Air quality	\$1.75	\$2,893
Sterile Insect Release ³	\$6.94	\$9,151
Emergency Services		
Regional Rescue	\$21.95	\$36,216
Victim Services	\$2.73	\$4,496
911 Emergency Call	\$3.38	\$5,580
Crime Stoppers	\$2.40	\$3,965
Crime Prevention	\$3.77	\$6,216
Electoral Area Fire	\$19.26	\$31,782
North Westside Fire Protection	\$415.32	\$685,176
Subtotal for area-wide taxes	\$1,096.92	\$1,677,420

2. Local area-specific services (2022)

Killiney Community Hall	\$15.62	\$25,385
La Casa fire service borrowing parcel tax	\$18.84	\$9,422
Fintry Water Parcel Tax	\$850.72	\$227,141
* Fintry Water User Fee ²	\$273.00	n/a
* Killiney Beach Water User Fee ²	\$311.00	n/a
* Westshore Estates Water User Fee ²	\$337.00	n/a
Subtotal for area-specific charges	N/A	

3. Provincial services (2022)

Police Tax	\$28.07	\$46,303
Rural Tax (roads, subdivision)	\$228.60	\$377,132
School Tax	\$749.55	\$1,236,573
Subtotal for provincial services	\$1,006.22	\$1,660,008

4. Other agencies (2022)

Central Okanagan Hospital District	\$132.89	\$219,239
Municipal Finance Authority	\$0.13	\$210
BC Assessment Authority	\$22.16	\$36,561
Subtotal for agency taxes	\$155.18	\$256,010

1. Tax rate is applied only to improvements. It is assumed the assessed value of the \$635,000 home is split evenly (50/50) between land and improvement value.
2. Garbage collection and water user fees are itemized on utility bills (not on tax notice).
3. Tax rate is applied only to improvements. It is assumed the assessed value of the \$635,000 home is split evenly (50/50) between land and improvement value.

SHARE YOUR VIEWS

The Governance & Services Study Committee wants to hear your views on local services provided to the North Westside by the Regional District (and others), and on the current governance system through which decisions affecting the North Westside are made.

Please fill out a feedback form and place it in the box. Or, if you prefer, complete the form online at yoursay.rdco.com. Feedback from residents will help to inform the Committee's recommendations to the RDCO Board.

