

# Central Okanagan Regional Agricultural Strategy

Project Update, May 2025



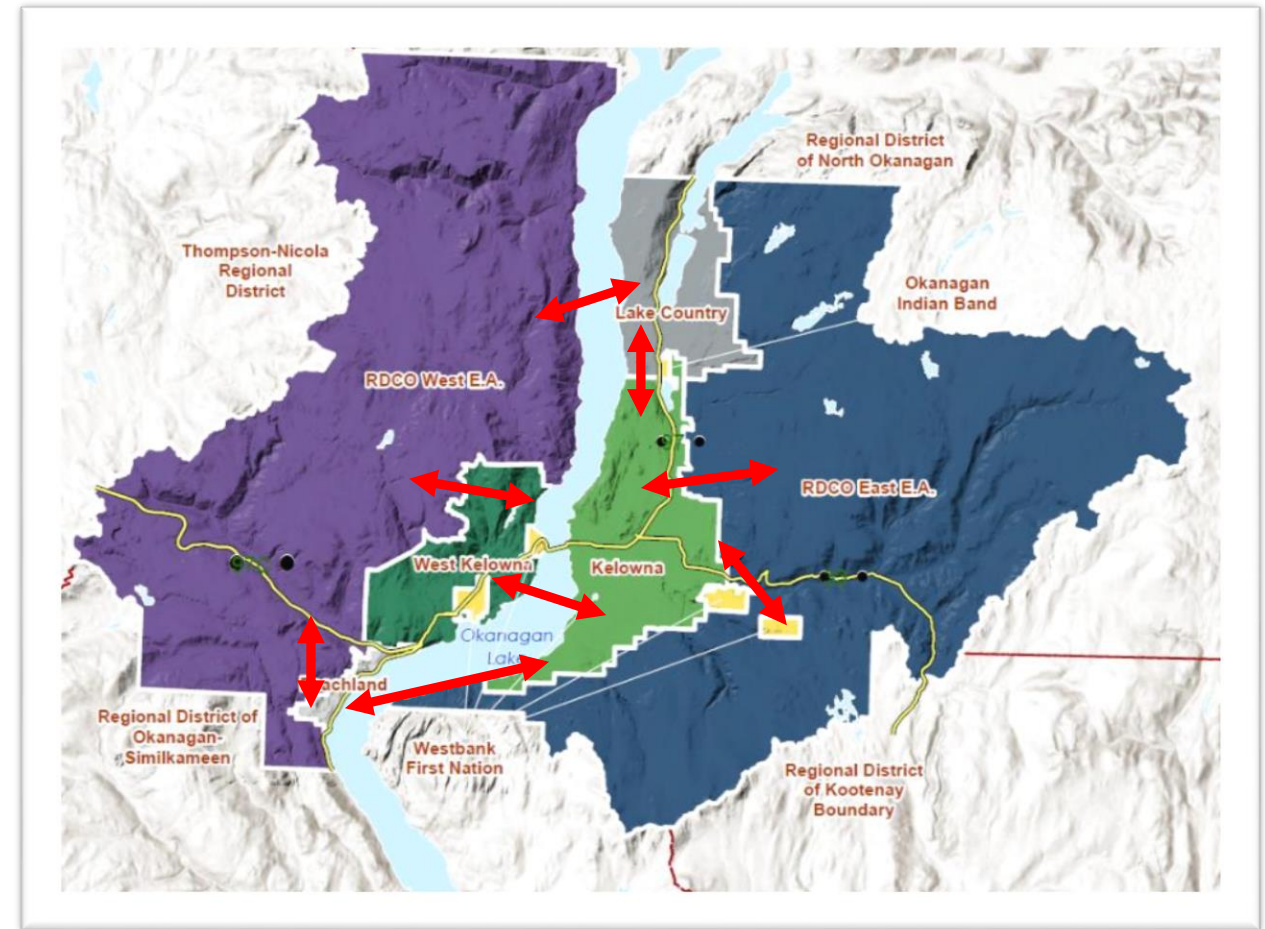
# Regional Agricultural Strategy (RAS)

- Agriculture is an important part of the heritage and cultural identity of the Central Okanagan.
- However, several challenges are facing agriculture in the region, such as pressures from population growth, a changing climate, and an evolving economy.
- In response, the RDCO is updating the Regional Agricultural Strategy (RAS)

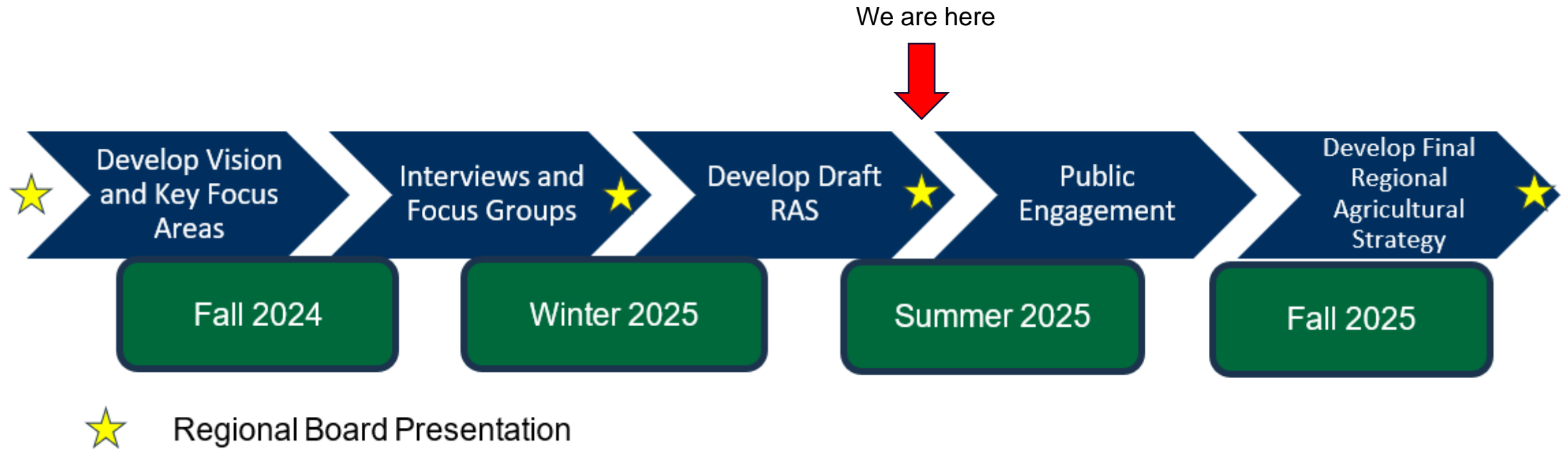


# Background

- Updating the Regional Agricultural Strategy (RAS) is part of implementing the Regional Growth Strategy and tackling regional planning initiatives on topics that cross jurisdictional boundaries
- The RAS will develop a coordinated regional approach to supporting a thriving agricultural sector in the Central Okanagan.

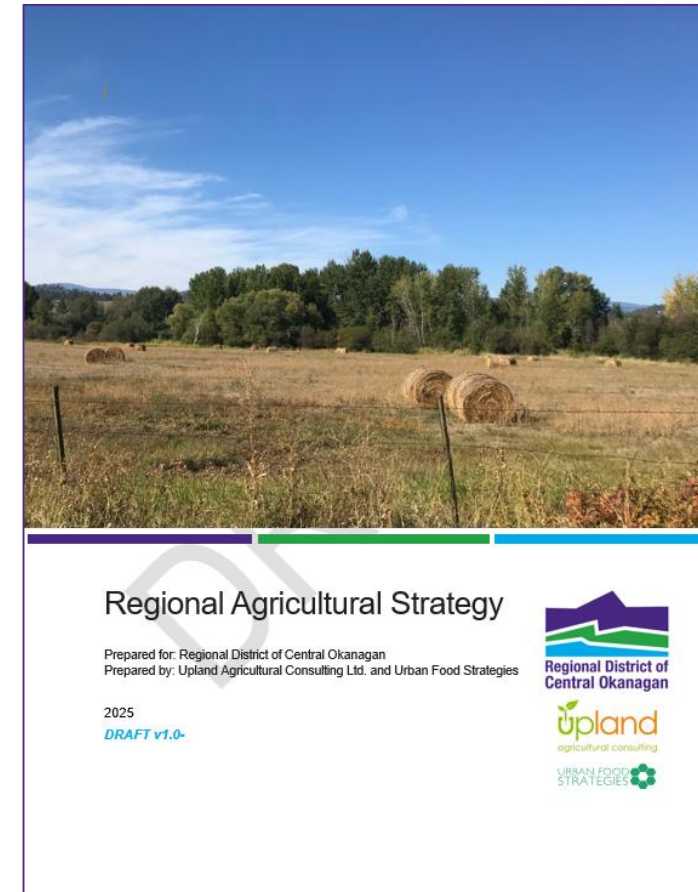


# Phase 2 Project Timeline



# Draft Regional Agricultural Strategy

The Draft Regional Agricultural Strategy includes recommendations for how Central Okanagan governments can work together to promote the success of agriculture in the region, both now and in the future



# Phase 1 Engagement Activities (to Date)

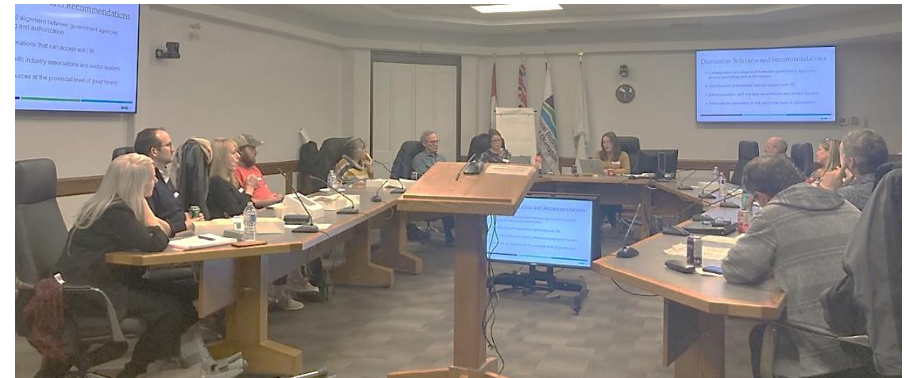
## 4 Working Group meetings

- Member municipalities
- Westbank First Nation
- Cross-commodity Leadership support Project
- Ministry of Agriculture and Food
- Interior Health
- The OK Sterile Insect Release Program
- Regional Agri-food sector

## 3 Focus Group sessions:

- Agricultural Industry
- Development Industry
- Government partners

## 12 Interviews



*Focus group session with members of the agricultural community.*

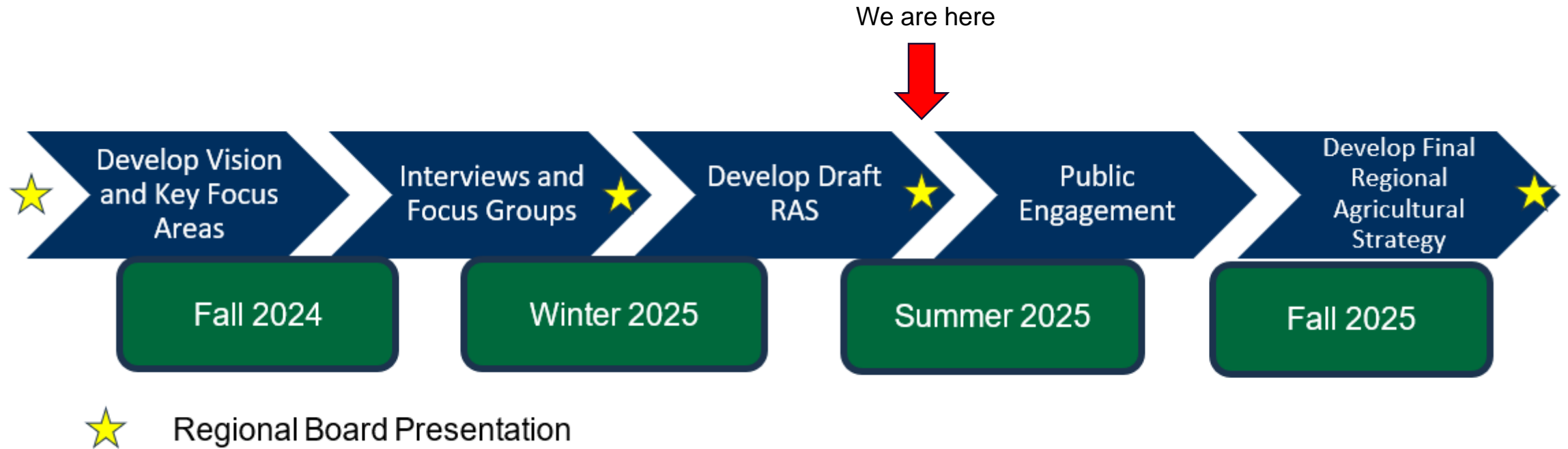
# Draft Regional Agricultural Strategy – Engagement Activities (upcoming)

Mid-May through June:

- RDCO Your-Say Engagement Platform
- Online Survey
  - News release
  - Print and digital advertising
  - Collaboration with partner municipalities
- Focus Group



# Phase 2 Project Timeline



# Recommendation

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

**THAT** the Regional Board receive the Draft Regional Agricultural Strategy – Public Engagement Launch report from the Director of Development and Engineering Services dated May 15, 2025 for information.