

Tania McCabe

Subject: FW: RDCO 10% Increase in Spending

Hello

I am dismayed at the thought of a 10% increase overall or should I say 9.8% due to be loaded onto the backs of folks like me that have pensions from the corporate world which are not and have never been adjusted for inflation.

I would expect that there are various means by which those "suggested" numbers can be drastically trimmed over the next couple of years.

I will suggest staffing would be the first place as we as citizens have had to figure out how to control the costs/taxes downloaded by the various levels of government and so should such organizations like the RDCO as well. We do not need gold plated infrastructures and we do not need someone's (public servant employee) ideas of community needs that just keep them employed. It is time to figure out the "must do's" as we have done in our own personal lives.

Time for a realistic approach to what we need as opposed to what we want.

One other item that requires a major change is the remuneration for the local government appointees to the regional board. It appears that most meetings are either cancelled or postponed so do we need to pay them for this honour? I do not think so.

It is time for a major overhaul on all levels.

Just my thoughts which I will pass along where needed.

Catherine V. Comben BA (Econ)EPC

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Tania McCabe

Subject:

FW: 2026-2030 Financial Plan – Feedback from Kelowna Resident

Dear Ms. McCabe and the RDCO Finance Team,

I am writing to provide my feedback on the proposed 2026–2030 Financial Plan. My concerns were recently amplified by a Castanet article detailing the proposed 9.8% budget increase. As a retired resident of Kelowna living on a fixed income, I find this trajectory deeply troubling.

While I understand the staff’s argument that municipal costs differ from household inflation, it is important to recognize that taxpayers like myself must live within our means. My CPP and OAS are tied to household inflation, and my private pension does not keep pace with either. **When City of Kelowna spending increases at 150% of inflation**—as I have calculated it has over the last 25 years—it creates a significant financial strain on seniors to then have a regional layer of government ask for an additional 10%.

I strongly support the reservations expressed by Directors Stack and Cannan during the recent board meeting. I would like to see the following areas reviewed for immediate cuts:

- **Hiring Freeze:** The addition of 6.4 full-time positions should be deferred. Adding permanent staff during a "lean time" creates long-term tax liabilities we cannot afford.
- **Wants vs. Needs:** Projects like transitioning seasonal parks to year-round operations and new trail network improvements (e.g., Kalamoir) are "wants." In this economic climate, we should focus strictly on essential infrastructure.
- **Reserve Contributions:** I urge the board to consider reducing the \$400,000 increase in reserve contributions for 2026. Using existing reserves to offset current pressures is more responsible than asking struggling residents for more "savings."
- **Borrowing Costs:** With a 2.6% increase tied solely to interest, the District must reconsider the timing of non-essential capital projects to avoid high-interest debt.

Staff mentioned feeling "very stressed" by their current workload. I can assure you that taxpayers are feeling equally stressed by the compounding 7% to 10% annual increases. I ask that the Board direct staff to bring the 2026 increase significantly closer to the actual 2025 inflation rate of 2.1%.

Thank you for your time and for taking the concerns of Kelowna’s retired community into account.

Sincerely,

David Fowler Kelowna, BC

Tania McCabe

Subject: FW: Yoursay Comments - Financial Plan

Your Say comments

Jason.wilson | Posted on Jan 29, 2026

Your flip book is useless, you do not explain why you need the new staff or why general operating expenses are increasing more than inflation. Without clear justification for the increase this budget needs to be revised

lower.

Jason.wilson | Posted on Jan 29, 2026

Westside road is a provincial road, complain to the NDP.

Miataman | Posted on Jan 24, 2026

THERE IS NO WAY TO JUSTIFY A 10% INCREASE. THESE FAT CAT POLITICIANS WHO GET LARGE AMOUNTS OF MONEY TO ATTEND EACH MEETING NEED TO GET REAL. All Kelowna gets from RDco is garbage and a few parks. Get this down to 6% or lose your post next election.

Bear | Posted on Jan 21, 2026

how is it fair that the city of kelowna that has two thirds of the population of the regional district thinks its ok to foist more of the expenses onto the constituents of the rdco and namely district areas when they benefit the most from all that the rdco operations does. eg. bylaw, dog control, parks both linear and citywide. The city is the one that benefits from accommodation, restaurant and entertainment dollars from tourists that come to enjoy the amenities, not only in the city, but also in the surrounding area. not to mention all the recreational vehicle businesses. Joe rich firehall has to deal with the Big White traffic problems in winter and campers in the summer, without any input from Kelowna. municipalities need to contribute and equal share to the operation of the rdco and quit making the two area districts pay double the rate for the same service.

plantedobrozi | Posted on Jan 17, 2026

How does this plan address the following: 1) Conditions of the roads along Westside Rd and the local communities. The portions maintained by AIM are in terrible shape with some roads (Westshore, Pinecrest and many others) being more pothole than road. Doing nothing for four years will make these roads more unsafe and residents are forced to continue to pay for unnecessary tire expenditures. 2) Westside road general safety. There are many areas along the southern part that are extremely narrow or at risk of slides (and with no guardrails). 3) Emergency access. The area generally has challenges in terms of the ability to leave in an emergency with some neighbourhoods only having a single point of entry and exit. 4) Several years ago a study was done around improving water safety and treatment for communities along Westside Rd. How will this plan address this? Two month+ boil water notices are not acceptable.