

Table 1: Central Okanagan Applications for the Vancouver Foundation Systems Change - Development Grant

Applicant	Project	Request
Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO), Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program (OCCP), and Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA)	<p>The Okanagan Lake Responsibility Planning Initiative will be co-led by the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA), Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program (OCCP), and the South Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program (SOSCP). The Project Team will include members and representatives of Syilx Okanagan Nation, provincial and federal agencies, local governments, academia, conservation organizations, and others who will be identified throughout the process.</p> <p>The aim of this project is to develop a visioning and experiential learning process that will create a greater awareness and understanding of the challenges and opportunities of protecting the environmental, cultural, and economic values of Okanagan Lake. The visioning process will lead to the development of a strategy that will enhance the ways of caring for, protecting, and restoring the values and interests of Okanagan Lake foreshore and associated tributaries within the watershed. The work generated through this project will provide the knowledge and expertise to inform important decisions regarding how natural areas are cared for and managed, help address climate impacts, support sustainable development, and help secure resources and funding to carry out the actions identified in the Strategy.</p> <p>The project is addressing current challenges of shoreline protection, and planning for the region's future at a multi-regional scale. The main objectives are to identify the most pertinent issues impacting our lakes and collaborate to develop a practical and enforceable strategy to enhance shoreline management and source water protection throughout the Okanagan Basin.</p> <p>The project will benefit communities within the region by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing leadership in sustainable environmental management; • Addressing cumulative impacts of shoreline development on source water protection, and improving public health and safety; • Identifying effective multi-jurisdictional policies, bylaws, regulations and processes to enhance shoreline management; and • Identifying common approaches in shoreline enhancement and protection that could form part of a region-wide Protection Strategy for Okanagan Lake. <p>To build on efforts currently underway, in 2020, the advisory team will work through a planning process to co-create a shared vision for an Okanagan Lake Responsibility/Protection Plan. The initiative will develop a unified framework for all levels of government to address the cumulative impacts of shoreline and upland development through a strategy that will increase communications, set development standards and promote best management practices for protecting the many values of Okanagan Lake including fish and wildlife habitat. The process will include experiential learning opportunities and consultation with elected officials, senior management of local, provincial, and federal government as well as elders and senior staff of Okanagan Nation Alliance.</p>	\$20,000.00