

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN

BYLAW No. 2846

A bylaw to amend the Regional District of North Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw

WHEREAS the *Local Government Act* provides that a regional board may develop, adopt, implement, monitor and review a regional growth strategy under part 13 of the Act;

AND WHEREAS the Board of Directors gave written notice of the initiation of a 5-Year Review to affected local governments and the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development on May 13, 2015;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of the Regional District of North Okanagan in open meeting assembled, hereby **ENACTS AS FOLLOWS**:

CITATION

1. This Bylaw may be cited as “**Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 2846, 2019**”.

AMENDMENTS

2. That Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 2500, 2011 be amended as follows:
 - a. By deleting Schedules “A” and “B” attached to and forming part of Bylaw No. 2500 and replacing with the following schedules attached to and forming part of Bylaw No. 2846.
 - i. Schedule “A” RGS Document
 - ii. Schedule “B” Regional Growth Strategy Designation Maps
 - iii. Schedule “C” Population, Housing and Employment Forecast
 - iv. Schedule “D” Possible Implementation Actions
 - v. Schedule “E” The Ideas Bank
 - vi. Schedule “F” Growth Area Boundary Review Criteria

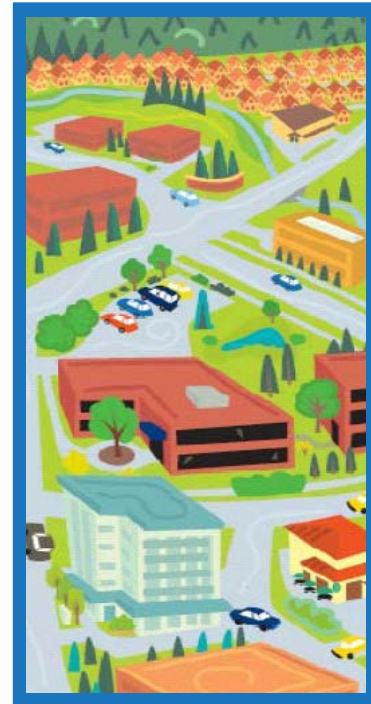
Read a First and Second Time	this	20th	day of	November, 2019
Advertised on	this	15th	day of	January, 2020
	this	17th	day of	January, 2020
Public Hearing held	this	22nd	day of	January, 2020
Read a Third Time	this		day of	, 2020
ADOPTED	this		day of	, 2020

Chair

Corporate Officer



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY *"One Region, One Future"*



BYLAW 2500, 2011 - SCHEDULES

June 16, 2011
Updated November 2019



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN
REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY
"One Region, One Future"

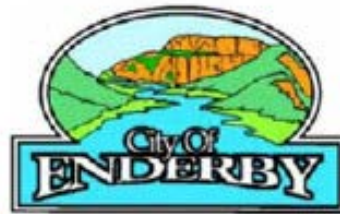
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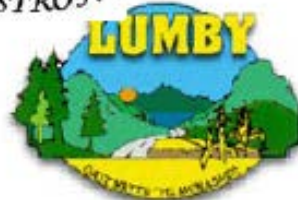
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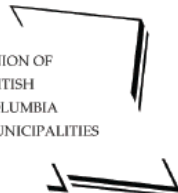
Coldstream



ARMSTRONG



UNION OF
BRITISH
COLUMBIA
MUNICIPALITIES



This project was funded in part by the Union of British Columbia Gas Tax Regionally Significant Products Fund on behalf of the Government of British Columbia and the Government of Canada, as well as the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development through the Smart Development Partnership Program.



FOREWORD

On behalf of the Regional District of North Okanagan, I am pleased to introduce the North Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy.

This strategy has evolved through a four year process which was a partnership between the Regional District and our member municipalities. Our elected officials guided the process wisely and we consulted with hundreds of people, stakeholders, and organizations during the development of this plan. First Nations were invited to participate in all aspects of this process. It has involved a wide cross-section of people including politicians, developers, business people, residents, planners, experts, students, First Nations, community groups and not for profit organizations, all of which contributed to the Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw.

The Regional Growth Strategy sets out a vision for the future and provides certainty to the outcomes we, as residents of the North Okanagan, want to achieve as the region grows and develops. This vision will guide future regional growth, promoting:

- sustainable communities
- protection of our rural and agricultural lands
- broad and sustainable employment and business opportunities
- diverse housing choices
- complete and vibrant neighbourhoods
- protection of the region's natural environment
- sustainable use and protection of the region's resources
- financial sustainability and good regional governance

The region's municipal councils support the direction of the strategy and they are committed to implement the strategy. The strategy will need to respond to changing circumstances. It will therefore be monitored annually and reviewed every five years.

This cooperative strategy is a first for the region. The Regional Growth Strategy is a commitment to fostering strong partnerships and provides opportunities for working together to fully realize what smart and sustainable growth can offer. This partnership will help create a region that our residents can be proud of.

I would like to thank all those who have been involved in this historic process. I look forward to your continued support, interest and enthusiasm as we move from planning to making things happen on the ground.

Herman Halvorson

Chair

Board of Directors of the Regional District of North Okanagan



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Regional Growth Strategy is a broad-based regional plan focusing on regionally significant issues across environmental, economic and social dimensions. The project seeks to complement and enhance other planning processes and strategies across the region.

The Regional District of North Okanagan recognizes and acknowledges the complex planning environment that exists within the North Okanagan. The North Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy respects these well established planning processes. The Regional District of North Okanagan thanks the RGS Coordinator, planning staff, committee and working group members, member municipal councils and Board of Directors, all residents, and those individuals who dedicated their time and expertise to make this project possible.

The Regional Growth Strategy has sought to build on the substantial body of knowledge and experience within the region and sought to fill the gaps in our knowledge.

The Regional District of North Okanagan has worked closely and collaboratively with many existing processes and organizations and sincerely acknowledges their cooperation and participation.

The Regional District of North Okanagan expressly acknowledges and thanks the hundreds of individuals who volunteered and gave freely of their time, energy and expertise in the development of the Regional Growth Strategy. The resulting strategy is a tribute to their passion and commitment to this region. A special thanks is extended to the members of the working groups for their professionalism and dedication in providing recommendations for our elected officials to consider.







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REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY BYLAW 2500, 2011 SCHEDULE 'A'

ONE REGION, ONE FUTURE



"I think the best about in the North Okanagan is the sense of community."

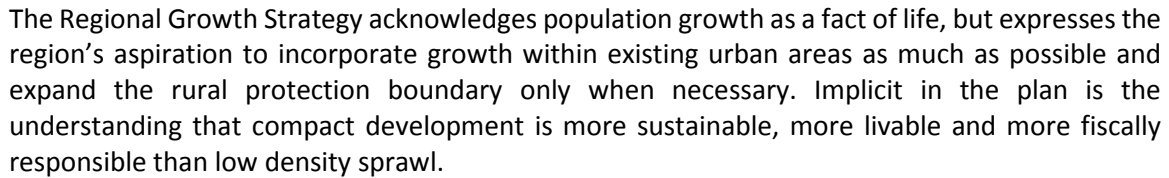
(Age 17, from the Youth Survey)

Chances are you love the North Okanagan – and choose to live here – for many reasons. Whether your roots are generations deep or newly planted, you are part of a community that treasures the nature around us, the neighborhoods and businesses that sustain us and our shared commitment to preserving our quality of life. What are the elements that create “quality of life”? The natural environment is certainly the foundation upon which everything else is built. It supports the many businesses that provide employment in our communities, it is our mountains, our many lakes and our natural and resource areas, the thriving network of farms that supply our tables and the many recreational opportunities that draw us outside to play. It’s easy to take for granted the things we love about living here.

Over the decades, we have grown communities as diverse as Lumby and Cherryville, Spallumcheen and Armstrong, Enderby and Kingfisher and Coldstream and Vernon. We’ve built roads, bridges, schools and parks. We’ve started businesses, created art, hosted world-renowned events, preserved public land, created park networks, invested in transit and made difficult choices along the way. We have sometimes stumbled as well. We’ve made this a place where we can make a living, raise a family, enjoy the outdoors and celebrate culture. So it’s no wonder that more than 83,000 of us make our home here, with another 21,000 expected by 2031 - each a part of this place, each with a responsibility to help preserve the things we love and chart a wise course for the future of the North Okanagan.

How do we make regional choices that protect our local quality of life and contribute to regional solutions? It won’t be easy. We must weigh competing needs, generate creative solutions, make difficult choices and invest in the solutions. Our success will shape the future of our neighborhoods, our economy and our environment. We must also reflect on what’s working and what is not working today and the underlying dynamics and trends that will affect our future.

More than 1,000 people across the region worked together to create the North Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy, a long-range plan to guide growth for the next 20 years. This innovative blueprint for the future is based on a set of shared values: thriving neighborhoods and communities, abundant economic opportunity, clean air and a balanced approach to our water needs, access to nature, preservation of farms, forests and grasslands, and a sense of place.



Though opinions differ on what makes a community appealing, livable communities tend to share some common traits. They are healthy, safe, and walkable. They offer choices for transportation to schools, jobs, services, and basic needs. They are more cost effective for individuals and local governments. They make the region more economically competitive. Whether we choose to live and work in a rural community or urban centre, a community's unique "sense of place" draws people and make us feel at home and welcome there. Though that sense may seem intangible, livability is seldom an accident. Livable communities are created through effective planning and decisions by local, regional and senior governments, developers, the business community, community organizations and individual residents.

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THE VISION



“I think that the North Okanagan is one of a kind because it is small and beautiful”

(Age 14, from the Youth Survey)

To manage growth wisely, we need to have a shared vision of the future we want for ourselves, our children, and for future generations – and then direct our plans and actions toward achieving that vision. The vision seeks to balance a wide array of regional needs, objectives, and realities. It combines both idealism and pragmatism – reflecting our highest aspirations, while taking into account the social, economic, political, geographic, and environmental realities we are likely to face over the next 20 years.

The adopted vision statement reflected the collective input from elected officials on the desired future of the North Okanagan. After several discussions and a few revisions, the Regional Board adopted the Vision Statement on June 17th, 2009.

The Regional District of North Okanagan is a unique region that will continue to be recognized for its diverse natural habitats, robust economies, outstanding recreational opportunities and the high quality of urban and rural lifestyles provided in established communities. As such, the Regional Board will strive to conserve and enhance the very reasons that make the North Okanagan so attractive by ensuring:

- ***Growth is managed to reflect our social, environmental and economic values;***
- ***The Region’s natural constraints to growth are water availability, agricultural lands, and environmentally-sensitive areas;***
- ***Rural and urban lifestyle choices are maintained through designated growth areas and urban boundary management;***
- ***Agricultural lands are protected and a sustainable regional food system is supported and encouraged;***
- ***A strong, sustainable, and diverse economy that reflects our values and the identities of our communities;***
- ***Our natural systems, including air, land and water, are respected and protected; and***
- ***Inclusive, accountable and effective governance based upon a foundation of regional cooperation.***



REGIONAL POLICIES



The Regional Growth Strategy provides an integrated strategic policy framework for addressing growth management, economic development, transportation, other infrastructure, and environmental concerns. These policies play three key roles: (1) give direction for implementing the Regional Growth Strategy, (2) create a common strategic framework for planning at various levels within the North Okanagan, and (3) provide the vision for all levels of government to strive towards.

The Regional Growth Strategy focuses on concentrating growth within the growth areas and limiting development in the rural protection areas. The policies recognize the link between development, mobility, the environment and the economy, and have been designed to provide an integrated approach to sustainability, development, economic prosperity, and the provision of services.

A Common Framework: The Regional Growth Strategy provides a common framework for regional and local planning in the North Okanagan. This partnership initiative established policies that are practical, flexible and responsive to local conditions. Much of the implementation of Regional Growth Strategy occurs through local planning and actions. The Regional Growth Strategy focuses on the challenges of people, prosperity and place to develop healthy and sustainable communities for all people. The Strategy addresses environmental issues, encourages a robust and diverse economy, takes steps to conserve resources and enhances natural and built environments. To achieve this end, the Regional Growth Strategy regional policies are grouped in nine interrelated policy areas.



Urban Containment/Rural Protection



Agriculture and Food Systems



Water Stewardship



Environment and Natural Lands



Economic Development



Transportation and Infrastructure



Housing



Governance and Service Delivery



Energy and Emissions & Climate Adaptation



GOALS — STRATEGIES — INDICATORS

Goals: Goals speak to the desired outcomes for each of the topics covered in the Regional Growth Strategy (RGS). They set the tone for an integrated approach and common framework for regional policies. Each policy section of the Regional Growth Strategy has goals that provide the context for the strategies that follow.

Strategies: The RGS strategies are designed to be broad. They provide overall guidance and direction for planning processes and decision making at both regional and local levels. Given the strong integration across the various policy sections, the full body of regional strategies is to be considered in decision-making for programs, projects, and planning processes. The strategies also serve as a common framework for regional and local planning.

Indicators: The RGS has identified measures for assessing how the region is meeting the goals and strategies. The purpose of these measures is to track whether actions are occurring and whether the region is achieving desired results. This information will assist regional and local governments as they assess policies and actions over time. The indicators are included in the implementation section.

Regional monitoring is based upon two major components: implementation monitoring and performance monitoring. Implementation monitoring attempts to answer the question, “Are we doing what we said we would do?” Performance monitoring addresses, “Are we achieving the desired results?”

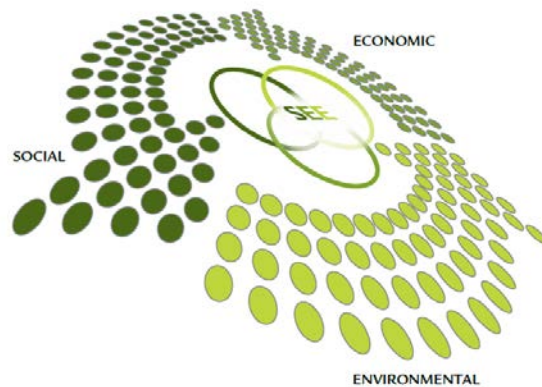
The measures selected for this program are not intended to be entirely comprehensive or to provide all of the answers. Rather, they have been selected to provide a broad view of the state of the region, with a high level perspective about whether key implementation actions are being accomplished, and if the region is seeing desired results.





AN INTEGRATED PLAN

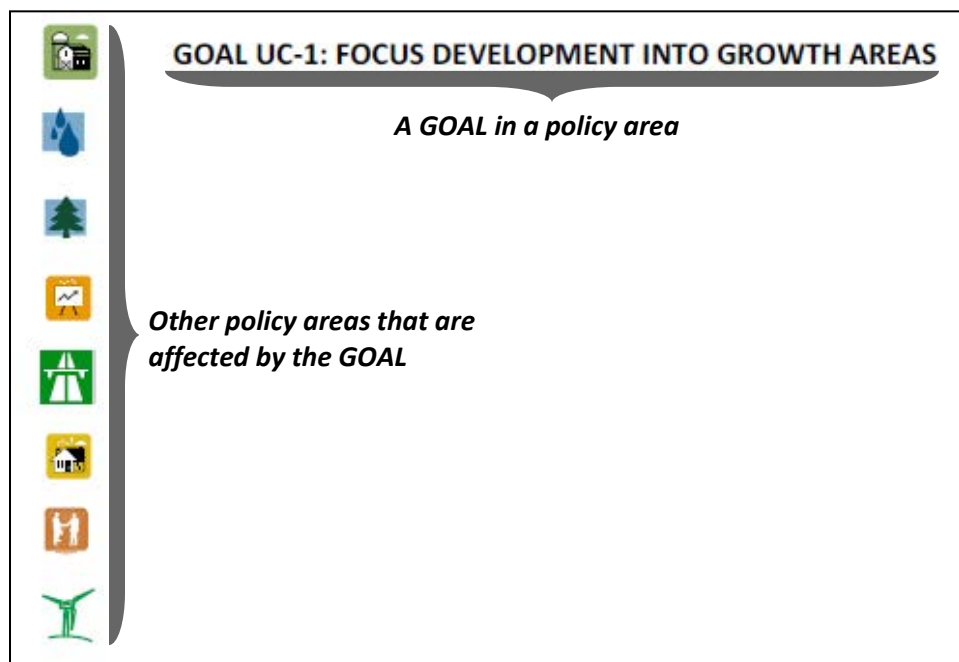
Clean air and clean water do not stop at municipal or electoral area boundaries. Neither does the need for jobs, a thriving economy and good transportation choices for people and businesses in our region. Our issues are also not silos – each one affects many others. As a result, all the policies are integrated, meaning that their success is intertwined with the success of policies under other policy area headings. Each policy area has environmental, economic and social dimensions.



The Regional Growth Strategy is divided into 9 policy areas. During the development of the policies, the public, our stakeholders and our elected officials acknowledged that all the policy areas are integrated. The policies were developed across issue oriented working groups and each of the suggested policies address more than one issue. As an example, the need to tackle housing issues was brought up by every working group when looking at their own issue, from economic development to environment and water stewardship.

Look for the issue symbols beside each policy to see where the linkages are. Each issue is intertwined with others and dealing with all 9 issues will be essential to the success of the Regional Growth Strategy.

For each goal statement, there will be policy area icons in the left hand margin. These icons show the other policy areas that are connected to that goal.





1. URBAN CONTAINMENT AND RURAL PROTECTION

My small community be beautiful in 10 years I can see miles onto lovely forests, farms and fields"

(Age 11, from the Youth Survey)

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

In the past, development in the North Okanagan has moved into our agricultural lands, our hillsides and into our open spaces. Although we have active community centres and neighbourhoods, the majority of our housing is low density. Higher density or mixed use development are needed to support regional sustainability goals. Increased density in our communities is necessary to support public transit, reduce the costs of utilities, infrastructure and roads, provide a diversity of housing options and allow more travel by foot and bicycle. Focusing development within our communities also reduces development pressure on our rural areas, allowing us to preserve agricultural, natural and low density rural residential lands. By concentrating growth in areas that are already serviced by water and sewer, municipalities can become more economically sustainable and focus resources on diversifying their economy.



GOAL UC-1: FOCUS DEVELOPMENT INTO GROWTH AREAS



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



UC-1.1: areas designated as Growth Areas are to be fully serviced with community water and sewer systems and can accommodate a broad range of urban land uses at urban densities.



UC-1.2: promote compact, complete community design.



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to promote compact, complete community design in Growth Areas through the consideration of the following guidelines when undertaking Official Community Plan amendments, reviews or revision, and assessing large developments:



1. Infrastructure is developed in a way that makes efficient use of existing and future public infrastructure investments;
2. Public facilities and services are provided in an appropriate and financially responsible manner;
3. Transportation is designed to be walkable where possible and served with a well connected system of streets, bikeways, recreation trails and public transit;
4. Development is designed to preserve and enhance natural ecological systems;
5. Development includes sufficient land suitable for a range of needed housing types;
6. Growth can be accommodated in a way that preserves important natural landscape features;





7. Development is designed to avoid or minimize adverse effects on agricultural and natural resource lands, important natural landscape features and on land designated as Rural Protection Areas;
8. Municipalities shall recognize the Rural Protection Boundary in Official Community Plans;
9. Local and regional government will respect the Rural Protection Boundary and Rural Protection Area when reviewing relevant proposals, including: annexations, Official Community Plan amendments and reviews, bylaw development, permit review and applications for large developments; and
10. Local and regional government will discourage proposals which are inconsistent with the Regional Growth Strategy, Official Community Plans, Rural Protection Boundaries or Rural Protection Areas.

REVISED 2019

UC-1.3: consider the full cost of development, including water and sewer infrastructure, transportation, emergency response and civic services, to ensure that land use decisions are transparent, informed, fiscally responsible, and take into account the principles of asset management.

UC-1.4: preserve and enhance existing neighbourhoods by encouraging diverse choices in housing types, a high degree of connectivity in the street network to accommodate walking, bicycling and transit use and provide public spaces.

UC-1.5: support the transformation of key underutilized lands, such as brownfields and greyfields, to higher density, mixed use areas to complement the development of neighbourhood centers and the enhancement of existing neighbourhoods.

UC-1.6: use the policy tools available to local governments to encourage the redevelopment and revitalization of underutilized lands.

UC-1.7: undertake a phased approach in Growth Areas: Municipalities are encouraged to consider adopting a phased infrastructure and service area expansion approach to sustain growth rates and protect the Growth Areas' potential for development over a 20 year period.

REVISED 2019

UC-1.8: define Community Centres within existing communities: Although every center is distinctive and unique, they should all contain some common elements, including:

- Compact and complete design
- Transit oriented
- Pedestrian friendly
- Public spaces and meeting places
- Green and sustainable infrastructure





REVISED 2019

UC-1.9: respect Future Growth Areas identified in existing Official Community Plans: The development of Future Growth Areas will be based on Official Community Plan policies and is contingent on the provision of water, sewer and appropriate civil services, such as emergency response, as well as the identification of water sources. The full cost of providing an urban level of service delivery (water, sewer, emergency response, and civic services) must be considered along with the principles of asset management prior to development. Once considered for development or designated within an Official Community Plan, Future Growth Areas will be designated as Growth Areas (**UC-1.1**) and all associated policies will apply. Additional Future Growth Areas may be considered during the Regional Growth Strategy 5-year review and informed by a Regional Housing Needs Assessment.



GOAL UC-2: PROTECT RURAL LANDS

The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:

UC-2.1: designate Rural Protection Boundaries, consistent with the Regional Growth Strategy, within Official Community Plans for the purpose of protecting lands within the Rural Protection Area. Lands designated as Rural Protection Areas are intended to accommodate low density development on larger (1 hectare and greater) parcels of land that are not serviced with both community water and sewer systems

NEW 2019

UC-2.2: The Board encourages communities to consider amending rural protection boundaries during the RGS 5-Year review process (See UC-2.4) which will take into account the Boundary Review Criteria (Schedule 'F'). The Board respects local jurisdictions' land use autonomy under Part 14 of the Local Government Act to determine land use in the Rural Protection Area while still trying to discourage sprawl. Each local authority will ensure that its' respective Official Community Plan:

- Recognizes the Rural Protection Boundary as shown in the RGS;
- Identifies any local areas desired for future growth that may infringe upon the Rural Protection Areas;
- Addresses, to the extent that is reasonable, the difference between the OCP growth areas and the Rural Protection boundaries of the RGS in the Regional Context Statement as per Section 447 of the *Local Government Act*.

If, through an application process, a municipality successfully removed lands from the ALR and/or are designated for urban scale development, a change to the mapping and designations of the RGS would occur during the 5 year review to reflect that change. It is recommended that any regionally significant changes to the land use designations be referred to the Regional Growth Strategy Support Team for technical review and comment on regional implications and the Board of Directors as per Section 475 of the *Local Government Act*.



UC-2.3: In order to reduce rural sprawl and encourage more sustainable forms of rural subdivision, an Official Community Plan may make provision to allow for smaller minimum parcel sizes in the Rural Protection Area provided there is no increase in the overall density (i.e. clustering), that the new parcels can be served with potable water and wastewater disposal systems in a sustainable manner and the conservation of residual lands in perpetuity for agricultural, ecological or public good purposes. Options for alternative forms of development shall be consistent with the policies of the Regional Growth Strategy.

UC-2.4: consider amending the Rural Protection Boundary during the Regional Growth Strategy 5-year review.

UC-2.5: discourage the provision of, or expansion of, community water and sewer service to the Rural Protection Area unless supported for health or environmental reasons or servicing current levels of development and only where such services do not result in additional development that will require further rural expansion of water and/or sewer infrastructure.

UC-2.6: designate lands as Rural Protection Areas: This designation will protect, and at the same time enhance, the rural landscape by encouraging development that is compatible with the rural character of the North Okanagan.

UC-2.7: encourage the location of commercial, retail, and community services that serve rural residents to neighbouring communities and existing activity areas to prevent the conversion of rural land into commercial uses.

UC-2.8: protect the character of rural areas: Rural Protection Areas contain a variety of lands with natural resource value including agriculture and forestry. These lands have historically played a significant role in shaping North Okanagan character and identity, offering rural lifestyle choice, as well as providing important economic benefits. Their long term viability and productivity is increasingly threatened by urban encroachment and the spread of incompatible land uses.

UC-2.9: coordinate with provincial agencies on future land use decisions within the Community/Crown Interface Zone designation of the Okanagan Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan.

UC-2.10: appropriate Destination Resort Development: Destination resorts provide recreational activities and facilities. A transparent, consistent, equitable and fair full cost accounting should be used to assess the feasibility of new resort developments. Any new destination resorts within the region shall complement the goals and strategies of the Regional Growth Strategy and the strategic tourism objectives of the province while balancing sustainability initiatives.





REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY DESIGNATIONS



The Rural Protection Area Map (**Schedule 'B'**) identifies Growth Areas, Future Growth Areas and Rural Protection Areas. The purpose of this map is to guide land use planning processes by defining long term rural protection areas and boundaries that are not suitable for 'urban' levels of development.



GROWTH AREAS: are serviced by water and sewer infrastructure and are defined by the Rural Protection Boundary. Growth Areas are intended to contain the diversity of the region's established communities with urban densities (lots less than 1 hectare). Urban levels of service, including water and sewer infrastructure extensions, will be limited to Growth Areas. Growth Areas do not necessarily correspond to municipal or electoral area boundaries (existing or proposed). Growth Area boundaries respect past agreements and comprehensive neighbourhood planning initiatives that have access to existing water and sewer infrastructure.



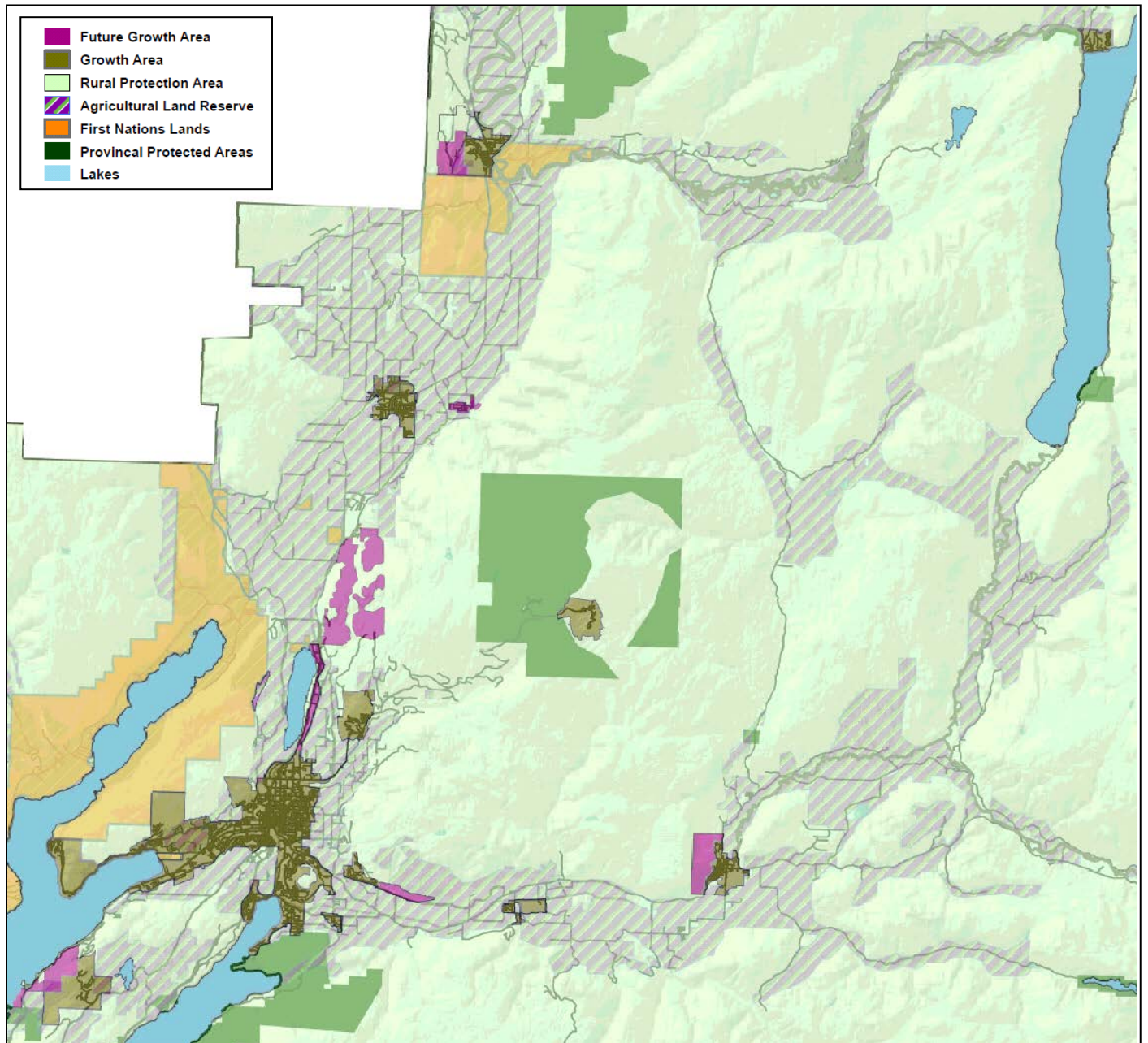
FUTURE GROWTH AREAS: are areas have been identified in Official Community Plans or strategic planning initiatives for future development of residential, commercial or industrial uses. These areas may require further review to determine their development potential and viability, including the identification of water sources. The objective within these areas, as in Growth Areas, is to encourage compact, complete, mixed use and serviced communities with well defined Rural Protection Boundaries. The development of these areas should be contingent on the establishment of services, including water infrastructure and emergency response capacity. Criteria and thresholds should be established through Official Community Plans prior to consideration of Future Growth Area for compact, complete community development. Once development begins within Future Growth Areas, then these areas will be considered Growth Areas as defined within the Regional Growth Strategy.



RURAL PROTECTION AREAS: are areas that will not have access to water and sewer infrastructure, consist of large lot sizes and are associated with rural uses. Rural Protection Areas are intended to provide for a variety of rural land uses, including low density rural residential development, natural resources, and agricultural and existing small scale neighbourhood commercial uses. Rural Protection Areas help protect rural landscapes and agricultural lands, prevent unsuitable urban development and densities, limit water and sewer infrastructure extensions beyond the Rural Protection Boundary and maintain rural lifestyle options. Natural lands, open spaces, agricultural lands and environmentally sensitive lands that are unsuitable for residential development are included within the Rural Protection Areas, including: the Agricultural Land Reserve, watersheds, conservation areas, natural habitats, grasslands, forests, wetlands, major parks and recreation areas. Rural developments around drinking water sources and reservoirs should be restricted to protect water quality and quantity. The Rural Protection Area is complementary to the Okanagan Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan (OSLRMP) and does not discourage appropriate designated Crown land uses, as represented in the OSLRMP, UC-2.9 and UC-2.10.



RURAL PROTECTION BOUNDARY: *is the line that divides lands that have access to water and sewer infrastructure and lands that must rely on local water and septic solutions.* The Rural Protection Boundary is intended to retain rural and agricultural lands for appropriate rural uses and residential densities. The Rural Protection Boundary focuses urban levels of development, densities and service levels into Growth Areas. Rural service levels and appropriate uses are preserved within the rural protection area.





2. AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

“More community gardens, less lawn and more food being grown, stores buying fresh produce from local farmers instead of importing them”

(Age 15, from the Youth Survey)

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The North Okanagan has an abundance of agricultural lands, which is unique in British Columbia. Only 5% of the province can be used for agriculture and the North Okanagan contains 39% of all Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) lands in the Okanagan. Although 9% (or about 70,000 ha) of the Regional District is within the Agricultural Land Reserve, most of those lands are located in the valley bottoms where development pressure is greatest. Since 1974, we have lost over 6.3% (almost 6,000 ha) of our best ALR lands. The protection of our agricultural land base, our agricultural heritage and continued support for our farmers will be critical to the long term sustainability of the North Okanagan.



GOAL AG-1: WATER IS MANAGED SUSTAINABLY SO ALL REASONABLE NEEDS, INCLUDING AGRICULTURE, ARE MET IN A BALANCED MANNER



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



AG-1.1: encourage water metering systems, where applicable, to ensure the efficient use of water allocations.



AG-1.2: collaborate and cooperate with the provincial government and relevant agencies during the development of policies and methods that encourage more efficient water use.



AG-1.3: explore opportunities to expand the use of reclaimed water for agriculture in a safe, cost effective and efficient manner.

AG-1.4: based upon **GOAL WS-3**, explore opportunities for expanding reclaimed agriculture water infrastructure outside of existing serviced areas.

The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

AG-1.5: the province and relevant parties are encouraged to explore the feasibility of a North Okanagan Agricultural Water Reserve that would provide the appropriate amount of water to agricultural lands in drought years without compromising stream health or other community needs.



GOAL AG-2: MAINTAIN AND DIVERSIFY THE AGRICULTURAL LAND BASE



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



AG-2.1: through Official Community Plans, discourage the removal or subdivision of Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) lands.



AG-2.2: develop policies that minimize the development (i.e. building) footprint on agricultural lands.

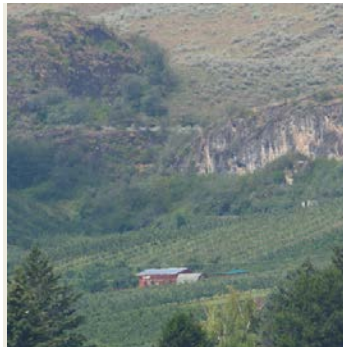


The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:



AG-2.3: the province and other parties (i.e. utility companies) are encouraged to avoid fragmentation of agricultural lands when considering projects.

AG-2.4: the Agricultural Land Commission is encouraged to coordinate with the Regional District of North Okanagan and member municipalities to ensure consistency between the Regional Growth Strategy and Agricultural Land Commission decisions and policies.





GOAL AG-3: SUPPORT A ROBUST AND DIVERSE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC SECTOR

The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:

- AG-3.1:** create an inventory of existing and potential agri-industrial operations, infrastructure and lands.
- AG-3.2:** consider supporting initiatives that will provide opportunities for new, young or experienced farmers within the North Okanagan.
- AG-3.3:** collaborate on the development of a Regional Agricultural Economic Development Plan that builds upon the strengths of the North Okanagan and local plans and initiatives.

The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

- AG-3.4:** the province is encouraged to collaborate with farming interests, local governments and other stakeholders during the identification and creation of new agricultural economic opportunities, including local added value production, processing, distribution, marketing and agri-tourism.





GOAL AG-4: ENCOURAGE A HEALTHY, ACCESSIBLE AND RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEM

The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:

- AG-4.1:** support and, within the authority of local government, promote environmentally sustainable agricultural practices.
- AG-4.2:** consider developing policies and programs that support urban agriculture and small scale agriculture as a component of local food security.
- AG-4.3:** encourage the creation of Environmental Farm Plans and household, institutional and farm/food waste composting facilities.
- AG-4.4:** support, within the power of local government, the agriculture sector in developing ways to manage and recover energy from agricultural wastes.

The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

- AG-4.5:** the province is encouraged, through ongoing dialogue, collaboration and cooperation with relevant stakeholders and local governments, to develop supportive policies that will enhance local, sustainable agriculture within the North Okanagan.
- AG-4.6:** the province is encouraged to collaborate with the local agricultural sector and other stakeholders on initiatives that raise public agricultural awareness.
- AG-4.7:** the province is encouraged to collaborate with local government and agricultural stakeholders in exploring solutions to regional agricultural issues, such as local agricultural waste disposal, effective and sustainable agricultural invasive species management and initiatives that would provide opportunities for young farmers.





3. WATER STEWARDSHIP

"I would like more protection of our waters (lakes, streams and rivers)"

(Age 14, from the Youth Survey)

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Water is one of the most precious and important natural assets in the North Okanagan. Even though we are endowed with several large lakes, community watersheds and groundwater resources, the supply of clean, reliable water is inherently limited. Water shortages have already occurred in some areas of the North Okanagan and are expected to occur more widely and frequently in the future as a result of Climate Change. Local residents, elected officials and Regional Growth Strategy working groups expressed that their greatest concern about regional growth is the availability and quality of water. Some are concerned about drought and water shortages; others about climate change, agricultural viability, economic development and increasing residential use. Balancing the water requirements of the environment, basic human needs, agriculture, irrigation, tourism, recreation and industry has become more of a challenge as more people live, work, and play in the North Okanagan.



GOAL WS-1: PROTECTION OF OUR GROUNDWATER



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



WS-1.1: develop policies, within the authority of local and regional government that will evaluate proposed developments based upon local hydrological conditions, access to long term water supply, an adherence to the precautionary principle and impact on supply to existing users.



WS-1.2: consider adopting groundwater quality and quantity best management practices and policies, as they apply to local governments.

WS-1.3: develop lot size policies that are based on local groundwater conditions so that the cumulative effects of development do not compromise the sustainability of the community.

The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

WS-1.4: encourage the province and relevant parties to develop a regional groundwater quality and quantity monitoring program and undertake enhanced aquifer and groundwater limited areas mapping to be used in planning and approval decisions.





GOAL WS-2: PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF WATER RESOURCES



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



WS-2.1: consider coordinating Water Management Plans and Drought Management Plans with a consideration of the variability of surface and ground water supplies. Harmonizing local Drought Management Plans should be considered.



WS-2.2: enact water conservation measures for existing and new developments.



WS-2.3: consider developing a North Okanagan Water Conservation Strategy, in collaboration with relevant parties.



WS-2.4: support the use of innovative water conservation, management and liquid waste disposal techniques, technologies and strategies where feasible.



WS-2.5: fully consider the economic, social, ecological and hydrological consequences of future inter- and intra-basin transfers during the evaluation of these types of projects.



WS-2.6: collaborate with the province and appropriate agencies to address regional and local watershed and source water protection and management issues

The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

WS-2.7: the province and health authorities are encouraged to review water quality standards, guidelines and reporting mechanisms to ensure a reasonable, realistic and consistent approach to the protection of water quality throughout British Columbia.

WS-2.8: the province and relevant authorities are encouraged to develop an integrated North Okanagan Supply and Demand Water Model for the Shuswap and Okanagan watersheds.

WS-2.9: the provincial and federal governments are encouraged to conduct an issues assessment on the impacts of motorized and non-motorized watercraft on North Okanagan waterways on water quality, with a focus on the identification of solutions, options and opportunities at the local, regional, provincial and federal levels.

WS-2.10: the province and relevant authorities are encouraged to explore cost effective, efficient and innovative methods and tools, in collaboration with the local and regional governments, which can provide stream water flow and quality monitoring information for identified critical watersheds.

WS-2.11: the province is encouraged to review the regulations governing reclaimed water use in residential developments, with guidance from other jurisdictions that have legislated grey, reclaimed and/or reused water.



GOAL WS-3: CONSIDER THE TRUE COST OF WATER



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



WS-3.1: collaborate on the development and implementation of a consistent full cost accounting framework (that includes the cost of construction, maintenance, operation, and replacement) for water and sewer infrastructure that reflects the true cost of delivering a long term sustainable service.



WS-3.2: use local full cost accounting methods for water and sewer servicing as an integrated strategic tool for land use planning, development proposal evaluation, and infrastructure investment decision making.

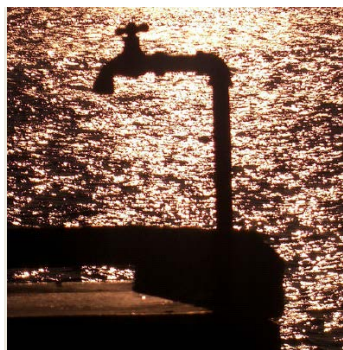


WS-3.3: discourage the approval of new water and wastewater utilities under private ownership. The evaluation of the liability of transfer to public ownership should be considered as part of the decision making process for allowing such systems.

The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

WS-3.4: the province and relevant agencies are encouraged to provide guidelines and/or best management practices to water and sanitary sewer providers, as well as local governments, for recovering the full cost of providing water and sanitary sewer services, including the environmental and resource costs.

WS-3.5: the province and relevant agencies are encouraged to explore, and where feasible, implement equitable, effective and transparent groundwater licensing and pricing mechanisms that encourage efficient and sustainable use of this limited and valuable resource.





4. ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL LANDS

"The best thing about living in the North Okanagan is the nature around us, the lakes, rivers, mountains and forest."

(Age 14, from the Youth Survey)

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The North Okanagan is home to many diverse ecosystems, including wetlands, forests, lakes, rivers and grasslands. These ecosystems and the features they contain are valuable in their own right. They also provide important benefits. In addition to filtering pollutants, preventing erosion and controlling crop pests, many natural areas provide habitat for our plant and animal species. Open spaces and the natural environment make possible the many recreational activities and opportunities our citizens enjoy, the success of the tourism industry and the quality of life of residents. Growth over the last 20 years has impacted some of our most vulnerable ecosystems, our hillsides and our views. Healthy landscapes and watersheds protect the quality and quantity of our water supplies, aquatic ecosystems and our recreational opportunities.

The natural environment is one of the reasons that the North Okanagan is such a popular destination. When we asked the public what was the most important thing they valued about the North Okanagan, the overwhelming response was 'the natural environment and landscape, and the lifestyle and opportunities it provides'. Local and regional governments have tremendous opportunities for environmental stewardship and providing a park system that is the best in British Columbia. However, the need to coordinate local and regional environmental initiatives and parks planning in the face of strong growth presents many challenges.



GOAL ENV-1: PROTECT OUR WATERSHEDS



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



ENV-1.1: develop consistent, integrated environmental policy that will protect water ecosystem function, our drinking water sources and conserve and enhance biodiversity and ecological services through the protection of ecological features and corridors, including floodplains, shorelines, stream and river systems, aquifers, wetlands and forested watersheds.



ENV-1.2: create a Regional Foreshore Strategy, using foreshore inventory mapping, that will be incorporated into the application and permitting process for new and existing developments.

The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

ENV-1.3: provincial and federal governments are encouraged to support the local and regional initiatives that protect watersheds, waterways and riparian areas.





GOAL ENV-2: PROTECT OUR PARKS, NATURAL AREAS AND OPEN SPACES



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



ENV-2.1: in collaboration with the appropriate agencies and organizations, identify, prioritize and map all ecosystems and important habitat features in the North Okanagan and ensure this information is used in local, regional and provincial land use processes



ENV-2.2: expand sensitive ecosystem mapping to complete a regionally consistent North Okanagan ecosystem inventory.



ENV-2.3: support data sharing, mapping, and consolidation of existing information into an inventory of Southern Interior ecologically sensitive areas and biodiversity values.



ENV-2.4: identify a system of linked wildlife corridors and areas of habitat connectivity, in partnership with the province and relevant parties, which will inform planning decisions with the goal of avoiding further fragmentation.



ENV-2.5: develop a regionally consistent policy approach to ecosystem and species protection.



ENV-2.6: encourage the sustainable management of parks and natural areas.

ENV-2.7: engage the community through stewardship and education to improve environmental awareness.

ENV-2.8: coordinate on the establishment of regionally significant open space networks and linkages across jurisdictional boundaries that will compliment local parks planning.

ENV-2.9: support opportunities and partnerships that promote environmental conservation and ecosystem protection.

ENV-2.10: designate and protect significant open spaces and environmentally sensitive areas in Official Community Plans and through other planning mechanisms.

ENV-2.11: explore funding mechanisms to support regionally significant open space and parkland acquisitions.

ENV-2.12: consider supporting partnership initiatives that would undertake the development of a regional biodiversity strategy.

The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

ENV-2.13: provincial and federal governments are encouraged to support local initiatives that protect ecosystems, natural lands, watercourses and riparian areas.



ENV-2.14: the province is encouraged to, through partnerships and financial support, identify, prioritize and map ecosystems, wildlife corridors and areas of habitat connectivity in the North Okanagan.

ENV-2.15: the province is encouraged to coordinate with regional and local governments to ensure consistent and integrated park, trail, greenway, open space and/or complementary land use planning across jurisdictions.



GOAL ENV-3: REDUCE AND PREVENT POLLUTION



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



ENV-3.1: encourage the development and adoption of policies that contribute to the reduction or prevention of air, land and water pollution.



NEW 2019

ENV-3.2: Support public awareness and education around air quality management practices.



NEW 2019

ENV-3.3: Support pollution prevention using processes, practices, materials and energy in ways that avoid or minimize the creation of pollutants and wastes at the source.



NEW 2019



ENV-3.4: reduce urban air pollution and urban heat islands by expanding natural elements across the landscape



ENV-3.5: support the use of innovative approaches and technologies (i.e. green infrastructure) for water, energy, and waste and emissions management through the use of best management practices, local bylaws and incentives.

REVISED 2019

ENV-3.6: encourage energy efficient retrofits of older buildings, including both residential and commercial buildings while encouraging the proper disposal, reuse and/or recycling of any waste generated.

ENV-3.7: explore opportunities to establish financial and other incentives to encourage energy efficient development.

ENV-3.8: encourage the use of local materials and green building techniques in new and retrofitted developments.





5. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

“There are not many job options or post-secondary options.”

(Age 15, from the Youth Survey)

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

In support of economic and social sustainability, a region should have employment opportunities close to where people live, not only to reduce commuting times for workers, but also to support economic development in our communities. At the same time, there should be a sufficient supply of land for industry and commerce with good regional transportation connections for workers, customers and businesses.

Successful and sustainable economic development is supported by communities working together to create a strong economic environment that attracts new businesses and retains existing ones. Competition between local governments or business associations will only weaken the region’s collective attractiveness and economic performance. The Regional Growth Strategy provides a framework for regional economic collaboration and cooperation on local and regional economic development, research and planning. A strong economy is essential to maintaining the high quality of life we enjoy in the North Okanagan.



GOAL ED-1: PROMOTE A REGIONAL APPROACH TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



- ED-1.1:** support a regional approach to economic development, based upon a voluntary model, which encourages a positive and sustainable business enabling environment.
- ED-1.2:** collaborate and cooperate on economic development, tourism and business attraction initiatives, policies, plans and marketing.
- ED-1.3:** encourage cooperative inter-jurisdictional industrial servicing arrangements that would respond to local and regional economic development goals.

NEW 2019

- ED-1.4:** support municipalities, first nations and electoral areas in the implementation of the Regional Employment Lands Action Plan to generate employment opportunities and create a more economically resilient and diverse region.

The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

- ED-1.5:** the federal government and the province financially contribute to, and have a key role in, economic development initiatives that retains and attracts investment and employment to the region.
- ED-1.6:** adjacent regional districts are invited to collaborate with the Regional District of North Okanagan on shared or common economic development matters.



GOAL ED-2: ENCOURAGE A SUSTAINABLE, RESILIENT AND DIVERSE REGIONAL ECONOMY



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



ED-2.1: explore initiatives that support continued economic diversification, including value added, community based business development, green jobs and sustainable industries.



NEW 2019



ED-2.2: Support and encourage research and development initiatives and training programs in conjunction with UBC Okanagan and Okanagan College, including agriculture, food processing and distribution, water management, manufacturing, technology, waste management and tourism.



ED-2.3: monitor the supply of industrial lands in the region with the objective of maintaining a sufficient capacity to meet the needs of the regional economy.

ED-2.4: investigate opportunities to support the expansion of regional employment that are consistent with the Regional Growth Strategy.

ED-2.5: support the intensification of employment activity within Neighbourhood Centres and other identified economic nodes.

ED-2.6: discourage large commercial or institutional developments outside of Growth Areas.

ED-2.7: acknowledge the importance of a diversity of housing opportunities and affordable housing options in supporting economic development goals.

The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

ED-2.8: BC Transit, the federal government and the province are requested to, in collaboration and partnership with local and regional government, develop and operate transportation infrastructure that support the economic development goals of the Regional Growth Strategy.





6. TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

"More bike lanes! Bike Racks! Make it easier to get around on foot or bike instead of driving. Also better transit."

(Age 22, from the Youth Survey)

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Our transportation options link our homes, our neighbours, our employment, our recreation, and our commercial activity. The majority of trips within the North Okanagan are by automobile (89%), while the number of trips by transit is 2%, walking and cycling are 8%¹ and other is 1%. As a result, transportation is the largest contributor to our greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle emissions are trapped by inversions, creating poor air quality with possible health impacts.

Transportation and other infrastructure involve costly investments. To make the most of them we must be more effective in integrating transportation and infrastructure planning within our communities. Transportation choices have a strong physical impact on how sustainable and attractive our communities will be. Care must be taken to ensure that our roads, railways, transit, trails and active transportation options enhance our communities.



GOAL TI-1: MANAGE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION CORRIDORS



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:

REVISED 2019



TI-1.1: coordinate local transportation network planning across jurisdictions to assist in regional transportation planning and corridor management which improves connectivity, reduces greenhouse gas emissions and provides for emergency egress e.g. an all-weather road to link the Village of Lumby with Silver Star Village.



NEW 2019



TI-1.2: Rail transportation corridors, if no longer required, shall be considered for preservation as future mobility corridors, which includes cycle routes, trails, and other active transportation uses and other forms of mass transit that may be viable in the future. e.g. Okanagan Rail Trail and Sicamous to Armstrong Rail Trail.



The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

TI-1.3: the province is encouraged to collaborate with local and regional governments when identifying potential, or enhancing existing, transportation corridors to ensure that planning for major transportation corridors preserves choices for the future, including active transportation options.

¹ 2011 NHS Census Data (most up to date data as 2016 Census did not include mode share)



TI-1.4: senior levels of government are encouraged to partner with the Regional District of North Okanagan and its member municipalities when developing a long range corridor protection and/or acquisition strategy that accommodates future transportation needs.



TI-1.5: the province and other relevant parties are encouraged to support the conversion of redundant transportation rights of way for purposes which support the Regional Growth Strategy, municipal plans, and transportation plans.



GOAL TI-2: SUPPORT INTEGRATED REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



TI-2.1: develop an Integrated Regional Transportation Plan and Implementation Agreement between all levels of government using a multimodal approach that creates attractive, integrated and effective transportation choices to provide a broad range of mobility options.



NEW 2019

TI-2.2: Work with BC Transit, member municipalities and electoral areas on the implementation of the Transit Futures Plan and the goal of creating a transit system which:

- is an attractive alternative to the private vehicle;
- complements the goal of compact and complete communities;
- aids in reducing environmental impacts;
- is efficient; and
- is integrated with other land use and transportation plans.

TI-2.3: encourage transit oriented development, where appropriate and feasible, within Growth Area locations that have access to multimodal connections.

REVISED 2019

TI-2.4: encourage, where feasible, rural transportation options that are reflective of the unique needs and challenges of our rural and unincorporated communities e.g. ride sharing.

REVISED 2019

TI-2.5: support the development of initiatives that reduce transportation greenhouse gas emissions by using techniques and methods that are within the jurisdiction of local governments, such as a network of electric vehicle infrastructure.

TI-2.6: explore innovative financing options and opportunities to meet transportation and infrastructure goals.

TI-2.7: ensure that land use decision making is informed by a full and complete understanding of the impacts on all aspects of the transportation system, including transit, walking and cycling.



REVISED 2019



TI-2.8: Encourage member municipalities and electoral areas to integrate transportation and land use planning within Official Community Plans to ensure that, where feasible and appropriate, communities:

- improve access to housing, jobs, schools, child care facilities and services by walking, cycling and public transport;
- improve access of pedestrian and bicycle networks to transit networks, which will increase transit ridership in the future;
- increase the choice of available transportation options to reduce dependence on cars;
- reduce travel demand including the number of single occupant vehicle (SOV) trips generated by development and the distances travelled;
- support the efficient and viable operation of public transport services; and
- provide for the efficient movement of freight.

TI-2.9: encourage a choice of transportation modes by including transit and active transportation infrastructure in road design, where feasible.

TI-2.10: explore options, including policy tools, which will encourage economic development in areas with freight rail access.

TI-2.11: encourage sustainable commercial transportation options that reduce the greenhouse gas footprint of goods and services available at the regional and local level.

TI-2.12: continue to promote rail freight, in collaboration with the province and federal government, as a viable goods movement option.

The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

TI-2.13: the province and BC Transit are encouraged to collaborate with local and regional government on the development of a North Okanagan Transit Master Plan.

TI-2.14: the province is encouraged to collaborate with municipalities, the Regional District of North Okanagan, and other relevant agencies and associations, in the planning of major interregional transportation facilities, such as interregional transit and provincial highways, and the role that they are intended to play to support the Regional Growth Strategy and the economic development of the North Okanagan.

TI-2.15: The provincial and federal governments are encouraged to collaborate with the Regional District and member municipalities on initiatives that will provide diverse transportation options.





GOAL TI-3: CREATE EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT AND SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



TI-3.1: develop supportive policies that will focus growth toward areas with existing infrastructure.



TI-3.2: support regional cooperation on utility planning.

REVISED 2019



TI-3.3: incorporate a transparent, consistent and equitable evaluation of the full cost of infrastructure, natural capital asset management, and service provision (including construction, operation, maintenance and replacement) into land use decision making.



TI-3.4: adopt a phased approach to infrastructure expansion that minimizes the financial burden to municipalities.



TI-3.5: adopt best management practices and innovative green infrastructure technologies and techniques to address stormwater challenges.

TI-3.6: identify innovative options that will assist in maintaining appropriate levels of infrastructure and service delivery that address community needs in a fiscally responsible manner.

TI-3.7: support the development of innovative energy sources that result in reduced community greenhouse gas production.

The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

TI-3.8: the province and federal government are encouraged to support the Regional Growth Strategy through financial contributions for identified priority infrastructure projects and initiatives.





7. HOUSING

"Making things more affordable so in the future we actually have a chance for a good life"

(Age 16, From the Youth Survey)

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Throughout our public engagement activities, our residents have consistently raised housing choice and affordability as one of the most significant challenges facing the community. This issue was raised by our youth, our seniors, our business community and our eight working groups. During the review, this continues to be a significant priority of residents and the elected officials. In 2016, 24% of North Okanagan households were spending over 30% of their income on housing. Housing availability is declining, since 2010 there have been steadily fewer homes available for sale and rent. The more a family needs to spend on housing, the less there is available for food, education, recreation and transportation. The lack of diverse housing options can be a roadblock to business investment and attracting employees.

Well balanced communities provide housing opportunities for people in all stages of life, different family types, a range of financial situations, and those with special needs. A diversity of safe and secure housing opportunities can help a community retain working families and attract new businesses and provide youth, seniors and young families with housing options that will keep them in the North Okanagan.



GOAL H-1: SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE A VARIETY OF HOUSING OPTIONS TO MEET THE DIVERSE HOUSING NEEDS OF ALL RESIDENTS IN THE REGION



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



H-1.1: identify the core housing needs in each community to better understand and collectively address regional housing characteristics and encourage the creation and retention of a variety of housing options for all residents, acknowledging that no one community can solve the region's housing challenges. The supply and demand along the full housing spectrum shall be understood in order to work towards a Regional Housing Strategy.



H-1.2: explore options, beyond government subsidies, that provide affordable housing opportunities, including employer subsidized housing and the development of principles of private public partnerships.





H-1.3: encourage a diversity of housing options in Growth Areas close to amenities, services and transit networks to meet community needs throughout the region through regional and municipal policy, including:

- Amending existing bylaws to increase density in appropriate areas to encourage affordable ownership and rental housing;
- Incorporating smaller more affordable property sizes, housing designs and increased densities in neighbourhood planning and policy development;
- Adopting inclusionary housing policies and density bonus provisions as a means of expanding affordable rental and ownership residential stock; and
- Identifying local government owned sites which are appropriate for affordable housing that could be developed in partnership with not for profit organizations.

H-1.4: encourage initiatives that enhance regional awareness and education on housing related issues, challenges and successes and increase opportunities for collaboration through the formation of a Regional Housing Network.

NEW 2019

H-1.5: Assist municipalities in developing Housing Needs Assessments by providing analysis on regional demographics, household characteristics including income, significant economic sectors and market conditions, and work with municipalities to review and refine municipal housing priorities, policies and future demand estimates in the context of this analysis.

NEW 2019

H-1.6: Monitor and report on the success of regional and municipal Housing Needs Assessments in accommodating regional housing demand estimates.

NEW 2019

H-1.7: As a collective, work with member municipalities and electoral areas in the preparation of Housing Needs Reports, as required by the province, as well as to:

- Identify implementation measures within the jurisdiction and financial capabilities of municipalities;
- Encourage an increase in the supply of new rental housing and where appropriate mitigate or limit the loss of existing rental housing stock; and
- Identify opportunities to participate in programs with other levels of government to secure additional affordable housing units to meet housing needs across the continuum.

NEW 2019

H-1.8: Explore further opportunities for mobile homes, secondary suites and detached accessory suites as affordable housing options in our rural areas.

REVISED 2019

H-1.9: Work cooperatively with the development community, community groups, non-profits, and BC Housing to provide affordable, quality housing options.



REVISED 2019



H-1.10: encourage energy efficient retrofits of older buildings, including both residential and commercial buildings and promote renovation and reuse of materials that minimizes construction waste generation.



H-1.11: explore opportunities to establish financial and other incentives to encourage energy



REVISED 2019



H-1.12: encourage the use of local materials and green building techniques in new and retrofitted developments and support the development community in preparing for implementation of the BC Step Code.



The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:



H-1.13: encourage the federal government and the province and their agencies to support, provide policy for and collaborate on housing initiatives in the region.





8. GOVERNANCE AND SERVICE DELIVERY

“Getting a sports complex with indoor soccer, rinks and a wave pool like H²O, More money going toward important things like planting trees and clean water”

(Age 11, From the Youth Survey)

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The Regional District was incorporated in 1965, when the population was 27,500. As the Region has grown, now with over 80,000 residents, governance and service needs of municipalities and electoral areas has changed. Regional service strategies, developed by all jurisdictions working together through regional service partnerships, are becoming ever more necessary in these fiscally challenging times. The number, range and complexity of service issues that cross local boundaries have been growing. Regional cooperation and effective communication are essential for effective and responsible governance and delivery of services.



GOAL GS-1: SUPPORT REGIONAL GOVERNANCE BASED UPON A FOUNDATION OF REGIONAL COOPERATION



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



GS-1.1: support regional and municipal staff collaboration and coordination on matters of regional significance.



GS-1.2: participate in regular Elected Officials’ Forums to discuss issues of regional significance.



GS-1.3: encourage participation in a post election Elected Officials Orientation Session to provide information about regional and local governance.



GS-1.4: define and implement regional procedures and protocols that establish an efficient, equitable and transparent conflict resolution process.



GS-1.5: collaborate on the development of a regional approach that provides better coordination on urban and rural land use proposals that have cross jurisdictional implications.



GS-1.6: consider partnerships with organizations prepared to invest in and/or support the goals and policies of the Regional Growth Strategy.

GS-1.7: recognize the need to engage First Nations in building mutual appreciation, understanding and respect for service delivery approaches across governments.

GS-1.8: explore cost sharing opportunities that will provide effective, efficient and fiscally responsible service delivery that strengthens regional collaborative relationships.





The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

- GS-1.9:** the province is requested to review and update, in consultation with municipalities and regional districts, municipal boundary expansion policies to ensure that the process is equitable, transparent and inclusive.
- GS-1.10:** the province is requested to review and, in consultation with local and regional governments, update the *Local Government Act* to reflect the current realities of regional governance.



GOAL GS-2: PURSUE EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE SERVICE DELIVERY



The communities of the North Okanagan agree to work as partners and individually to:



- GS-2.1:** develop a communications plan that will help inform the public of the different service levels that are provided in urban and rural areas.



- GS-2.2:** develop and implement a Regional Service Checklist for establishing new regional or sub-regional services which clearly state the roles, responsibilities, expectations, costs, scope and implications of entering into servicing agreements.



- GS-2.3:** review, reevaluate and coordinate long range service planning based upon projected growth, emerging priorities and the anticipated needs of communities.
- GS-2.4:** explore opportunities for cost sharing, equitable governance, capacity building and the development of collaborative relationships that will assist in the provision of fiscally responsible, efficient and effective services.

The actions requested of other governments and agencies are:

- GS-2.5:** the province and federal government are requested to enter into agreements with local and regional government that will assist in financing service delivery in order to build capacity and resources.
- GS-2.6:** the province is requested to develop and update, as necessary, capital plans that meet the needs of the projected population for services, such as education, transportation, health care and law enforcement.





9. ENERGY AND EMISSIONS & CLIMATE ADAPTATION

"Stop global warming"
(Age 11, From the Youth Survey)

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Our economy is dependent upon nonrenewable fossil fuels. This reliance poses serious challenges to our long term sustainability. Fossil fuels are becoming more limited in supply and their prices are becoming more volatile, leaving the economy vulnerable to price shocks. Burning of fossil fuels releases air pollutants which can have adverse health impacts. Finally, fossil fuel combustion releases greenhouse gases (GHGs) into the atmosphere that contribute to global climate change.

The total estimated GHG emissions in the Regional District of North Okanagan in 2007 are estimated at 615,149 tonnes of CO². For a population of 78,877 residents, this is about 7.7 tonnes per person. In 2007, over \$224 million was spent by residents and businesses on energy in the North Okanagan. This is equivalent to spending approximately \$2,800 for every man, woman and child annually to pay for our energy.

The region has experienced a minor decrease over 2007 baseline GHG levels; however with a goal of 15% reduction by 2020 our GHGs will need to decrease significantly.

One aspect of building healthy communities is efficiently managing community energy use and carbon emissions. The Regional Growth Strategy will provide broad, strategic policies for reducing energy consumption and regional greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

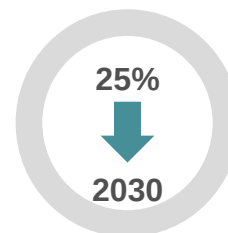
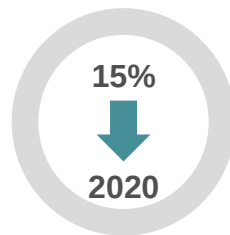
A driving factor behind the Regional Growth Strategy's inclusion of energy use and GHG emissions policies is provincial legislation requirements. Beginning in 2007, the Province of British Columbia has moved forward with a number of actions designed to encourage energy efficiency and reduce emissions of GHGs. The *Local Government (Green Communities) Statutes Amendment Act (Bill 27, 2008)* requires that the Regional Growth Strategy includes GHG targets and actions





GOAL EE-1: REDUCE REGIONAL GREEN HOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY 15%¹ BY 2020 AND 25%² BY 2030.

The Regional District hired Stantec Consulting to assist in developing GHG reduction policies and targets for inclusion in the RGS. The process was designed to bring key staff together from each member municipality and the Regional District to define regional policies and GHG reduction targets for each municipality and the region as a whole. Together, senior staff agreed on a set of GHG policies built on Regional Growth Strategy policy recommendations as well as Official Community Plans and GHG reduction targets for the Region.



The following table references the policies in other chapters that will contribute to reducing green house gas emissions in the North Okanagan.

Chapter	Regional Growth Strategy Policies
Urban Containment	GOAL UC-1; GOAL UC-2
Agriculture and Food Systems	AG-1.2, AG-4.1, AG-4.4
Water Stewardship	WS-2.4, WS-3.1, WS-3.2
Environment and Natural Lands	GOAL ENV-3
Economic Development	ED-2.5, ED-2.6
Transportation and Infrastructure	GOAL TI-2, TI-3.5, TI-3.7
Housing	H-1.2, H-1.10, H-1.11, H-1.12
Governance and Service Delivery	GS-1.5, GS-1.8, GS-2.3
Energy and Emissions & Climate Adaptation	CA-1.1, CA-1.4, CA-1.5, CA-1.6

¹Based on 2007 GHG emissions

²Based on 2007 GHG emissions



WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Climate change is exposing communities in the North Okanagan to changes in weather patterns and more frequent extreme events. These changes are putting local and regional infrastructure at risk as well as impacting the health of area residents. The North Okanagan has witnessed recent flooding and wildfire events; changing climate hazards have created the need to integrate climate change adaptation into policy, planning, landscape design, and public works maintenance.



GOAL CA-1: STRENGTHEN RESILIENCE AND ADAPTIVE CAPACITY TO CLIMATE-RELATED HAZARDS AND NATURAL DISASTERS



NEW 2019

EE/CA-1.1: Explore partnership opportunities with communities for the development, implementation and monitoring of a Climate Action Plan and consider becoming a FCM-Partner for Climate Protection.



NEW 2019

EE/CA-1.2: Encourage climate change-adaptive and risk-adaptive infrastructure and utilities in Growth Areas based on the most up-to-date climate projections.



NEW 2019

EE/CA-1.3: As data becomes available, encourage and support member municipalities and electoral areas to update their Floodplain and Unstable Slope Maps.



NEW 2019

EE/CA-1.4: Encourage developments and projects which will provide for a low-carbon built form that supports efficient energy use, the reuse of building materials, the provision of clean and renewable district energy, active transportation modes, transit service, and low/zero emission vehicles.



NEW 2019

EE/CA-1.5: Support climate change adaptation, resiliency and the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions in existing and proposed activities and development.

NEW 2019

EE/CA-1.6: Support public awareness and education on climate change and its current and likely potential impacts in the region.





IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING



"In 20 years, I hope we can still maintain the eternal beauty and hospitality that our small towns contain. Maybe for even 50 or 100 years."

(Age 15, From the Youth Survey)

The RGS is intended as a strategic guide to future land use development and services in accordance with the *Local Government Act*. The operational challenges will include managing settlement growth in a manner that is consistent with the Regional Growth Strategy and developing processes for communication and cooperation between local government, provincial and federal agencies and First Nations in a common commitment to responsible land use planning and management.

Once the Regional Growth Strategy has been adopted, regional district bylaws, works and services must be consistent with the Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw.

The Regional Growth Strategy implementation process will involve the following tasks:

- a) The development, adoption, and updates to Regional Context statements within Official Community Plans, as required by the *Local Government Act*, within two years and every five years thereafter;
- b) The development of a Regional Growth Strategy implementation program based upon policies contained within the Regional Growth Strategy and using an action planning framework;
- c) The development of Implementation Agreements between RDNO and member municipalities, provincial agencies and First Nations, where they can assist in addressing mutual concerns;
- d) Reporting to the Board of Directors on the progress of implementation of the Regional Growth Strategy; and
- e) Ongoing monitoring of Regional Growth Strategy indicators.

Review OCPs, Prepare and Include Regional Context Statements

Official Community Plans (OCP) will be instrumental in implementing the Regional Growth Strategy.

The Regional District of North Okanagan and member municipalities will work together so that municipal Regional Context Statements achieve consistency between the Regional Growth Strategy and municipal Official Community Plans and so that actions specified in the Regional Growth Strategy are implemented.



Municipalities have to review the Regional Context Statements at least once every five years after its latest acceptance by the Board of Directors and, if no amendment is proposed, submit the statement to the Board of Directors for its continued acceptance. The Regional Context Statements are prepared as an Official Community Plan amendment and will:

- identify the relationship between the OCP and the content of a Regional Growth Strategy; and,
- specify how the OCP and the Regional Growth Strategy will be made consistent over time.

All bylaws adopted by the Board of Directors after the adoption of the Regional Growth Strategy, and all services undertaken by the Regional District after adoption of the Regional Growth Strategy, must be consistent with the Regional Growth Strategy. In doing so, other policies may need to be amended as appropriate and eventually zoning bylaw changes may also occur.

Procedures to Accept and Amend Regional Context Statements

Each municipality and electoral area must include a Regional Context Statement in its Official Community Plan, and submit to the Board of Directors for acceptance, a Regional Context Statement that identifies how the OCP works toward achieving each strategy in the Regional Growth Strategy and demonstrates actions required by the Regional Growth Strategy. If applicable, the municipal Regional Context Statement may identify how the OCP will be made consistent with the Regional Growth Strategy, over time.

The Board of Directors will respond, within 120 days by resolution, requiring a simple majority weighted vote, indicating whether it accepts the Regional Context Statement. If the Board of Directors declines to accept the Regional Context Statement, it will indicate the provisions to which it objects and the reasons for its objections.

Municipalities and electoral areas that amend their Official Community Plans or land use regulations or zoning after the adoption of the Regional Growth Strategy must ensure that such amendments are consistent with the Regional Context Statement, or, where a Regional Context Statement has yet to be accepted by the Board of Directors, consistent with the Regional Growth Strategy.

The 5-Year Action Plan

The Regional District of North Okanagan, in partnership with member municipalities and relevant parties, will update the 5-Year Action Plan, based upon the priority regional initiatives that have been identified within the Regional Growth Strategy or by the Board of Directors, to provide a framework for Regional Growth Strategy implementation. ***Action priorities will be established, with reference to Schedule 'D', during the development of the 5-Year Action Plan through the general agreement of all Regional Directors, the participating municipal councils and other relevant parties.*** The Regional Growth Strategy 5-Year Action Plan will be directed through the Regional Growth Management Advisory Committee and will be the key implementation tool for the Regional Growth Strategy and will assist our member municipalities, our stakeholders and our communities in creating a more sustainable North Okanagan.





Coordination with Other Governments and Agencies

The Regional District of North Okanagan will work with neighbouring jurisdictions, namely the Regional District of Central Okanagan, Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Thompson Nicola Regional District, Regional District of Kootenay Boundary and Regional District of Central Kootenay, to facilitate the compatibility of regional growth planning and initiatives.

The Regional District of North Okanagan will work with the provincial and federal governments and their agencies on major investments in the regional transportation system, expansion of affordable housing choices, the location of public facilities, and any other initiative that supports the goals and strategies specified in the Regional Growth Strategy.

The Regional District of North Okanagan will work with the Agricultural Land Commission to protect the region's agricultural land base.

Coordination with First Nations

First Nations communities have asserted aboriginal rights and title to traditional territories within the region. The implementation of the Regional Growth Strategy will proceed without prejudice to any aboriginal rights or title that may currently exist, or be defined further through treaty or other processes.

Implementation Agreements

Implementation Agreements (IA) will provide operational tools for ongoing Regional Growth Strategy implementation. These agreements will identify processes and activities to implement certain provisions of the Regional Growth Strategy.

Plan for Five-year Review

To ensure that the Regional Growth Strategy continues to respond to current issues, the Regional Growth Strategy should be reviewed every 5 years from the adoption of the Regional Growth Strategy pursuant to the *Local Government Act Section 452*. As part of this review process, a report on current trends and issues should be prepared that will inform the review of the Regional Growth Strategy for example, the State of the Region Report 2017. Key to the review will be performance based on the goals of the plan. Subsequent amendments to the Regional Growth Strategy may be required to ensure that it reflects and adequately responds to changing circumstances of the North Okanagan.

Category	Policies to be Considered During RGS Reviews
	1. Collaborate with the relevant parties on the feasibility of maintaining the Agricultural Water Reserve (AWR) allotment, with any efficiency in agricultural water conservation reallocated to the AWR. 2. Collaborate with relevant parties, where agricultural water is supplied by a utility, to ensure that agricultural operations that make efficient use of water resources are maintained through the provision of an assured, adequate and affordable water supply, in so far as not to compromise other agricultural and water stewardship goals, strategies and actions. 3. Ensure that new residential developments will not compromise the water requirements of agricultural operations.



The 'Ideas' Bank

The Regional Growth Strategy is the result of contributions and ideas from the public, our elected officials, senior levels of government, First Nations and stakeholder working groups and committees. Although all of this input and suggestions were considered during the development of the Regional Growth Strategy, there were many suggestions that will be valuable but do not belong in a Regional Growth Strategy due to jurisdictional authority or speaking to operational level matters. Although Regional Growth Strategy policies and key actions will be identified for implementation in the first five years of the Strategy and thereafter through action planning, the Regional District will preserve all of that hard work and valuable input in an "Ideas Bank". These ideas, suggestions and contributions will be stored in the 'Ideas Bank' for reference and consideration during implementation, in other planning initiatives, as well as provide an additional resource during the 5-year review of the Regional Growth Strategy. Schedule 'E' has all of the working group suggestions that have not been included within the Regional Growth Strategy but may be considered within other planning processes.

Amendments to the RGS

Standard Amendments

An amendment to the Regional Growth Strategy, other than those considered to be a minor amendment, is considered a standard amendment and will follow the same process that is required to adopt a Regional Growth Strategy as set out in *Part 13* of the *Local Government Act*. Amending Rural Protection Boundaries are considered during the RGS 5-Year Review (See UC-2.4).

Since the adoption of the Regional Growth Strategy in September 2011, there have been no development proposals or requests by member municipalities that would trigger the need for a Minor or Standard Amendment to the RGS. However, as a result of a court case in 2014, *Greater Vancouver Regional District vs Township of Langley*, questions have been raised by member municipalities regarding the existing RGS amendment process and local jurisdictions land use autonomy. In that regard, Urban Containment/Rural Protection Policy UC-2.2 was drafted to address the concerns regarding local jurisdictions land use autonomy while still emphasizing one of the key goals of the RGS which is preventing urban sprawl within the region.

Minor Amendments

Recognizing that the Regional Growth Strategy will require some flexibility to respond to changing conditions in the region, the minor amendment process will provide a more streamlined amendment process for minor changes, while ensuring that standard amendments which substantially change the vision and direction of the Strategy remain subject to acceptance by all affected local governments.

The *Local Government Act* enables minor amendments where a process has been established pursuant to Section 437 of the *Local Government Act* that includes the following:

- a) criteria for determining whether a proposed amendment is minor for the purposes of allowing the process to apply;
- b) a means for the views of affected local governments respecting a proposed minor amendment to be obtained and considered;
- c) a means for providing notice to affected local governments respecting a proposed minor amendment; and



- d) procedures for adopting the minor amendment bylaw.

The following outlines the criteria and process for considering minor amendments to the North Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy.

Criteria for a minor amendment

Criteria under which a proposed amendment to the Regional Growth Strategy may be considered a minor amendment include the following:

- a) Text and map amendments which are not directly related to enabling specific proposed developments may be considered minor if, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, the amendment is not of regional significance.
- b) Regional Growth Strategy policy revisions or additions that do not alter the intent, direction or implementation of the Strategy
- c) Housekeeping amendments to population, dwelling unit and employment projections, housing demand estimates, tables, figures, grammar, numbering or mapping refinements that do not alter the intent of the Regional Growth.

Any proposal that does not meet the criteria set out above would be considered a standard amendment and will be required to follow the regular process as outlined in the *Local Government Act, Part 13*.

Definition of 'Regionally Significant'

The tests for regional significance will vary according to each issue but generally pragmatic measures should be used, such as due consideration of sub-regional or regional impacts on infrastructure, transportation, land use, local and regional policies, regional services, and cumulative effects of broad replication.

Minor Amendment Process

The process to initiate amendments to the Regional Growth Strategy is by resolution of the Board of Directors. Municipalities and the Electoral Area Advisory Committee may, by resolution, request amendments to the Regional Growth Strategy. The Board of Directors will not give first reading to a minor or standard amendment bylaw until the affected jurisdictions have been given the opportunity to formally comment on the proposed amendment. Minor amendments to the Regional Growth Strategy will be considered annually, although this requirement may be waived for community amenities that require a minor amendment.

On receipt of a request from a member municipality or the Electoral Area Advisory Committee to amend the Regional Growth Strategy, the request will be provided to the Regional Growth Strategy Support Team (RGSST), which consists of Regional District and member municipal senior planning staff, for review, with due consideration of sub-regional or regional impacts on infrastructure, transportation, land use, precedence and cumulative effects of broad replication. The RGSST recommendations will be provided to the Regional Growth Management Advisory Committee or Board of Directors. The RGSST will meet annually to review amendment requests, although a meeting may be arranged to discuss community amenity proposals that may require a minor amendment.

- a) RDNO planning staff will prepare a report, based upon the RGSST recommendations, for review by the Regional Growth Management Advisory Committee or Board of Directors.



- b) The Board of Directors will assess any proposed amendment in terms of the minor amendment criteria. The Board may resolve, by an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the Directors present, to proceed with an amendment application as a minor amendment.
- c) Where the Board of Directors resolves to proceed with a minor amendment, the Board of Directors will:
 - i) Determine the appropriate form of public consultation required in conjunction with the proposed minor amendment.
 - ii) Give 45 days' written notice to each affected local government, including notice that the proposed amendment has been determined to be a minor amendment. The notice shall include a summary of the proposed amendment and any staff reports, other relevant supporting documentation and the date, time and place of the board meeting at which the amending bylaw is to be considered for first reading.
 - iii) Consider the written comments provided by the affected local governments prior to giving first reading to the proposed amendment bylaw.
- d) At the time of consideration of first reading, the Board of Directors will determine whether a public hearing on the Regional Growth Strategy minor amendment bylaw is required.
- e) Any minor amendment bylaw shall be adopted in accordance with the procedures that apply under Section 437 of the *Local Government Act* and Development Application Procedures and Administrative Fees Bylaw No. 2677, 2018.

Monitoring and Performance Measures

The Regional Growth Strategy monitoring program will be designed to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act, Part 13*, as well as provide meaningful feedback on the effectiveness of regional policies to the Regional Board and the municipal councils.

The monitoring program may indicate that new policies need to be considered or existing policies need to be revisited. The monitoring program will provide timely information for a yearly evaluation, as well as providing the qualitative basis for the Regional Growth Strategy 5-year review. The approach used to monitor the Regional Growth Strategy may be altered over time to reflect changes in information needs, data availability, financial and staff resources, and level of political and/or public interest and support.

The monitoring program will be established within the first year after Regional Growth Strategy adoption and is intended to provide the foundation for ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the strategy. It can be added to or modified over time to better meet the needs of the Board of Directors and member municipalities.

The monitoring approach will be designed to balance the need for assessment with resource availability. The monitoring program is intended to utilize existing data sources to the greatest extent possible.





There are two reporting mechanisms for the Regional Growth Strategy Monitoring program:

1. Annual staff reports to the Board of Directors on implementation initiatives and progress; and
2. 5-year “State of the Region” report containing indicators, comparative data and benchmarks.

The ‘State of the Region’ Report is intended to provide additional information and comparative data to better inform the Regional Growth Strategy 5-year reviews.

The monitoring program is intended to address three questions:

1. Are we doing what we said we would do?
2. Are we moving toward achieving our targets?
3. Are we improving quality of life and sustainability in the region?

The focus of the Regional Growth Strategy monitoring program is on the guiding principles, policies and targets. It is not intended as a comprehensive, community based assessment of quality of life, smart growth, or sustainable development.

Community Survey

It is proposed that a simple survey be prepared for the 5-Year Review to collect data for some of the Indicators and to provide feedback on the progress that has been made toward achieving the vision of the Regional Growth Strategy. It is proposed that the survey be distributed to all residents. The first year would require design of the survey instrument and a response strategy. For subsequent reporting, the same survey instrument could be used.





GLOSSARY



The following glossary is provided to assist with understanding the Regional Growth Strategy.

active transportation: any form of human powered transportation. It is any trip made for the purposes of getting yourself, or others, to a particular destination to work, to school, to the store or to visit friends.

active transportation infrastructure: those elements that support active transportation such as dedicated bike lanes and bike networks, sidewalks, and greenways for walking and riding.

affected local governments: governments and authorities which are affected by the Regional Growth Strategy, specifically North Okanagan member municipalities and adjoining regional districts.

affordable housing: housing that does not cost more than 30% of a household's gross income regardless of whether they are living in market or nonmarket housing.

agricultural land commission (alc): administrative body of the agricultural land reserve (ALR)

agricultural land reserve (alr): a provincial land use designation used in British Columbia to protect agriculture as the priority use and to limit nonfarm uses.

agricultural water reserve (awr): the RGS concept of an agriculture water reserve goes beyond what the current Water Act allows. The reserve would be a pool, where water conserved by agriculture can be held for future allocation. The reserve would protect agriculture from the loss of unused allocations that may be necessary in the future. To address periods of drought, there would need to be links between the agriculture water reserve and the drought management plan.

agri-industrial: lands and facilities used or involved in the industrial processing of agricultural products, such as granaries .

alternative transportation: these are transportation modes for the movement of people, or reducing the need to travel, that provide alternatives to travel by Single Occupant Vehicle (SOV). These modes include walking, cycling, transit, carpooling, telecommuting and other electronic means of meeting or conducting business.

aquifer: an underground water reservoir found within layers of permeable rocks or in sand and gravel layers.

asset management: refers to the systematic approach for the governance and realization of value from the things that a group or entity is responsible for, over their whole life cycle.



basin transfer (inter and intra): the transfer of water from one geographically distinct river catchment or watershed basin to another.

best management practices (bmp): are those practices determined to be the most efficient, practical, and cost effective measures identified to guide a particular activity or to address a particular problem.

biodiversity: is the variety of species and ecosystems on earth and the ecological processes of which they are a part – including natural ecosystems, living species and other components that provide genetic diversity.

brownfields: abandoned urban industrial sites often harbouring contaminated soils from decades of past uses. Brownfields are ripe for redevelopment after decontamination, thereby reducing development pressures on greenfields.

buffer: perimeter of land located between two different land uses that is set aside to mitigate negative impacts between incompatible land uses; e.g. buffer between agricultural land uses and residential use or between park land use and industrial or resource land use

built environment: refers to the human made surroundings that provide the setting for human activity, ranging from the large scale civic surroundings to the personal places.

bylaws: municipal laws that give local governments the power to deal with a range of issues including property taxation, local services, planning, animal control, vehicle idling, etc.

centres: A defined focal area within a city or community that has a mix of housing, employment, retail and entertainment uses. It is pedestrian-oriented, which allows people to walk to different destinations.

climate change: a climatic shift which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity which alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.

community energy and emissions inventory (ceei): tracks GHG emissions for local governments in BC by sector: buildings, on-road transportation, solid waste and land use change.

compact community: a land use pattern of medium to high density urban development that encourages walkable neighbourhoods, mixed land uses (residential, retail, workplace and institutional, all within one neighbourhood), proximity to transit, and reduced need for infrastructure.

complete community: balanced community is the balance of jobs/housing/services/recreation/amenity at the community scale.





core housing need: households that spent more than 30% of gross household income on suitable and appropriate housing (see ‘affordable housing’)

demographics: refers to selected population characteristics such as age, income, disabilities, mobility, educational attainment, home ownership, employment status and location. Distribution of values within a demographic variable, across households, is both of interest, as well as trends over time. A significant shift in demographics in an area can impact variables such as service delivery, housing preferences, and employment

demand management: a set of tools and practices used to reduce consumer demand for a particular product or service, such as transportation or energy. For example, transportation demand management can be used to reduce the need for residents to take road trips by building housing close enough to workplaces to be able to walk or take transit.

density: a measure of urban and rural form; can be measured in a number of different ways including the number of people, jobs or buildings in a given area.

density bonus: permission by a municipality to build additional housing units (more than usually allowed) if the developer meets certain requirements – e.g., preservation of greenspace, construction of nonprofit housing, provision of local amenities.

development cost charges (dcc): fees applied by municipal governments on new developments to pay for the infrastructure costs of that development – e.g., sewers, water lines, roads.

development permit areas (dpa): a designated area where development permits are granted that allow property owners to construct, renovate or make addition to a structure on a property located within this area. DPAs are one of the strongest tools for shaping new development. They allow local governments to create site specific requirements for development over and above basic zoning.

ecosystem: a dynamic set of living organisms (plants, animals and microorganisms) all interacting among themselves and with the environment in which they live.

elected officials forum: an event where elected officials from throughout the North Okanagan gather to discuss issues of regional significance.

environmental farm plan (efp): joint federal and provincial funding program that works with farmers to do an environmental audit of their agricultural operation and identify goals to reduce the environmental impact of their operations.

environmentally sensitive area (esa): a land use designation in a municipal official community plan that strictly limits or totally excludes development because of the ecological features of the area.





food security: is when community residents have access to safe, affordable culturally acceptable, nutritionally adequate diet through a system that maximizes community self reliance, environmental sustainability and social justice.

full cost accounting: is where a jurisdiction takes into consideration all costs associated with an activity. In the case of infrastructure, full cost accounting must include the construction, operation, maintenance and eventual replacement costs.

greyfield: outdated or unoccupied large commercial buildings with large areas devoted to parking.

green buildings: a building design that focuses on increasing the efficiency of resource use; energy, water, and materials; while reducing building impacts on human health and the environment during the building's lifecycle, through better siting, design, construction, operation, maintenance, and removal.

greenfield development: development on land where no prior construction or installation of infrastructure has taken place.

greenhouse gas (ghg) emissions: gases created when fossil fuels like oil, gas, and coal are burned to produce energy used for transportation, buildings, and industry. These gases include: carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, ozone, and halocarbons.

green infrastructure: greenspace in the form of parks, woodlands, wetlands, river corridors and other natural areas that together comprise the “natural capital” of a community. Also refers to technologies and practices that reduce urban heat, lower building energy demand and improve storm-water management (e.g. permeable surfaces, green walls, green roofs and street trees).

groundwater: water held underground within sand, gravel, soil or permeable bedrock. Groundwater is essential to many communities' and rural residents' needs but is vulnerable to overuse and to contamination by surface water.

groundwater limited area: an area where limitations or restrictions on development and future uses of groundwater in cases where the groundwater in that area is being depleted.

habitat: the natural environment that provides shelter, food and water for a plant or animal species.

hydrological conditions: local surface and subsurface water conditions throughout the year and the connection with the broader watershed.

inclusionary housing policies: policies that would require a developer to include a percentage of affordable housing in new development.

indicator: is a measurable quantity that is indicative of a desired growth strategy policy outcome.

infill: the development of unused lands already within urban boundaries.



infrastructure: large scale public systems, services and facilities, including power and water supplies, sewer, public transit, roads, highways, telecommunications, schools and libraries.

integrated stormwater management: An approach to stormwater management that integrates the land use planning, engineering, and environmental functions with the goal of protecting property and wildlife habitat while accommodating land development.

intensification: the redevelopment of urban land at a higher density of housing, commercial space, etc. than was previously found at that site.

land stewardship: caring for the land in ways that benefit or sustain the land while enhancing the quality of life of residents. It implies a responsibility as a custodian, to pass the land on in a condition that is equal to or better than when it was entrusted to the landowner.

land trust: a local organization directly involved in land saving activities.

local government act (lga): British Columbia provincial legislation that regulates official community plans and regional growth strategies.

mixed use development: development that incorporates multiple uses within a building or a site. In general, this can be a combination of residential, commercial, office, institutional and low impact industrial uses. Mixed use development allows for a range of needs to be met within one location, reducing travel between different locations for housing, employment and services, such as shopping.

multi-modal: Those issues or activities which involve or affect more than one form — or mode — of transportation, including transportation connections, choices, cooperation, and coordination of various modes.

native species: plants that are indigenous to a locality. These plants are suited to grow in the natural climate without the addition of artificial assistance, such as fertilizers and regular watering. Native species also tend not to be invasive, meaning that they don't encroach upon and replace other native plant species.

natural area: These are areas with significant flora and fauna, including fish, terrestrial wildlife and bird habitats and connecting corridors, ravines, treed areas, open fields and bodies of water including lake frontages, watercourses and wetlands. While natural areas are generally thought of as being outside developed areas, habitat is increasingly, being reintroduced into urban areas.

natural corridor: a connecting swath or band of natural habitat that allows the migration and movement of species between natural core areas, thereby enhancing the chances of species survival.





nodal development: the focusing of new development into core areas with existing infrastructure, especially public transit lines, to create compact settlements with a variety of land uses.

official community plan (ocp): a land use plan developed by both municipalities and regional districts. The OCP provides the longer term vision for the community. Under the Local Government Act section 471, an OCP is a statement of objectives and policies to guide decision on planning and land use management, within the area covered by the plan, respecting the purposes of local government.

open space: a range of green places, including natural and resource areas (such as forests and grasslands), recreational areas (such as parks and trails) and other areas set aside from development (such as plazas and parks).

phased approach: an infrastructure plan or policy that establishes orderly and cost effective infrastructure expansion and renewal stages that will guide development.

pollution: is the contamination of the environment as a result of human activities through the deposition of wastes in the air, water and soil, as well as through activities that produce excessive light and noise.

precautionary principle: allows policy makers to make discretionary decisions in situations where there is the possibility of harm from taking a particular course or making a certain decision when extensive scientific knowledge on the matter is lacking. The principle implies that there is a social responsibility to protect the public from exposure to harm, when scientific investigation has found a plausible risk.

recharge areas: an area where rainfall, irrigation, garden water or water from waterways seeps into the ground and add water to the ground water system.

reclaimed water: Water that has been derived from sewerage systems or industry processes and treated to a standard that is appropriate for its intended use.

right of way: land that is provided to allow access to properties or for public infrastructure, including streets, sidewalks, paths and utilities such as water, drainage, sewer and communications facilities. Easements also allow access for specified users, such as the general public or a utility provider, over private property.

riparian area: the interface between land and a stream. Plant communities along the river margins are called riparian vegetation. Riparian zones are significant in ecology because of their role in soil conservation, their biodiversity, and the influence they have on aquatic ecosystems.

secondary suites: an urban planning term for an additional separate dwelling unit on a property that would normally accommodate only one dwelling unit. A secondary suite is considered “secondary” or “accessory” to the primary residence on the parcel.



sensitive ecosystem inventory (sei): federal and provincial government mapping project to systematically identify and map rare and fragile ecosystems in a given area; SEI is intended for use in a variety of land use planning processes; its purpose is to identify remnants of rare and fragile ecosystems (on land) and to encourage land use decisions that will ensure the continued integrity of these ecosystems.

smart growth: urban development that does not sprawl out into the countryside to consume natural areas and farmlands, and that creates compact, livable, mixed use neighbourhoods with urban green spaces and access to convenient public transit.

stormwater management: measures to control rainwater and snowmelt runoff where urbanization has affected natural drainage systems and water quality.

sustainability: the capability of being maintained for the long term. Applied to human activity and the environment, it refers to the ability to live within the limits of what the natural world can absorb and tolerate without compromising the future of human communities and the environment.

target: used in conjunction with indicators, targets are the minimum values that the City would need to achieve to meet sustainability policy objectives.

transportation corridor: (generally linear) tract of land that is currently, or may be in the future, used for transportation purposes.

transportation demand management (tdm): general term for strategies that result in more efficient use of transportation resources; emphasizes the movement of people and goods rather than private motor vehicles; gives priority to walking, cycling, ridesharing, and public transit.

transit oriented development (tod): smart growth that is at a housing density and of an urban design that can support a public transit system.

urban agriculture: generally refers to the production, processing, and distribution of agricultural products in urban and areas, from backyard and community gardens to food hubs and farmers markets.

vehicle kilometres travelled (vkt): number of kilometres accumulated by on road vehicles. This performance measure is correlated with urban sprawl, safety, congestion, fuel consumption, and air emissions.

underutilized lands: lands within Growth Areas that have been abandoned, no longer used or have a very low density in neighbourhood and community centres. Also see “**brownfield**” and “**greyfield**”.





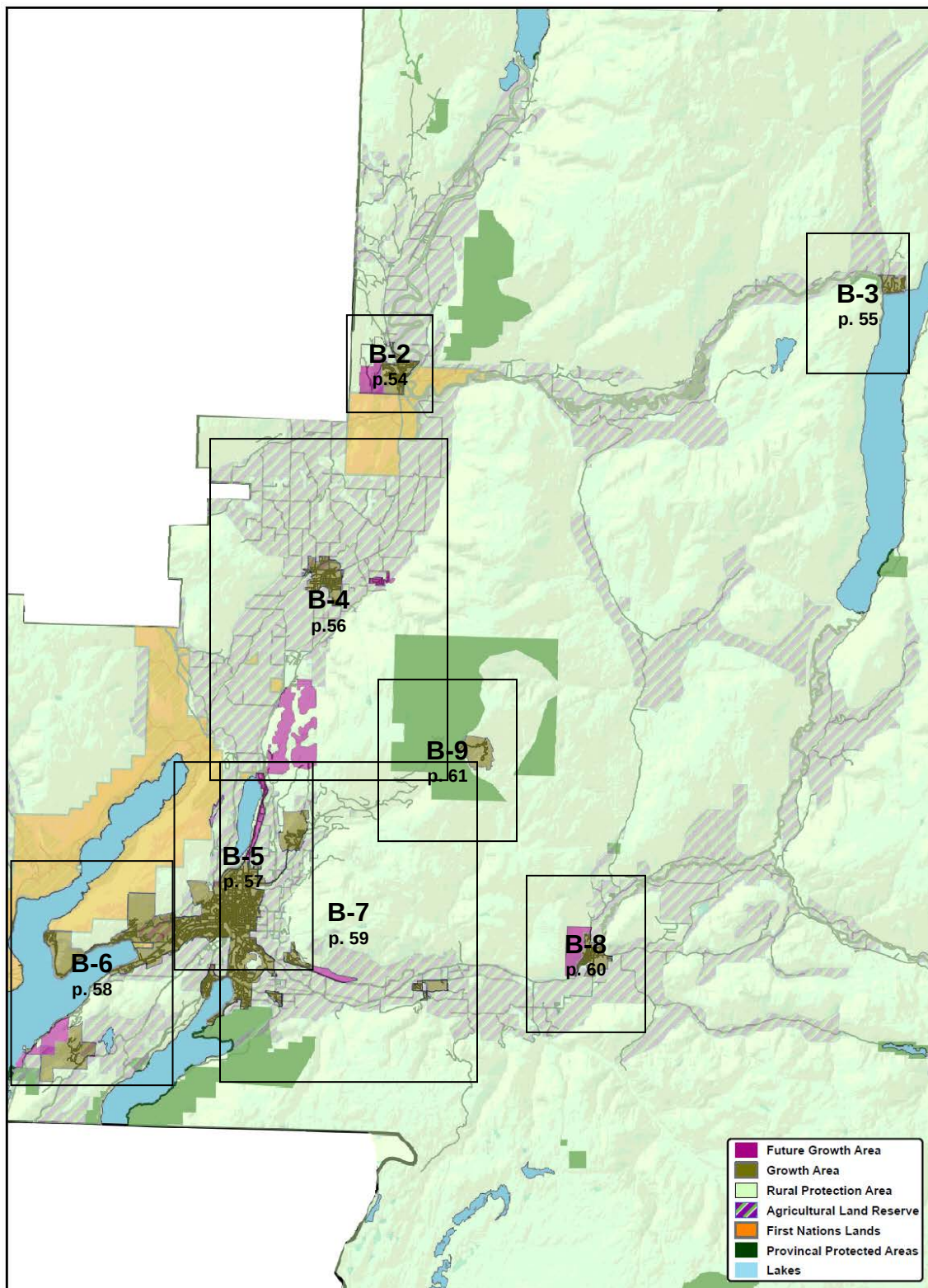
watershed planning: watershed management that involves the community in addressing water use, water quality, and protection of critical recharge areas as well as in managing competing demands for water among agriculture, wetlands and wildlife habitat, ecological processes and other water users.

zoning bylaw: contains provisions that regulate the use, size, height, density and location of buildings on properties within a jurisdiction.



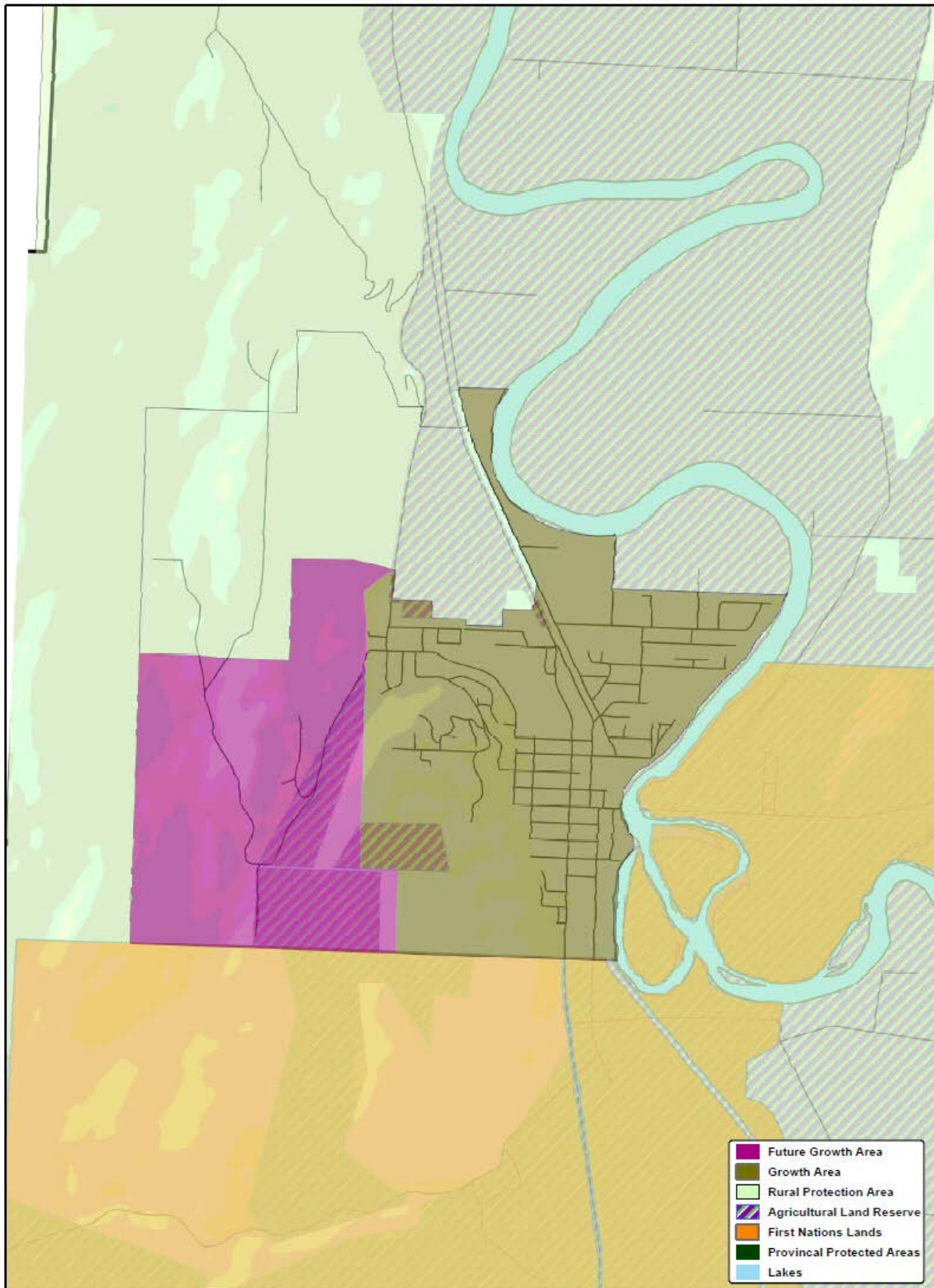
SCHEDULE 'B': REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY DESIGNATION MAPS

MAP B-1: Regional District of North Okanagan



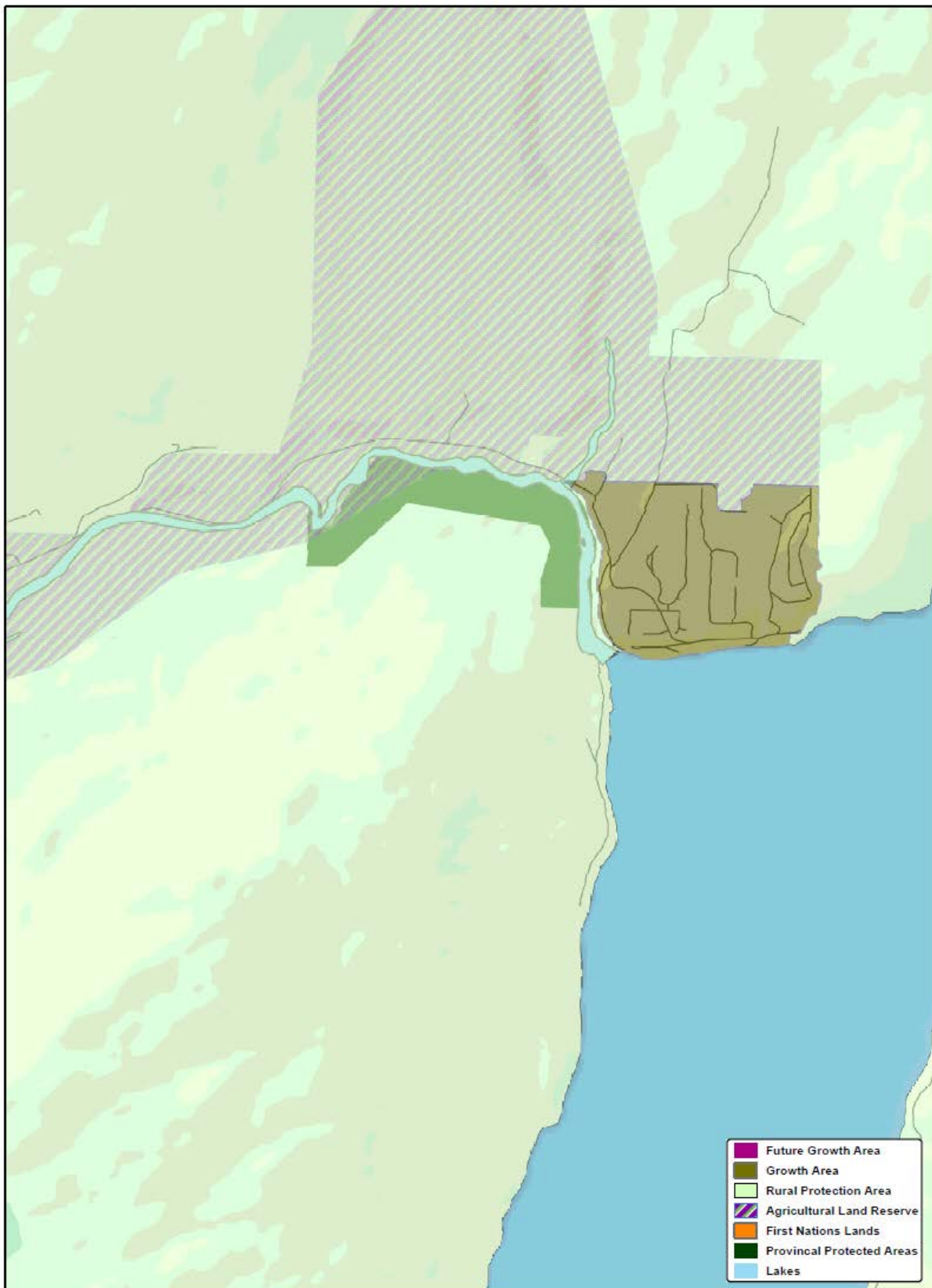


MAP B-2: City of Enderby



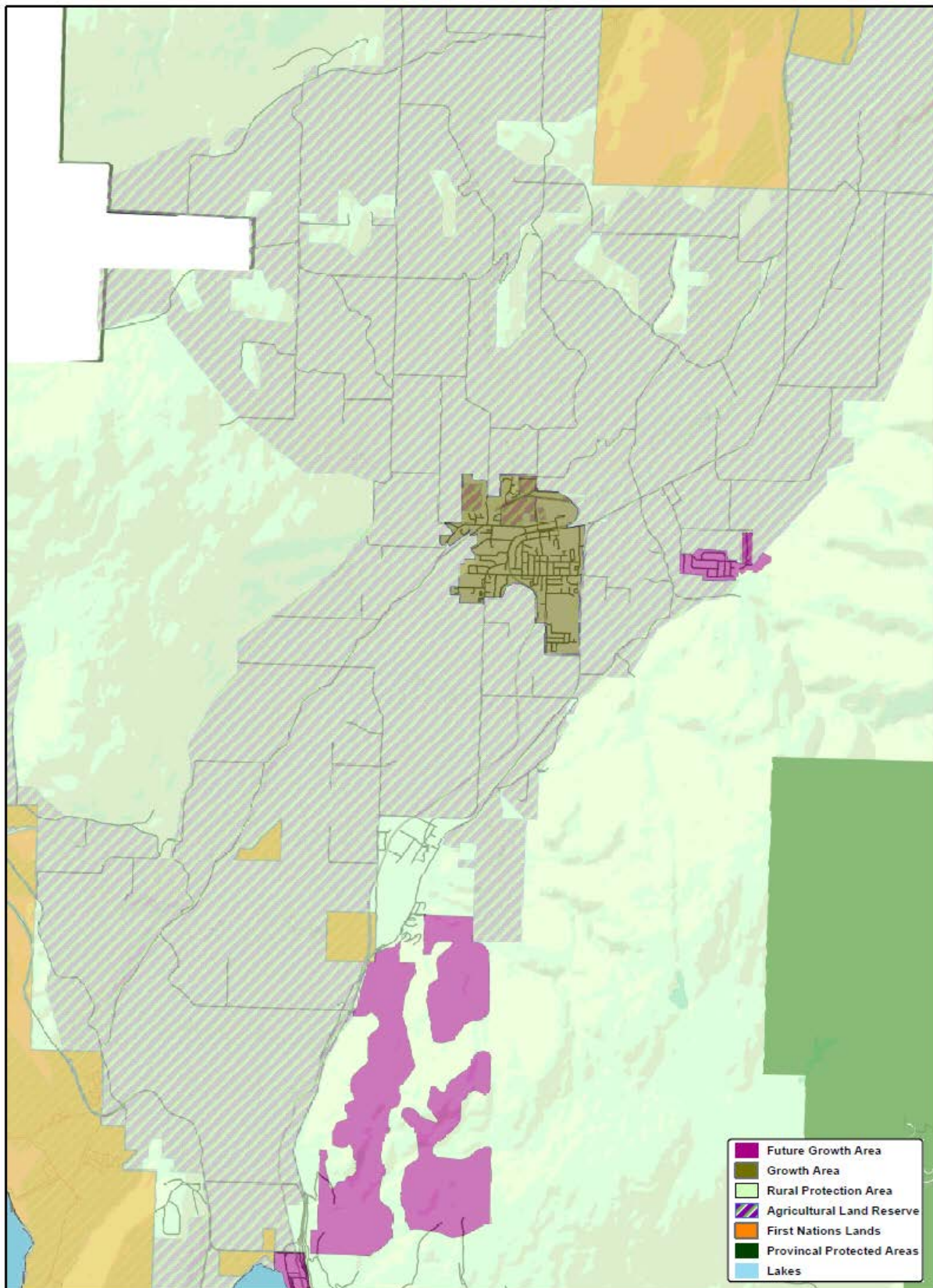


MAP B-3: Kingfisher (Electoral Area 'F')



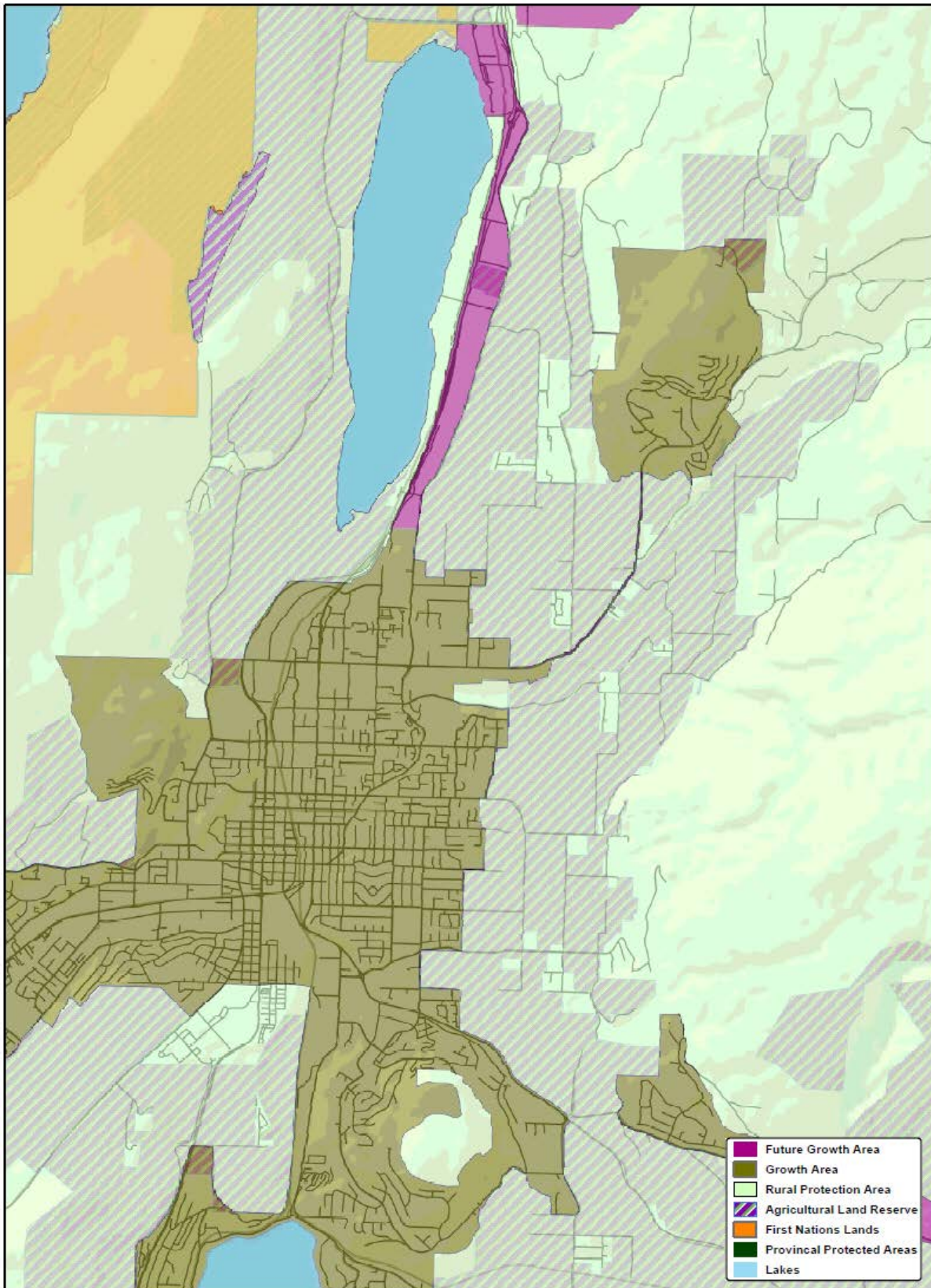


MAP B-4: City of Armstrong/Township of Spallumcheen



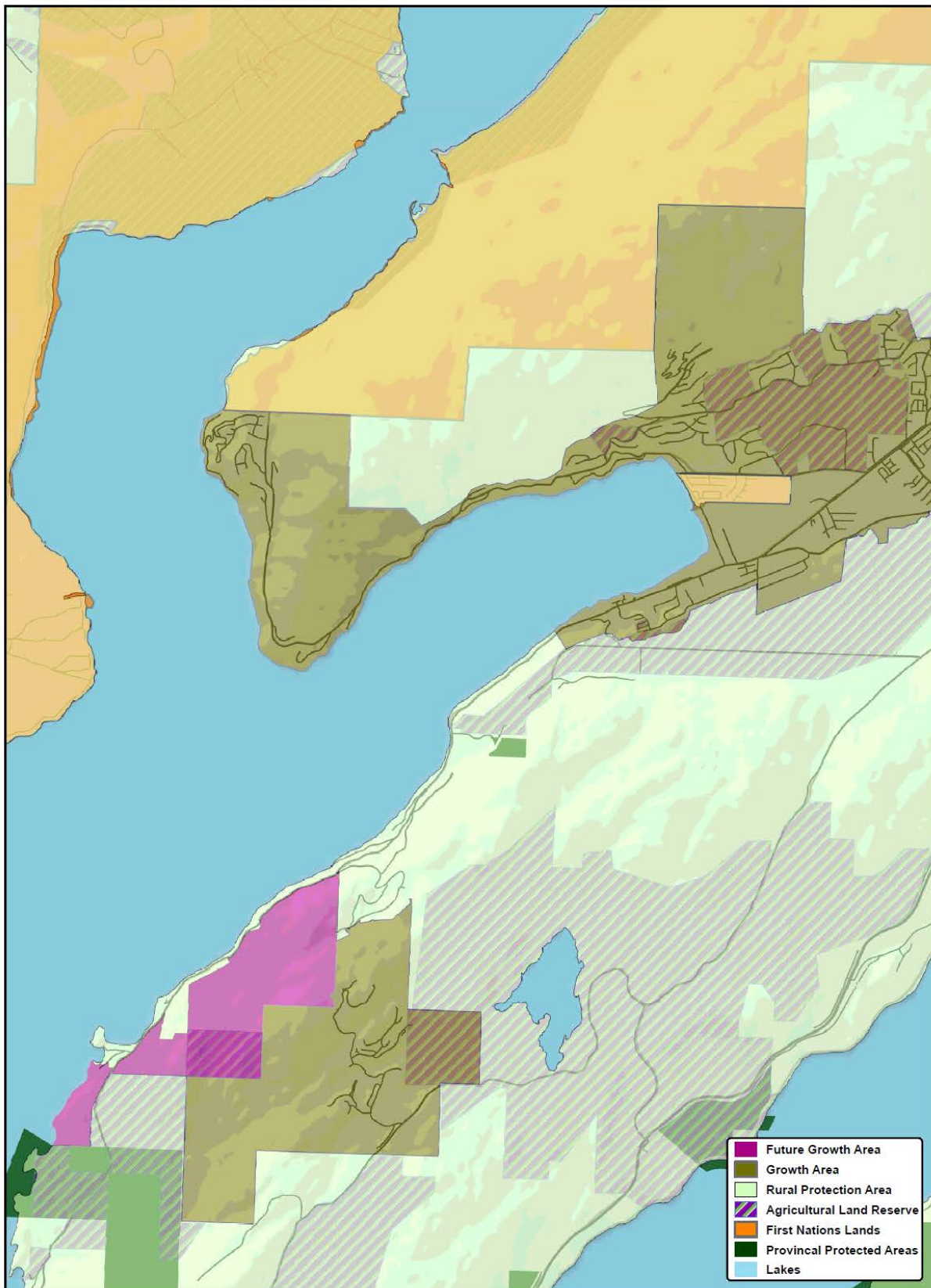


MAP B-5: East Vernon



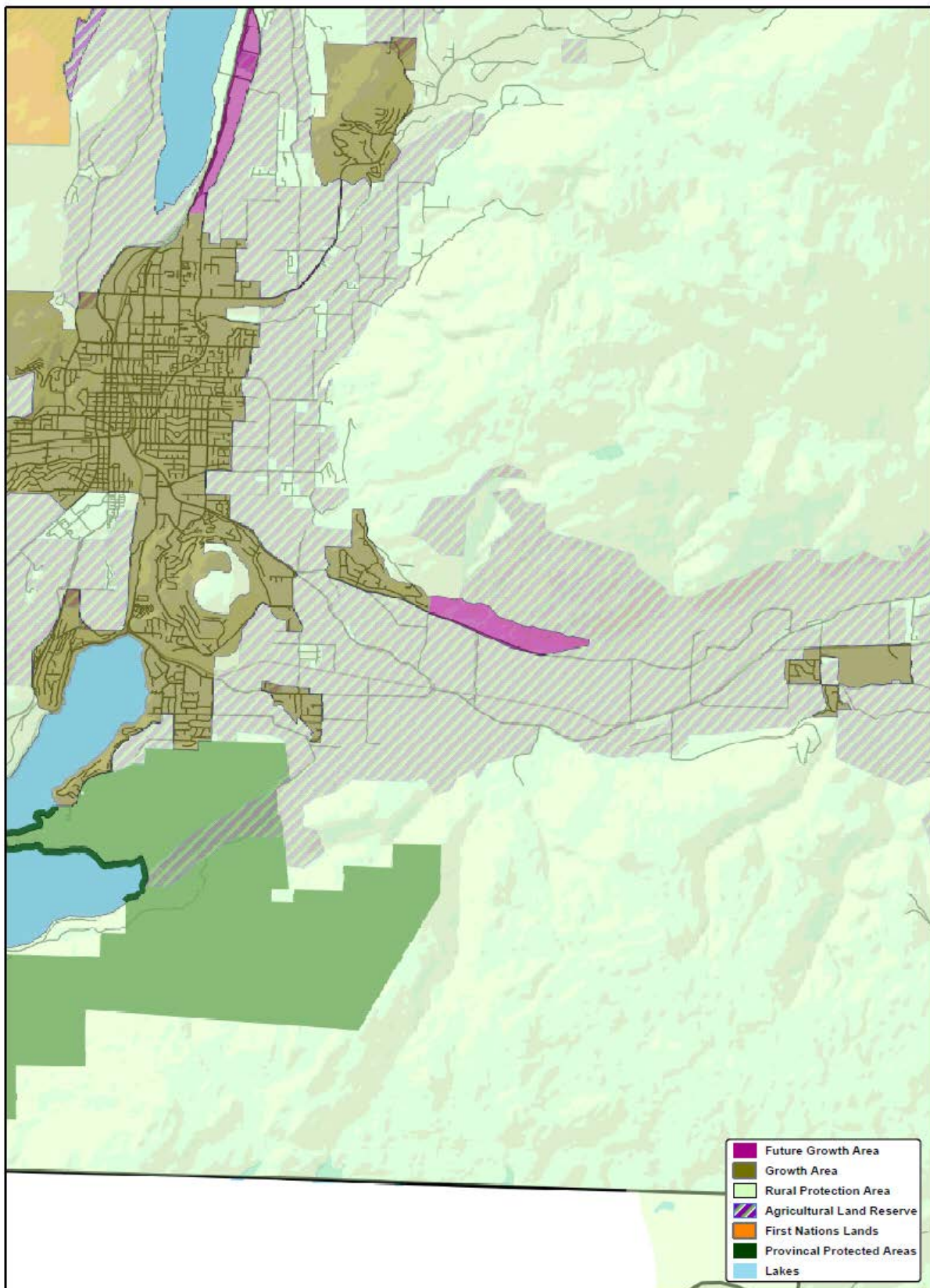


MAP B-6: West Vernon



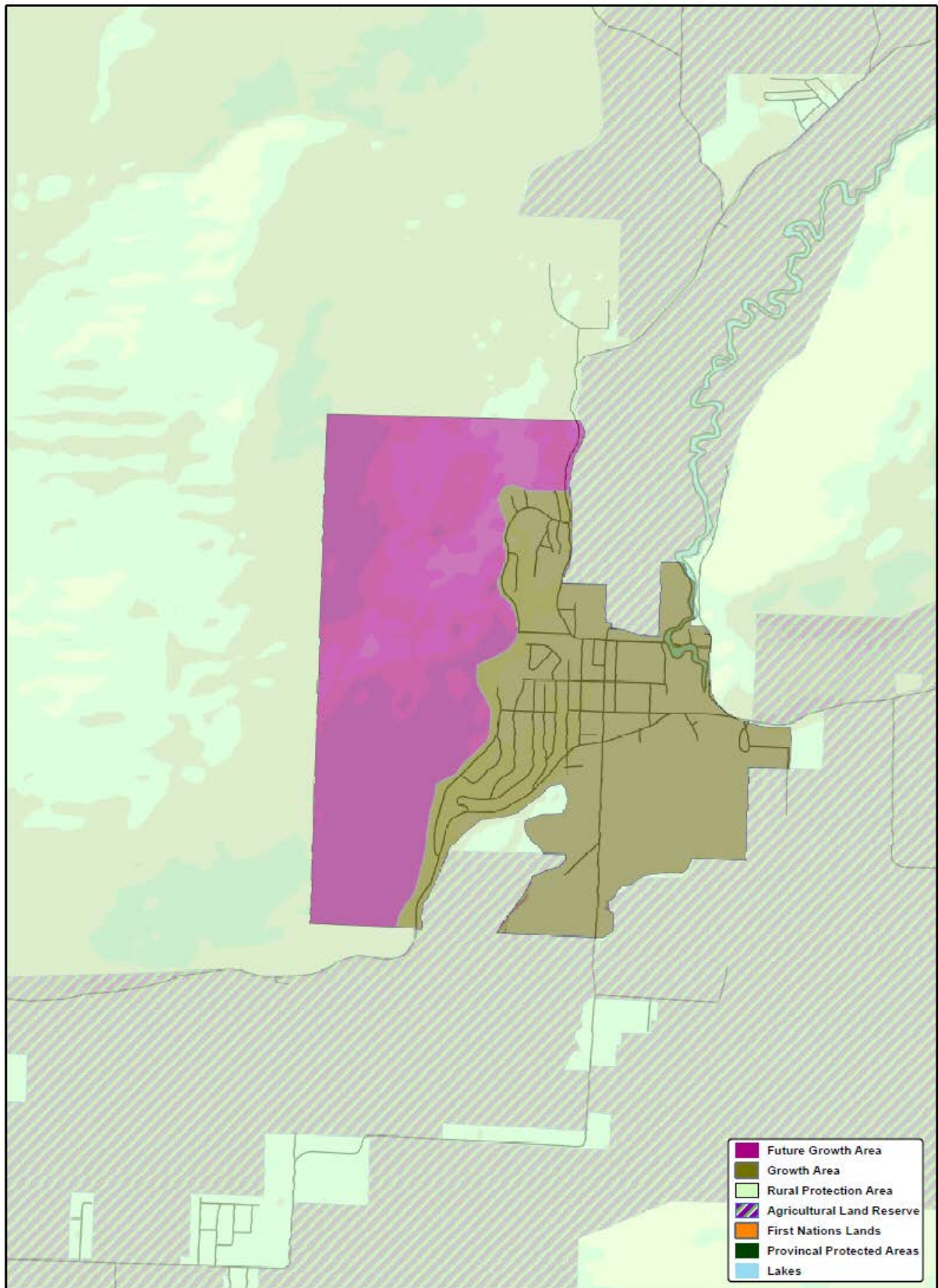


MAP B-7: District of Coldstream



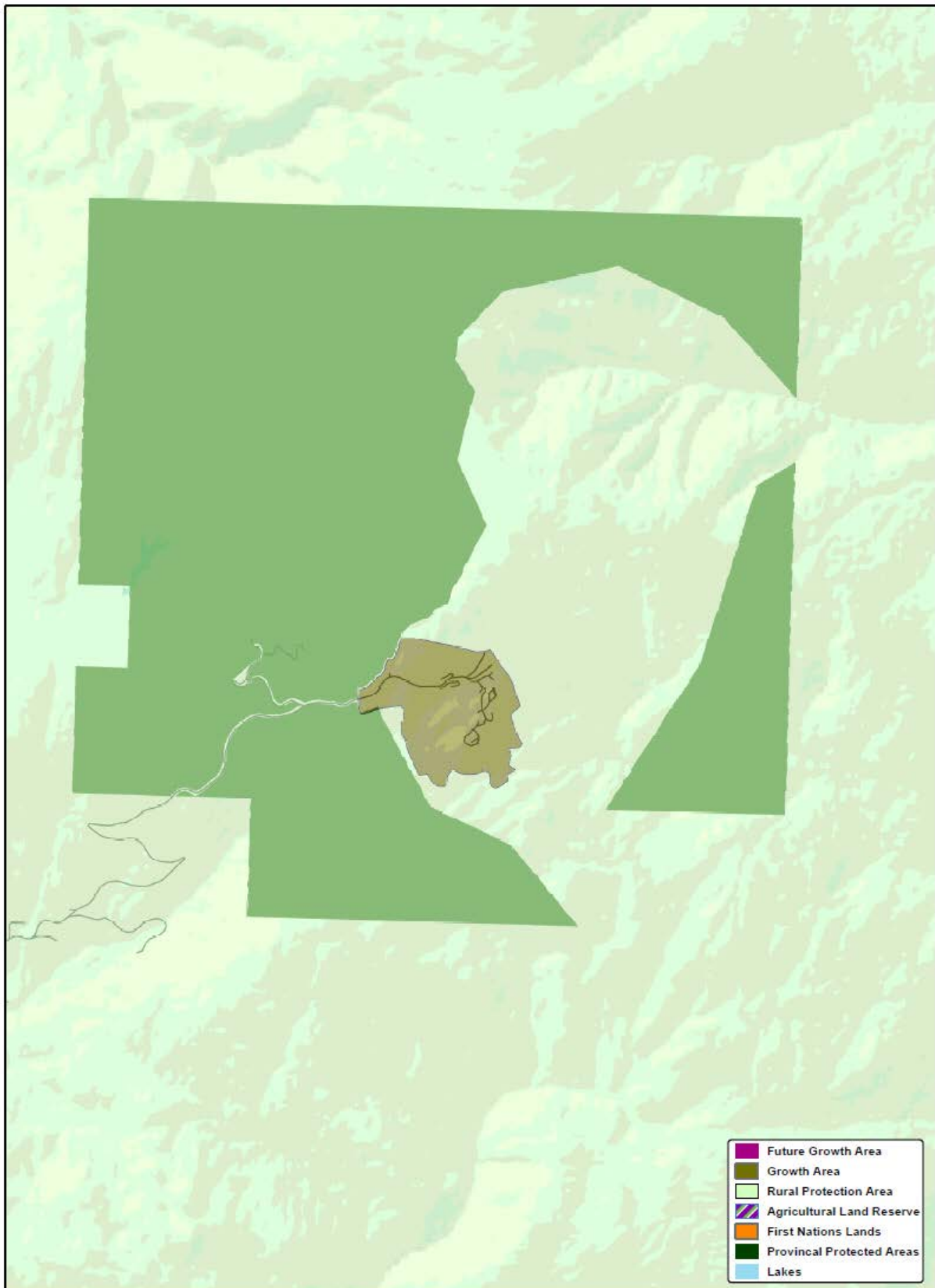


MAP B-8: Village of Lumby





MAP B-9: Silver Star (Electoral Area 'C')





SCHEDULE 'C': POPULATION, HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT FORECAST

Table A1: North Okanagan Population Projections 2006-2036 Census Data

Jurisdiction	YEAR					Projected Populations				% Growth/ annum
	2006	Average Annual Growth Rate	2011	Average Annual Growth Rate	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	
RDNO	74098	.92%	77640	.75%	80536	83976	87563	91303	95061	.84%
Electoral Area B	3211	-1.10%	3041	1.07%	3203	3155	3108	3062	3057	-0.03%
Electoral Area C	3947	-.51%	3847	.12%	3870	3795	3722	3650	3579	-0.39%
Electoral Area D	2837	.07%	2848	-1.23%	2672	2521	2378	2243	2116	-1.16%
Electoral Area E	934	.10%	939	1.5%	1010	1051	1094	1138	1184	0.8%
Electoral Area F	4091	-.75%	3938	.31%	4000	3913	3827	3744	3728	-0.44%
Vernon	35944	1.2%	38180	1.01%	40116	42392	44798	47340	50026	1.11%
Lumby	1634	1.2%	1731	1.18%	1833	1945	2063	2189	2322	1.19%
Armstrong	4241	2.8%	4830	1.18%	5114	5644	6228	6873	7585	1.99%
Coldstream	9471	1.8%	10314	.65%	10648	11319	12033	12791	13597	1.23%
Enderby	2828	.74%	2932	.22	2964	3036	3109	3184	3261	0.48%
Spallumcheen	4960	.32%	5040	.26%	5106	5180	5256	5333	5411	0.29%

Table A2: Projected North Okanagan Population by Age Cohort: 2006-2036 BC Stats P.E.O.P.L.E 2017

Males								Females							
Age	2006	2011	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	Age	2006	2011	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036
0-4	1742	1955	1910	1909	2052	2121	2116	0-4	1762	1849	1837	1823	1937	2009	2005
5-9	2068	1991	2212	2070	2130	2291	2369	5-9	2020	1955	2113	2020	2027	2168	2250
10-14	2571	2248	2070	2348	2223	2331	2520	10-14	2566	2174	2060	2251	2181	2211	2373
15-19	2900	2719	2434	2173	2418	2297	2421	15-19	2627	2589	2238	2123	2297	2238	2285
20-24	2176	2324	2246	2504	2189	2374	2237	20-24	2007	2125	2054	2260	2109	2274	2166
25-29	1829	2013	1873	2487	2668	2287	2417	25-29	1841	2140	1833	2222	2407	2276	2351
30-34	1873	2109	2111	2242	2816	2947	2523	30-34	1929	2188	2321	2197	2571	2775	2579
35-39	2164	2151	2270	2446	2602	3136	3232	35-39	2290	2151	2431	2690	2575	2953	3121
40-44	2846	2401	2310	2527	2735	2890	3412	40-44	3123	2497	2363	2702	2983	2881	3267
45-49	3281	2964	2603	2431	2658	2897	3063	45-49	3318	3290	2642	2520	2878	3163	3093
50-54	2939	3420	2980	2627	2458	2699	2959	50-54	3315	3533	3507	2717	2615	2965	3280
55-59	2892	3047	3524	2966	2621	2483	2738	55-59	2987	3393	3814	3556	2788	2688	3063
60-64	2361	3037	3259	3470	2943	2646	2532	60-64	2609	3127	3594	3847	3614	2844	2777
65-69	2100	2453	3145	3181	3409	2941	2686	65-69	2176	2570	3254	3596	3863	3637	2906
70-74	1764	2014	2444	2948	3024	3291	2888	70-74	1765	2065	2495	3179	3535	3792	3612
75-79	1434	1570	1823	2155	2641	2754	3031	75-79	1584	1611	1962	2329	2993	3343	3625
80-84	921	1153	1307	1453	1760	2201	2341	80-84	1282	1364	1456	1719	2074	2677	3046
85+	628	790	1046	1290	1561	1950	2540	85+	1107	1411	1624	1957	2381	2953	3834



Table A3: Experienced Labour Force for North Okanagan, 2006 to 2031²

	2006	2016	2031
Total labour force	38,105	42,210	43,605
Industry - Not applicable	470		
All industries	37,630		
11 Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	2,870	3,290	2,660
• 111-112 Farms	1,770	1,805	1,655
• 113 Forestry and logging	700	955	580
• 1150 Support activities for farms (1151 to 1152)	95	100	85
• 1153 Support activities for forestry	300	430	340
21 Mining and oil and gas extraction	310	265	210
213 Support activities for mining and oil and gas extraction	170	170	145
22 Utilities	290	305	245
23 Construction	3,925	3,120	2,465
31-33 Manufacturing	4,190	4,900	4,540
• 311 Food manufacturing	300	340	330
• 312 Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing	145	170	155
• 321 Wood product manufacturing	1,295	1,570	1,360
• 322 Paper manufacturing	50	55	50
• 323 Printing and related support activities	110	95	90
• 326 Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	290	355	330
• 327 Non-metallic mineral product manufacturing	430	520	500
• 332 Fabricated metal product manufacturing	305	360	360
• 333 Machinery manufacturing	195	230	220
• 334 Computer and electronic product manufacturing	135	155	150
• 336 Transportation equipment manufacturing	365	430	420
• 337 Furniture and related product manufacturing	225	260	245
• 339 Miscellaneous manufacturing	180	210	190
41 Wholesale trade	1,310	1,525	1,550
44-45 Retail trade	4,885	5,655	7,280
48-49 Transportation and warehousing	1,305	1,540	1,535
51 Information and cultural industries	405	465	420
52 Finance and insurance	1,010	1,160	1,150
53 Real estate and rental and leasing	740	850	835
54 Professional, scientific and technical services	1,890	2,140	2,250
55 Management of companies and enterprises	15	20	15
56 Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	1,575	1,790	1,775
61 Educational services	2,310	2,560	2,845
62 Health care and social assistance	4,275	5,280	6,260
71 Arts, entertainment and recreation	895	1,045	1,035
72 Accommodation and food services	2,490	2,945	3,125
81 Other services (except public administration)	1,825	2,035	2,125
91 Public administration	1,040	1,150	1,140

² Source: Peak Solutions Consulting Inc. Labour Force Supply and Demand Forecast: 2006-2031 North Okanagan Regional District



Table A4: RDNO Experienced Labour Force Forecast by Jurisdictions, 2006 to 2031

	2006	2011	2016	2021	2026	2031 ³	Labour Force (% Change 2006 to 2031)	Population
Municipalities								
Armstrong	2,050	2,230	2,335	2,375	2,370	2,360	+15.1%	+44.8%
Coldstream	5,120	5,470	5,640	5,675	5,640	5,640	+10.2%	+33.1%
Enderby	1,265	1,395	1,480	1,520	1,515	1,535	+21.3%	+41.1%
Lumby	820	870	875	850	805	765	-6.7%	+27.4%
Spallumcheen	2,765	2,835	2,805	2,680	2,520	2,375	-14.1%	+10.1%
Vernon	17,410	19,115	20,385	21,180	21,855	21,955	+26.1%	+47.4%
Total	29,430	31,915	33,520	34,280	34,705	34,630	+17.7%	+39.6%
Electoral Areas								
Electoral Area B	1,865	1,880	1,875	1,880	1,880	1,895	+1.6%	+5.4%
Electoral Area C	2,305	2,350	2,405	2,485	2,570	2,665	+15.6%	+18.0%
Electoral Area D	1,690	1,660	1,620	1,635	1,625	1,635	-3.3%	+3.8%
Electoral Area E	465	460	445	450	440	445	-4.3%	+0.2%
Electoral Area F	2,350	2,385	2,345	2,325	2,315	2,335	-0.6%	+5.1%
Total	8,675	8,735	8,690	8,775	8,830	8,975	+3.5%	+8.0%
Total RDNO	38,105	40,650	42,210	43,055	43,535	43,605	+14.4%	+29.3%

³ Source: Peak Solutions Consulting Inc. Labour Force Supply and Demand Forecast: 2006-2031 North Okanagan Regional District

SCHEDULE 'D': POSSIBLE IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

As part of the process to developing the North Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy, the growth issues working groups, member municipal councils and the Board of Directors have identified a number of possible actions that may be considered during implementation. These possible actions may be discussed during the 5-Year Action Planning process.

Category	Potential Actions	Status
	Action UC-1.1: Establish Rural Protection Boundaries within Official Community Plans.	UC-1.1 Complete
	Action AG-1.1: Development of a Regional Agricultural Economic Development Plan. Action AG-1.2: Create an inventory of agri-industrial operation, infrastructure and lands Action AG-1.3: Undertake a Regional Agricultural Area Plan. Action AG-1.4: Continue to support the Sterile Insect Release Program	AG-1.3 Complete AG-1.4 Ongoing
	Action WS-1.1: Develop a North Okanagan Water Conservation Strategy Action WS-1.2: Petition the provincial and federal government to undertake a motorized and non-motorized impact and issue assessment for North Okanagan waterways. Action WS-1.3: Develop a consistent full cost accounting framework for infrastructure that reflects the true cost of delivering long-term sustainable service.	GVW Water Conservation Strategy Complete 2017
	Action ENV-1.1: Implement Best Management Practices to assist in the protection and enhancement of the region's biodiversity, ecology and environment. Action ENV-1.2: Develop a Regional Parks and Natural Lands Acquisition Plan. Action ENV-1.3: Establish a dedicated Regional Parks and Natural Lands Legacy Fund to assist in accessing additional innovative and cooperative funding opportunities. Action ENV-1.4: Assist the province and not-for-profit organizations in efforts to identify and map the ecosystems of the North Okanagan. Action ENV-1.5: Explore solid waste management approach that responds to local needs, with the ultimate goal of achieving 'Zero Waste'	ENV-1.1 Complete ENV-1.3 Discussed-on hold since 2016 ENV-1.5 On-going
	Action ED-1.1: Explore regional approaches to economic development that will fulfill the needs of the Regional District, member municipalities and the business community.	ED-1.1 Complete
	Action H-1: Undertake a North Okanagan Housing Needs Assessment to provide the Regional District, municipalities, developers and not-for-profit organizations essential information on the housing needs and demands of our communities.	H-1 Initiated 2019
	Action GS-1.1: Review the Regional Service Checklist.	
	Action EE-1.1: Collaborate on the development and implementation of a North Okanagan Energy and Emissions Plan that would respond to local challenges and opportunities.	

Category	Potential Actions	Status
	Action TI-1.1: Develop a Integrated Regional Transportation Plan and associated Implementation Agreements. Action TI-1.2: Create and adopt stormwater best management practices. Action TI-1.3: In cooperation with, and support from, the provincial and federal government, continue to promote efficient rail freight movement to assure continued environmental, economic, and other benefits inherent in use of the rail as a major component of economic development. Action TI-1.4: Due to the importance of rail service to the long-term economic viability of the North Okanagan, the federal and provincial governments are requested to provide the financial resources for the upgrading of rail infrastructure. Action TI-1.5: In collaboration with UBCM and FCM, petition the federal government to fully review the impact that rail abandonment has on British Columbia communities and commit to developing a more comprehensive, transparent and much more stringent rail discontinuance process that will ensure consultation with affected communities and rail clients. Action TI-1.6: The federal government, due to the importance of rail to the economic viability of rural communities, is strongly encouraged to develop policy that would consider rail discontinuance as a last resort. Action TI-1.7: In collaboration with key stakeholder and senior levels of government, explore the potential of public/private partnerships for improving rail freight service for the purposes of: a. fostering investment in rail infrastructure where it might not occur if left solely to a market-based approach; b. facilitating economic development and support of existing industries; and c. alleviating regional disparity in rail freight service. Action TI-1.8: Due to the importance of transport rail service to the long-term economic viability of the North Okanagan, the federal government is strongly encouraged to develop policy and legislation that will preserve rail right-of-way in the case of rail abandonment. Action TI-1.9: In collaboration with UBCM and FCM, petition the federal government for a Rail Renewal Task Force and in the long term encourage transportation strategies and policies that would take environmental, social and economic factors into serious consideration so that market forces could function in ways which make rural communities more competitive and protects the environment. Action TI-1.10: Review and amend land use and property taxation policies with the goal of retaining existing industries and encourage the development of industrial areas in the vicinity of rail lines and rail siding. Action TI-1.11: Consider introducing a new land use designation that reflects transportation, warehousing or reloading business functions rather than relying solely on the label "industrial" land. The public policy purposes of such land use designations may help bring a greater public understanding and acceptance to the complementary roles of transportation and land use planning to sustainable economic development.	

SCHEDULE 'E': THE IDEAS' BANK

The Ideas Bank contains all of the ideas, suggestions and actions that suggested by the Growth Issues Working Groups but could not be included within the Regional Growth Strategy. All of these ideas were developed through much thought, debate and discussion – representing the hard work, dedication and insight of our Working Group members, stakeholders, elected officials and the public. These ideas and suggested actions may be considered during implementation of the Regional Growth Strategy, within other planning processes or non-government initiatives. The Regional District of North Okanagan would like to thank everyone who contributed their thoughts and ideas to the Regional Growth Strategy and the passion they brought to the process.

Category	Ideas' Bank	Status
	1. Collaborate with the Agricultural Land Commission and key stakeholders to explore the options available to support the recruitment of seasonal farm labour, including a uniform standard for on-site farm labour supportive housing on (ALC) and off of (local government) ALR lands. 2. Working with the relevant agencies remove barriers and create incentives that facilitate the inclusion of current agricultural lands into the Agricultural Land Reserve. 3. Establish a Regional Agricultural Support Officer to assist in the implementation of the North Okanagan Food System Plan and the Regional Growth Strategy. 4. Encourage collaboration and cooperation with First Nation communities on food systems and agricultural issues 5. Endorse and adopt the North Okanagan Food Charter. 6. Consider acquiring and allocating public lands for community gardens and food production in urban areas	4. Ongoing 6. Ongoing
	1. Establish a Regional Integrated Watershed Management Planning Program to manage surface water, drainage and groundwater and land use impacts on the hydrology throughout the Region and includes watershed assessment, stormwater management, ecosystem mapping, riparian and habitat preservation and ecosystem functioning, as well as strategies for maintaining the quality and quantity of the water supply. Watershed protection should be included within Official Community Plans, bylaws and development requirements. 2. The formation of an Integrated Watershed Plan Stakeholder Group should be considered as part of an implementation strategy. 3. Develop a regional foreshore and lakefront public access lands acquisition program, as a component of tourism development, parks and trails development and environmental strategies that focuses on lands identification and innovative and cooperative funding opportunities.	



Category	Ideas' Bank	Status
	1. Review existing bylaws and environmental policies to work toward the implementation of local government environmental policies, including hillside development guidelines, environmental management areas strategies and mapping requirements, so consistency is assured throughout the North Okanagan Region.	1. Ongoing
	2. Develop a regional approach encouraging the creation of covenants for sensitive ecosystems on privately held lands.	2. Ongoing
	3. In partnership with all levels of government, utilize ecological mapping to inform conservation-based planning decisions.	3. Ongoing
	4. Regional District and municipalities to require developers to complete detailed site level species and habitat studies or inventories for all Environmental Development Permit areas containing sensitive ecosystems	4. Ongoing
	5. Require developers to complete follow-up plant and habitat survivability studies for compensation projects for a minimum of five years to ensure the health of the ecosystem has remained intact through development.	
	6. Explore opportunities to collaborate on preparing a southern interior climate change strategy that would examine the potential consequences of global warming on the region and identify strategies for taking local action on climate change.	6. Okanagan Basin Climate Projections Report
	7. The Regional District of North Okanagan, in collaboration with member municipalities, be a partner to and assist in the development of an Okanagan Valley biodiversity and conservation strategy.	7. Complete
	8. RDNO and member municipalities agree to investigate incorporating suggestions and the intent of the Green bylaws toolkit into Official Community Plans, policies and bylaws.	8. Ongoing
	9. In collaboration with the Ministry of Transportation, ensure adequate wildlife crossing structures (e.g. species appropriate) under or overpasses are installed on any new or upgraded roads.	
	10. Develop policies and strategies that will reduce wildlife-human conflict.	
	11. Develop a policy that minimizes the impact that development(s) will have on the views, landscapes, landscape character and community identity.	11. Ongoing
	12. Designate appropriate areas for different types of recreational activities e.g. motorized recreational activities.	
	13. Support the development of a regional park system that is sensitive to adjacent land uses.	
	14. Encourage the enforcement of policies to ensure the continued unobstructed access to high-water mark on the region's lakes.	
	15. Develop riparian protection measures for those waterbodies (e.g. streams, wetlands, marshes), not included in current legislation using best management practices.	
	16. The RDNO and member municipalities agree to protect streams and streamside areas in accordance with applicable provincial and federal legislation.	16. Ongoing
	17. The RDNO and member municipalities encourage the federal and provincial government to support the development and implementation of measures to protect streams and streamside areas at the local government level.	
	18. Develop tools to reduce and manage the impacts of small lot farm land uses on riparian areas that are not covered under current legislation and best management practices.	
	19. Control of alien invasive species and the spread of genetically modified crops off of agricultural lands into natural areas.	19. Ongoing

Category	Ideas' Bank	Status
	20. Support education programs for private land owners about the importance of sensitive ecosystems, including the creation of educational materials describing each sensitive ecosystem type found in the North Okanagan and their importance to the economy and health of the region. 21. Undertake annual meetings of RGS stakeholders to review implemented and adopted goals, objectives and strategies.	20. Ongoing
	1. Develop a Regional Industrial Lands Strategy that identifies existing and potential industrial lands as a component of a comprehensive Regional Economic Development Strategy 2. Develop a Regional Economic Development Strategic Plan that is supported by financial resources from all municipalities and is adopted by municipal councils and the Regional District.	1. Complete 2. Complete
	1. In partnership with the provincial and federal government, provide a safe and secure transportation environment for the traveling public, addressing roadway hazards, pedestrian and bicycle safety, and transit security. 2. Conduct an Infrastructure Inventory and Needs Assessment for the North Okanagan that provides an accurate inventory of all infrastructure asset condition, use, maintenance and replacement cost. This information is a vital aid in the local decision-making and budgeting priority process. 3. Develop of seniors' residences nodes with associated services that will provide safe pedestrian options. 4. Through collaboration and cooperation with local government and the provincial government, provide opportunities for accessible transportation options that meet the needs of all North Okanagan residents. 5. Develop a regional network of park and ride facilities at key transit nodes to expand options in rural and urban areas for reducing automobile dependency and greenhouse gas emissions. 6. The Regional District and local government, in partnership with the province, agree to reduce the greenhouse gas contribution attributed to transportation by 20% using a variety of techniques and methods, including minimum mandatory transit, traffic demand management and public education and outreach.	4. Ongoing 6. Ongoing
	1. Development of policies, at the regional and local government levels, that support integrated, inclusive housing developments. 2. Affordable housing options are supported through complete community planning, including the provision of urban gardens, parks and play areas and local services and businesses. 3. In collaboration and partnership with the provincial government, developing affordable housing funding opportunities through designation of a percentage of tax revenue to housing initiatives, with emphasis on the new HST. 4. Affordable housing must be economically, environmentally and socially sustainable. Municipalities will explore policy and planning tools that would ensure that the lifecycle cost of affordable housing projects are incorporated into decision-making. 5. In collaboration with UBCM and the provincial government, identify barriers within the Community Charter that impede housing affordability initiatives and options.	1. Ongoing 2. Ongoing 4. Ongoing



Category	Ideas' Bank	Status
	6. In collaboration with the federal government, UBCM and FCM, investigate the possibility of a National Housing Strategy. 7. In partnership with UBCO and OC, support research into North Okanagan affordable housing barriers, opportunities and business cases. 8. In collaboration with local and senior levels of government, FCM and UBCM, reduce or eliminate the tax burden on rental, supportive or affordable housing projects. 9. Present to the Board of Directors and member municipal councils, on an annual basis, on the status of housing affordability within the North Okanagan.	9. Ongoing
	1. Implement a local and regional government public education program, including annual governance 'Trade Shows' during 'Local Government Awareness Week', to clarify the roles, responsibilities and limitations of current governance systems and enhance civic consciousness and participation in local and regional government.	1. Ongoing



SCHEDULE 'F': GROWTH AREA BOUNDARY REVIEW CRITERIA

1. Services Nearby/Available
Is the parcel or parcels within a viable transit service area? Would the residents' have access via transit, cycling or walking to employment, schools, commercial or amenity locations? (Looking to avoid the creation of car dependent urban areas which bring about new vehicles, increases in demand on road systems and related greenhouse gas emission implications).
Would the parcel or parcels result in the need for significant infrastructure up-grades or extension into new areas (i.e. roads, sewer, water, stormwater, schools, school busing, transit services, fire protection, utilities and other supporting infrastructure)?
2. RGS Policies
Do the policies of the RGS support the proposed expansion of a Future Growth Boundary?
3. Soils Classification & ALR Status
Lands that are located within the Agricultural Land Reserve may be considered as a Future Growth Area however this review needs to be done in consultation with the <i>ALC's Guide to Bylaw Reviews</i> and Agricultural land Commission Regulations. The ALC has indicated they would prefer the RDNO consider non-ALR lands for future growth and development, however, should the RDNO determine that all non-ALR lands are unsuitable, or that they are not sufficient to accommodate projected growth pressures, the ALC assumes that the RDNO will then look to ALR lands. At a minimum any identification of ALR lands for consideration as Future Growth Areas should also include: - Strong and principled land use planning analysis that demonstrates the need to look to ALR lands in the rural protection area as future growth areas; - Non ALR lands should be analyzed and a rationale should be provided as to their level of suitability and priority. - The review needs to be carried out at the Regional Scale (should not focus on specific land inventory shortfalls within a given political jurisdiction but should look at all types of land uses e.g. residential, commercial, industrial etc. within the region). Clearly identify what the rationale is for these lands to be considered for future growth); - Analysis of soil capability; - Existing and historical land uses; and - The agricultural utility and potential for soil and non-soil-bound agriculture.
4. Context
Is the proposed parcel or parcels adjacent to a growth or future growth area i.e. contiguous boundary? (Looking to avoid amendments that would 'leapfrog' into the Rural Protection Area and result in urban sprawl).
Would the proposed amendment, if approved, signal that the Rural Protection Area is not stable, and may trigger speculation that such proposed amendments are viable, thereby undermining the integrity and success of this key principle of the RGS.

• Would the proposed parcel or parcels introduce significant urban residential development and associated traffic adjacent to existing agricultural areas? Would it likely affect current and future farming activity and potentially trigger land use speculation on nearby agricultural properties? ▪ Residential vs Industrial / Commercial Land development will be reviewed against the Growth Area Boundary Review Criteria, however, industrial and commercial proposals will include an analysis based on the recommendations of the Employment Lands Action Plan- April 26, 2016.
• Does the parcel or parcels exist within a historic residential neighbourhood (lots that are already less than 1 ha in size)? Is there the potential for infill that still meets the goals of the RGS? Is there a plan to service these parcels in the near future for environmental or economic reasons? This should include consideration of asset management decisions such as costs associated with: construction; operation; maintenance and replacement of infrastructure services.
• The surrounding lands need to be taken into consideration during the planning analysis to ensure the containment boundary is robust and will stand the test of increased speculative pressure. Is the proposed boundary constrained or contained by roads or natural features (ravine or river), municipal boundary (what is the constraint to further expansion).
5. Demonstrated need for the proposed use
• Do existing land use policies and documents for regional / sub regional growth patterns indicate there are current constraints on urban growth and employment lands capacity and therefore justify extending urban growth beyond what currently exists? (Consider OCP's, Employment Lands Action Plan, Community Specific Housing Strategies).

*Key to note that all areas that are proposed for development should be considered a Future Growth Area (Not a Growth Area). Additionally, existing RGS policy states that once development and servicing begins within Future Growth Areas, then these areas will be considered Growth Areas as defined within the Regional Growth Strategy; no further amendments in this regard are required to the RGS.