

Table 1: Central Okanagan Applications for the OBWB Water Conservation and Quality Improvement Grants

Applicant	Project	Request
<p>Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program (OCCP) and Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA)</p>	<p>The Okanagan Lake Responsibility Planning Initiative is being co-led by the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA), Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program (OCCP), and the South Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program (SOSCP). The Project Team will include members and representatives of Syilx Okanagan Nation, provincial and federal agencies, local governments, academia, conservation organizations, and others who will be identified throughout the process.</p> <p>The aim of this project is to develop a visioning and experiential learning process that will create a greater awareness and understanding of the challenges and opportunities for protecting the environmental, cultural, and economic values of Okanagan Lake. The visioning process will lead to the development of a strategy that will enhance the ways of caring for, protecting, and restoring the values and interests of Okanagan Lake's foreshore and associated tributaries within the watershed. The work generated through this project will provide the knowledge and expertise to inform important decisions regarding how natural areas are cared for and managed, help address climate impacts, support sustainable development, and help secure resources and funding to carry out the actions that will be identified in the strategy.</p> <p>The project is addressing current challenges of shoreline protection, and planning for the region's future at a multi-regional scale. The main objectives are to identify the most pertinent issues impacting Okanagan Lake and collaborate to develop a practical and enforceable strategy.</p> <p>The project will benefit communities within the region by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing leadership in sustainable environmental management; • Addressing cumulative impacts of shoreline development, source water protection, and improving public health and safety; • Identifying effective multi-jurisdictional policies, bylaws, regulations and processes to enhance shoreline management; and • Identifying common approaches in shoreline enhancement and protection that could form part of a region-wide Protection Strategy for Okanagan Lake. <p>To build on efforts currently underway, the advisory team will work through a planning process to create new ways for Syilx and non-Syilx partners to work together for greater environmental protection for Okanagan Lake and its watershed. In 2021, the project will use a Syilx planning and public engagement process to develop the kłúsxnitkw (Okanagan Lake) Responsibility Strategy. This Syilx initiative will provide an opportunity for all partners to engage in a process that will strengthen protection measures for siwłkw (water) and the land, and will ensure solutions are embedded in Syilx water laws, principles, and practices that value water and the environment as the foundation for sustainability. The new Strategy will provide guidance for new land use decision making processes, policies, and practices that address systemic issues, climate change, and provide holistic ways of caring for land and water.</p>	<p>\$30,000.00</p>