

# 2021 Regional Park Visitor Services Program Update

Regional District of Central Okanagan Board Meeting

January 13, 2022

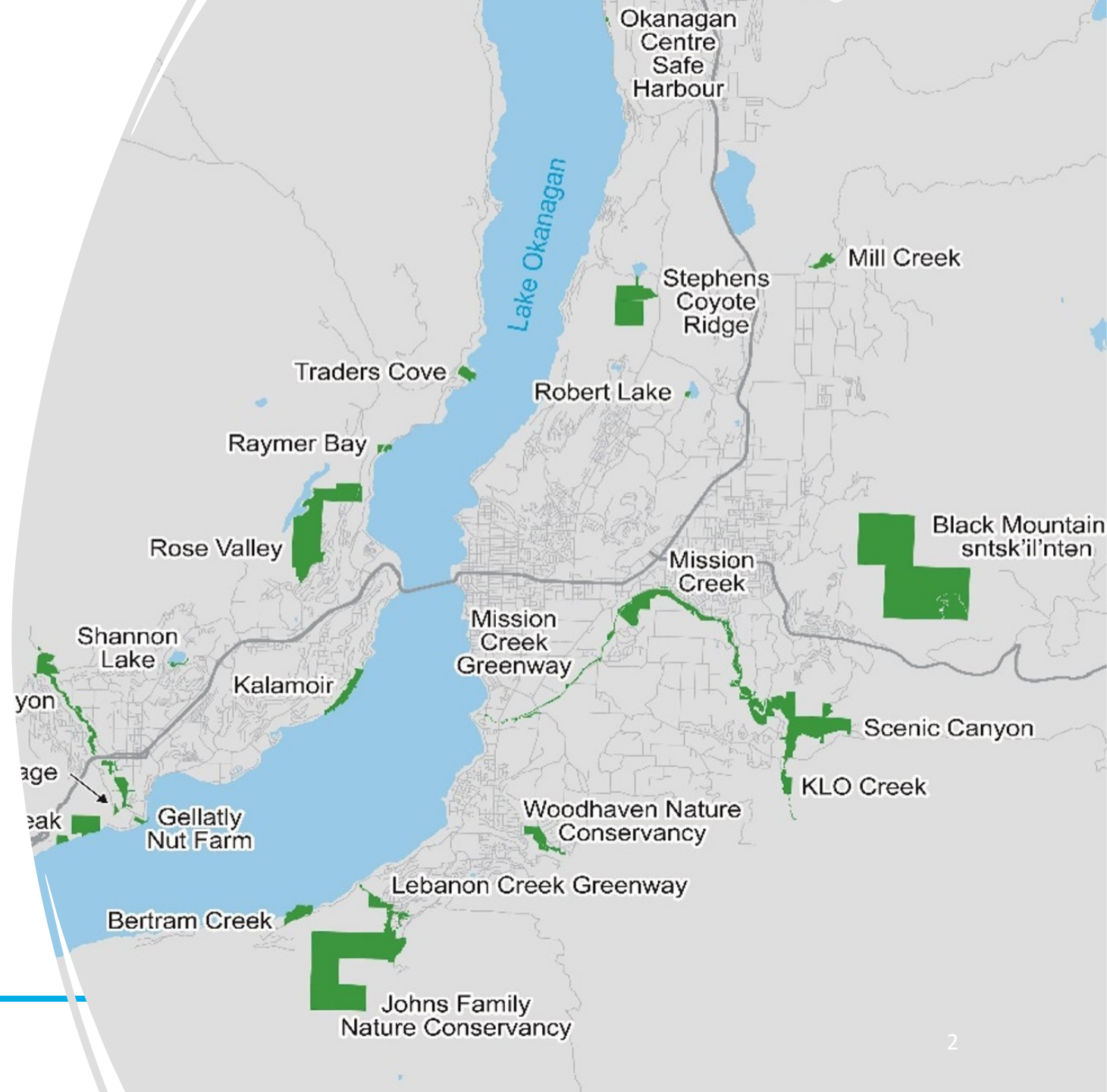
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1450 K.L.O. Road  
Kelowna, BC, V1W 3Z4  
[rdco.com](http://rdco.com)



# Overall Regional Parks Stats

- 30 Regional Parks
- 2,100 hectares of parkland
- 4 classifications of parks
  - Conservation, Natural, Trails/Greenways, Recreation / Waterfront / Cultural
- 74 kilometers of trails





# Park Contacts Made in 2021: 27,633

- Environmental Education: 5,179
- Roving and Point Duties: 3,787
- Events: 6,423
- Recurring Programs: 2,153
- Pop-up Programs: 2,625
- EECO Visitors: 5,426
- Virtual Programs: 1,869
- VIP Programs: 171 volunteers
- 2020: 55% audience reduction; 2021 at 64% of pre-pandemic attendance





# Environmental Education

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- 5,179 children reached in 2021
  - 1,054 children reached in 2020 (COVID)
  - 9,970 children reached in 2019
  - 8,781 children reached in 2018
- Environmental Education Centre for the Central Okanagan (EECO)
- In-person (95%) and virtual programs (5%)





# Events

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- Light-up the Park
- Spooktacular
- Perseids Meteor Shower
- Virtual Earth Day Nature Trivia
- Welcome the Kokanee
- Kikinee Ambassador Day
- Canada's Parks Day
- Crystal Alchemy Sound Session





# Public Programs

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- Guided hikes
- Nature Journaling, Nature Cards
- Forest Bathing
- Tracks Walking Program
- Marvels of the Magnified World
- A Walk and a Wreath
- Pop-up Programs: bugs, butterflies, art, wild water critters, backyard games





# Outreach and Partnerships

- Inspired Word Café: Non-profit society supporting an inclusive community (LGBTQ2) through literacy programming
- Lake Country Art Gallery: Art in the Park, Journaling
- Great Canadian Trivia Challenge in the Park with Local Care Homes
- Seniors Kokanee Picnic in the Park
- Over-the-Phone Interpretive Programs with Seniors
- Kelowna Community Resources: Tailored programs for newcomers and ESL groups





# Indigenous-led Programming

- Syilx Land Tour at Shannon Lake
- Black Mountain sntsk'il'nten Land Tour
- Glen Canyon Syilx Land Tour
- Booth at Kikinee Ambassador Day
- Virtual Wild Tea Making Workshop





# Volunteers in Parks

- Volunteers in 2021: 171
- 1,507 volunteer hours logged
- Highlights:
  - Friends of Regional Parks projects
  - Food Forest Team
  - GBTAPS stairs & handrails in Glen Canyon
  - New: Diving Dynamics
  - Collaborative Projects with Schools





# Recommendation

THAT the Regional Board receive the 2021 Regional Parks Visitor Services Program update as attached to the report from the Supervisor, Visitor Services dated January 13, 2022 for information.