

# Regional Evacuation Planning Framework

## Project Update

Regional District of Central Okanagan Board Meeting  
April 14, 2022

1450 K.L.O. Road  
Kelowna, BC, V1W 3Z4  
rdco.com



# Purpose

- Provide an update on Phase 1 of the Regional Evacuation Planning project
- Amanda Newell, Sundog Solutions, present information regarding the Evacuation Planning Framework

# Background

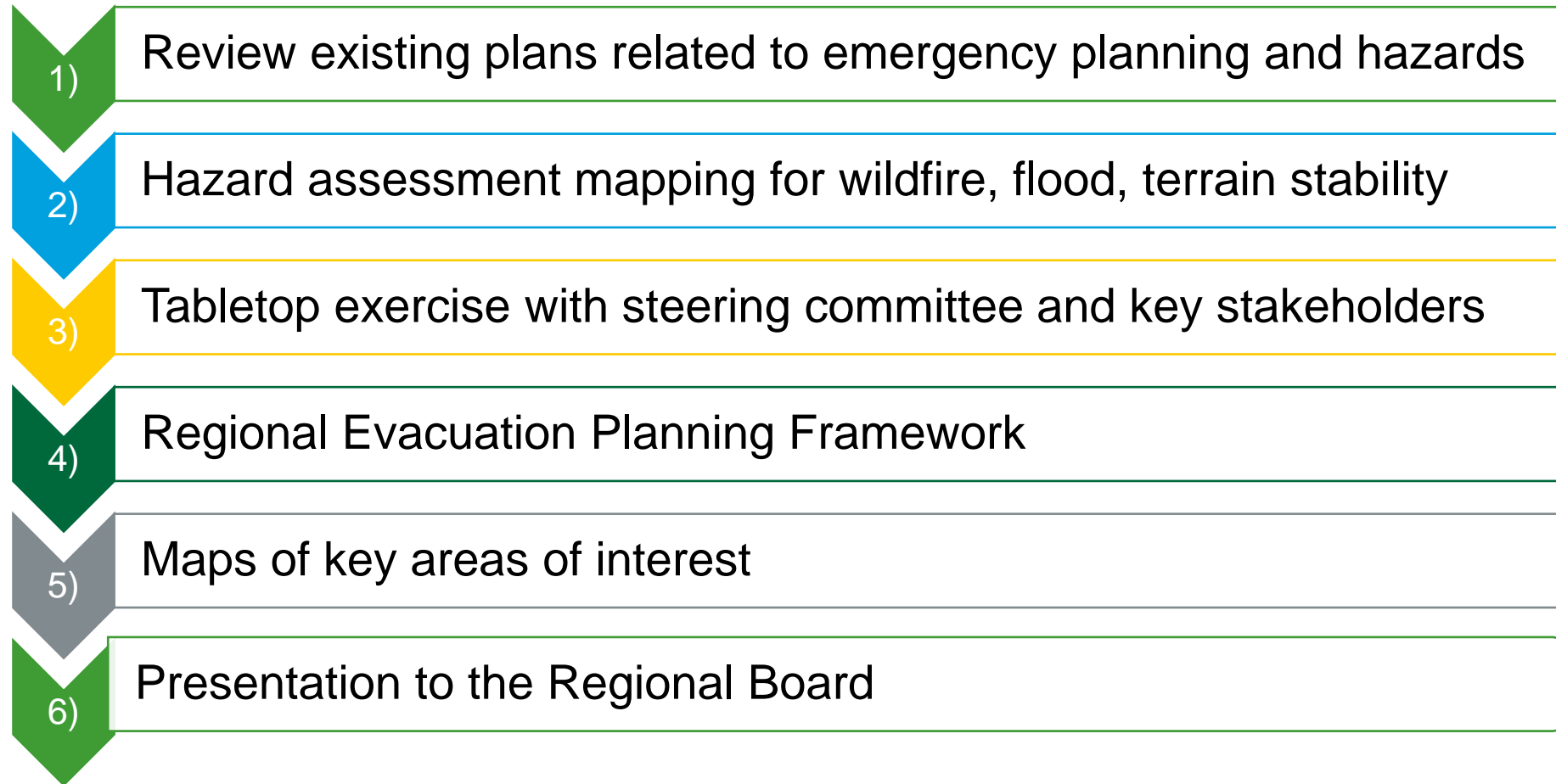
- RDCO and partners have experienced significant hazard events in the past (flood, fire, landslide) requiring evacuations
- Identified the need to develop a Regional Evacuation Planning framework
- Build on emergency management plans and support the EOC

# Regional Evacuation Planning

- Regional Board approved submission to UBCM in 2020
- \$25,000 UBCM grant funding awarded in 2021
- Project initiated in fall 2021



# Phase 1 Project Deliverables



# Regional Board Strategic Priorities

**Sustainable Communities:** We will initiate and support efforts to create a healthy built environment in which all people throughout the region enjoy access to a diverse range of housing options, remain safe in the face of emergencies and experience a high quality of life

Specific actions include:

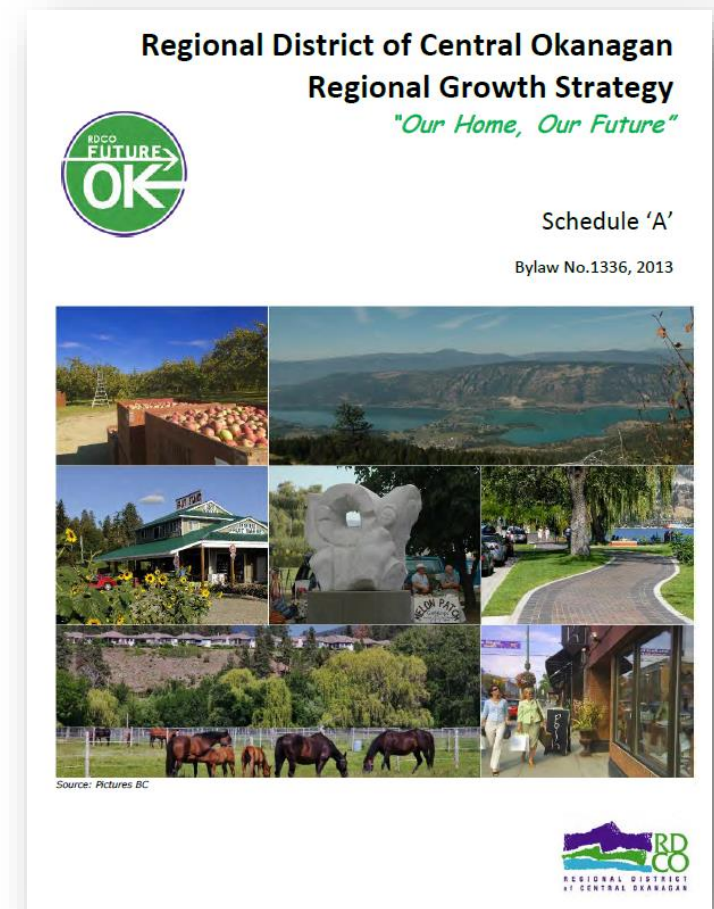
- Planning safe emergency evacuation routes in high-risk areas

Through these actions we will see:

- A regionally supported Emergency Operations Centre with contributions from all member municipalities and Westbank First Nation.

# Regional Growth Strategy Policies

- 3.2.1.11
  - Encourage cooperation and **information sharing** with regional partners on hazard identification and mapping programs to provide better and more information on **hazard management**.
- 3.2.1.12
  - Encourage cooperation and information sharing with regional partners to identify data and information necessary to improve hazard and **resiliency planning**.



# Regional Emergency Plan

- Emergency Plan in place for Central Okanagan Electoral Areas, Kelowna, West Kelowna, Lake Country, Peachland, and Westbank First Nation
  - Coordinated through City of Kelowna Fire Department and Regional Emergency Program Coordinator
- Emergency planning is dynamic, requiring continuous planning efforts rather than a final, rigid solution



# Regional Evacuation Planning Framework



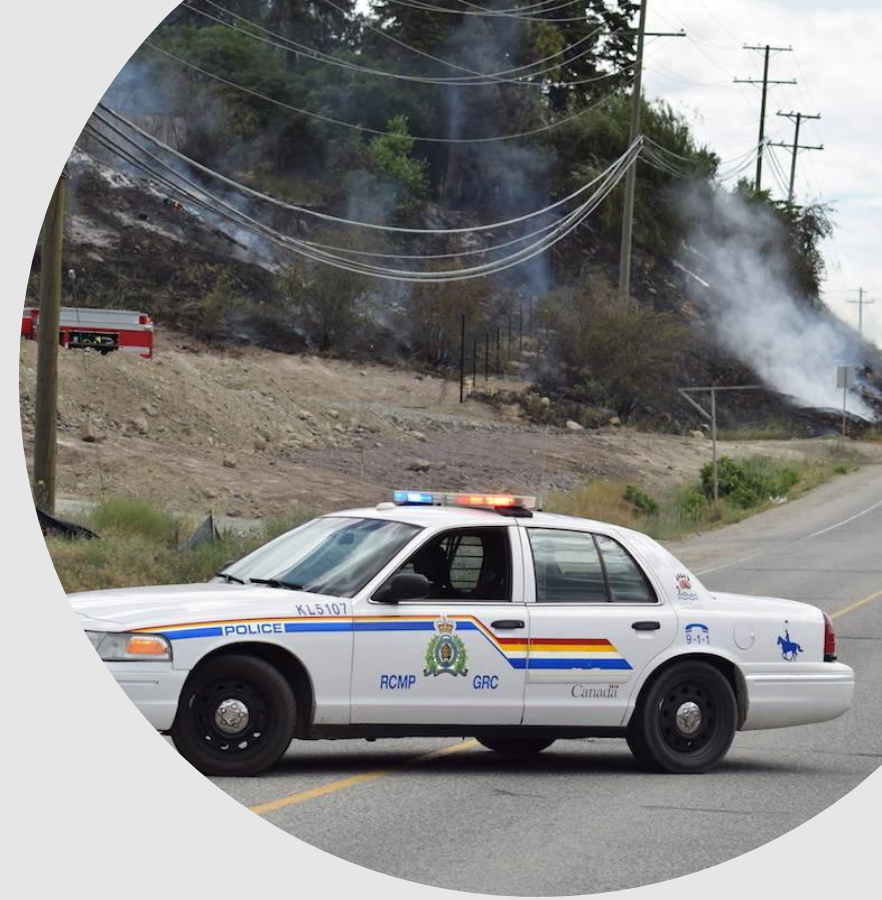
RDCO Regional Board Meeting

April 14, 2022



# PURPOSE

- A consistent approach
- Best-practice to strengthen processes and efficiency
- Identification of high-risk areas
- Inter-agency roles and responsibilities

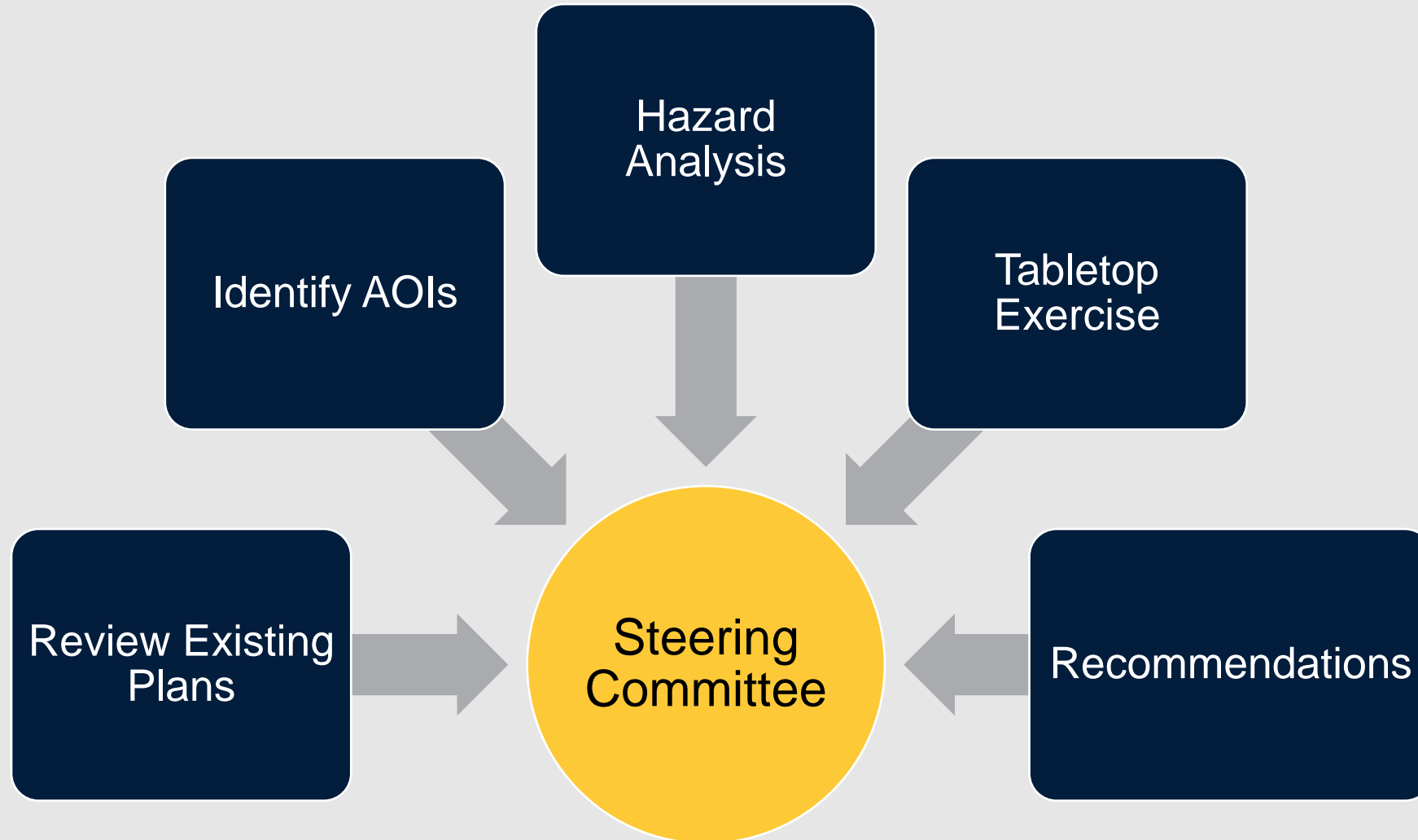




# OBJECTIVES

- Identify high priority areas
- Develop hazard data
- Identify mapping needs
- Foster regional collaboration
- **The protection of life, livelihood and critical infrastructure**

# PROCESS



# STEERING COMMITTEE

- Regional District of Central Okanagan
  - Emergency Operations Centre
  - Joe Rich Fire Department
  - Ellison Fire Department
  - North Westside Fire Department
  - Wilsons Landing Fire Department
- Westbank First Nation
- Ntityix Resources LP
- Okanagan Indian Band
- City of Kelowna
  - Kelowna Fire Department
- City of West Kelowna
  - West Kelowna Fire Department
- District of Peachland
  - Peachland Fire Department
- District of Lake Country
- FLNRORD
- MoTI
- BC Wildfire Service
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police



# AREAS OF INTEREST (AOIs)

- AOI 1: Westside Road (North)

- Trader's Cove
- Lake Okanagan Resort
- La Casa
- Fintry Delta
- Upper Fintry
- Valley of the Sun
- Ewings Landing
- Estamont
- Killiney Beach
- Westshore Estates

- AOI 2: Westside Road (South)

West Kelowna Estates  
(including Bear Creek Road  
and Rose Valley Road)  
Bear Creek Provincial Park

- AOI 3: Trepanier

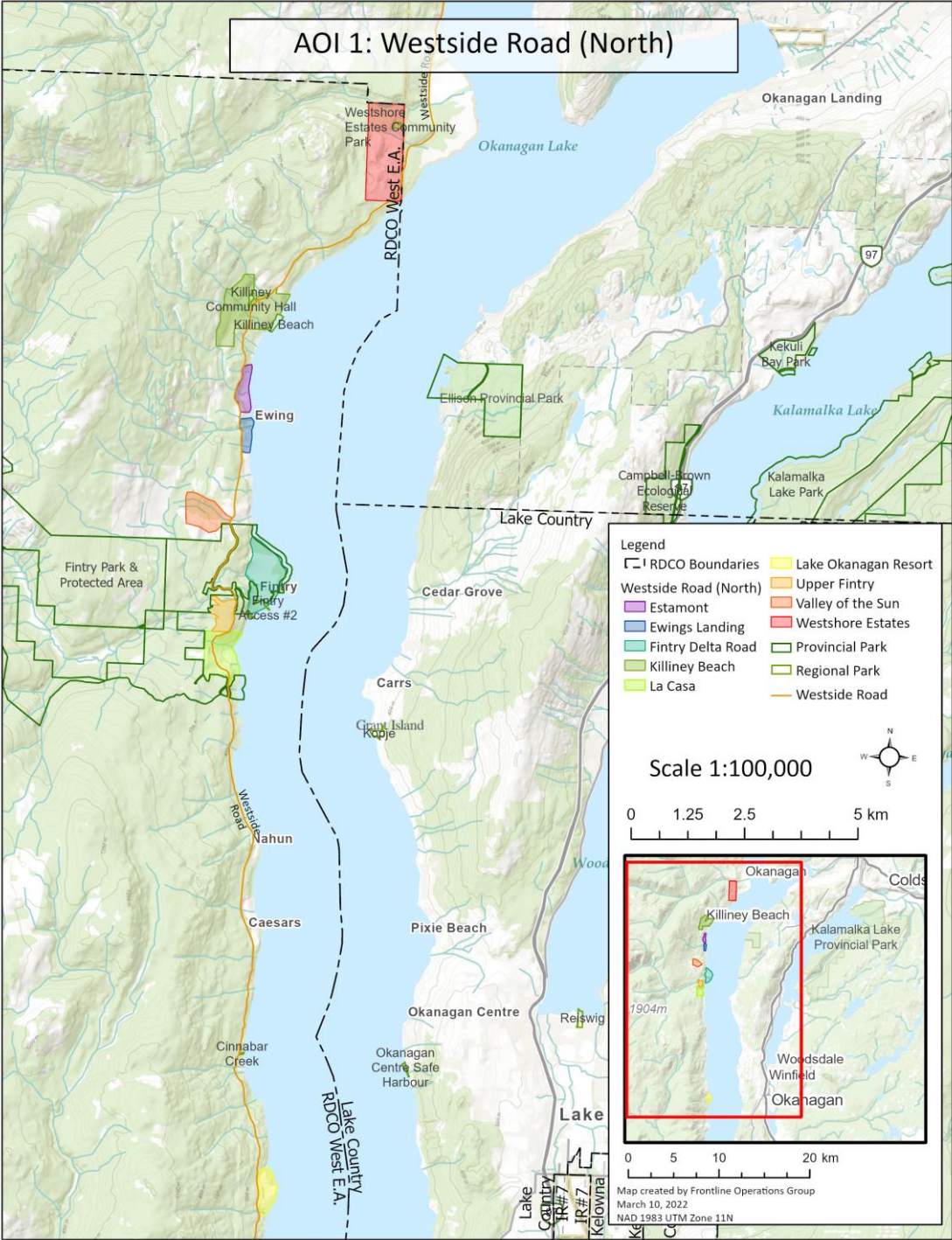
Maxwell Road/Paradise Valley

- AOI 4: Joe Rich

- AOI 5: Ellison

- AOI 6: McCulloch Lake

# AOI 1: Westside Road (North)





# MAPPING

- Hazard analysis completed for Wildfire, Flood and Terrain Stability within the identified AOIs
- Provincial and local data used to identify high risk areas
- The raw data uploaded to the RDCO EOC dashboard
  - Trigger points for evacuation
  - Egress challenges
  - Areas for signage
  - Critical Infrastructure at risk



# TABLETOP EXERCISE

- Local, regional and provincial partners
- Foster relationships and connections
- Shared understanding of roles and responsibilities
- A collaborative approach to managing evacuations



# THEMES



Plans and  
Procedures



Access, Egress  
and Traffic  
Management



Communication



Public  
Information



Resources



Training and  
Exercising

# RECOMMENDATIONS

28

Plans and  
Procedures

Access/Egress

Communication

Public Info

# OUTCOMES

- Improved communication and understanding of roles and responsibilities
- Engagement of Westbank First Nation, Okanagan Indian Band and provincial agencies
- Clear understanding of the next steps for building the efficacy of the Regional Evacuation Route Plan



# NEXT STEPS

Prioritize

Recommendations

Engage

Steering  
Committee for  
Action Planning  
Workshops

Complete

Operational  
Evacuation  
Plans/Community  
Mapping for each  
AOI

Plan

Annual  
evacuation  
exercise with  
regional  
partners

# Summary

- Local hazards and their trajectory with climate change have highlighted the need for new approaches in emergency management
- Supported by Regional Board's Strategic Priorities and RGS
- Opportunity and framework for Central Okanagan jurisdictions to consider mitigating and preparing for risks using consistent strategies
- Supports the Regional Emergency Program and EOC

# Recommendation:

**THAT** the Regional Board receives the Regional Evacuation Planning Framework – Project Update report from the Director of Community Services, dated April 14, 2022, for information.