



# REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN

## GREATER VERNON ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, July 8, 2026

Board Room - 9848 Aberdeen Road

Coldstream, BC

4:00 p.m.

## REGULAR AGENDA

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### A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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### B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

#### 1. Greater Vernon Advisory Committee - July 8, 2026

(Opportunity for Introduction of Late Items)

(Opportunity for Introduction of Late Items - In Camera)

#### **RECOMMENDATION 1**

That the Agenda of the July 8, 2026 regular meeting of the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee be approved as presented.

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### C. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

#### 1. Greater Vernon Advisory Committee - June 3, 2026

#### **RECOMMENDATION 2**

**Page 6 - 9**

That the Minutes of the June 3, 2026 regular meeting of the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee be adopted as circulated.

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#### 2. Greater Vernon Advisory Committee - Special - June 24, 2026

#### **RECOMMENDATION 3**

**Page 10 - 11**

That the Minutes of the June 24, 2026 special meeting of the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee be adopted as circulated.

**D. DELEGATIONS**

**1. Okanagan Science Centre  
Dione Chambers, Executive Director**

- Delegation Request Form
- PowerPoint Presentation

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**2. David Geen and John Byland**

- Delegation Request Form
- PowerPoint Presentation (to be circulated)

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**E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

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**F. NOTICE OF MOTION**

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**G. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Greater Vernon Water - Water Capacity Study  
Kerr Wood Leidal Associates**

- Staff report dated July 8, 2026
- PowerPoint Presentation

**RECOMMENDATION 4**

**Page 32 - 47**

That the report dated July 8, 2026 from the General Manager, Infrastructure titled “Greater Vernon Water – Water Capacity Study” be received; and further,

That the presentation dated July 8, 2026 from Kerr Wood Leidal Associates titled “Water Capacity Study” be received.

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2. **Greater Vernon Water - Development Variance Permit Application  
ABIDE DEVELOPERS LTD. [File No. 26-0508-VER-DVP]  
3211 22 Street, City of Vernon**

- Staff report dated July 8, 2026
1. Introduction of Development Variance Permit (DVP)
  2. Opportunity for persons affected by DVP to be heard beginning with applicant
  3. Closing Statement by Chair

**RECOMMENDATION 5**

**Page 48 - 51**

That it be recommended to the Board of Directors, upon consideration of input from adjacent landowners, a Development Variance Permit **be issued** for the property legally described as Lot A, Section 35, Township 9, ODYD, Plan EPP147473, and located at 3211 22 Street, Vernon, BC to vary section 112.5 (Full Frontage) of Greater Vernon Water Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw No. 2650, 2013, waiving the requirement to construct off-site waterworks on the dead-end laneway located between 22 Street and 20A Street, subject to the condition that if a future subdivision or development of 3211 22 Street requires construction of the water main on the laneway, that it will be at the developer's cost.

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3. **Greater Vernon Water - Development Variance Permit Application  
DISTERHOFT, R. & S. [File No. 26-0330-C-DVP]  
5195 Hartnell Road, Electoral area "C"**

- Staff report dated July 8, 2026
1. Introduction of Development Variance Permit (DVP)
  2. Opportunity for persons affected by DVP to be heard beginning with applicant
  3. Closing Statement by Chair

**RECOMMENDATION 6**

**Page 52 - 58**

That it be recommended to the Board of Directors, upon consideration of input from adjacent landowners, a Development Variance Permit **be issued** for the property legally described as Lot A, Plan, EPP31195, Section 6, Township 5, ODYD, except Plan KAP89813 & EPP31195 and located at 5195 Hartnell Road, Electoral Area "C" to vary sections 112.5 (Full Frontage), B11.2 (Fire Hydrants), B12.6 (Fire Flow) and B12.7 (Water Storage) of Greater Vernon Water Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw No. 2650, 2013, which require the Applicant to construct off-site waterworks on Hartnell Road including the full frontage of the property, upgrades to South BX #2 Pump Station and the construction of a reservoir to provide fire storage and fire flows to the area with the condition that a covenant be placed on title advising that the property does not have fire flow or storage meeting Bylaw No. 2650 requirements and further development be restricted until those requirements are met.

4. **July 2026 Greater Vernon Water Update**
- Staff memorandum dated July 8, 2026

**FOR INFORMATION**

**Page 59 - 63**

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5. **Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces - 2026 Public Participation Survey**
- Staff report dated July 8, 2026

**RECOMMENDATION 7**

**Page 64 - 96**

That the report dated July 8, 2026, and titled "Greater Vernon Trails & Natural Spaces – 2026 Public Satisfaction Survey", be received.

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6. **2026 Budget Follow-Up - Grant Funding for Vernon Public Art Gallery and Greater Vernon Museum and Archives**
- Staff report dated July 8, 2026
  - PowerPoint Presentations

**RECOMMENDATION 8**

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That the report dated July 8, 2026 and titled '2026 Budget Follow-Up - Grant Funding for Vernon Public Art Gallery and Greater Vernon Museum and Archives', be received.

**RECOMMENDATION 9**

That the presentation by the Greater Vernon Museum and Archives titled, 'Current State and 2028 Readiness Update', dated July 8, 2026, be received.

**RECOMMENDATION 10**

That the presentation by the Vernon Public Art Gallery Society titled, '2026 Annual Presentation and Transition Plan Update', dated July 8, 2026, be received.

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7. **Greater Vernon Cultural Centre Update**
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**H. REPORTS**

1. **Chair's Report**
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2. **Chief Administrative Officer's Report**
- 

**I. MEMBER INQUIRIES**

**J. RESOLUTION TO GO IN CAMERA**

**RECOMMENDATION 11**

That the regular meeting of the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee convene In Camera to deal with matters deemed closed to the public in accordance with the following paragraphs of Section 90(1) of the Community Charter:

(k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public.

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**K. ADJOURNMENT**



## REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN

### GREATER VERNON ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, June 3, 2026

Board Room - 9848 Aberdeen Road  
Coldstream, BC

## REGULAR MINUTES

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<b>Members:</b>	Director B. Fleming	Electoral Area "B"	Chair
	Alternate Director J. Garlick	District of Coldstream	Vice Chair
	*Director V. Cumming	City of Vernon	
	Director B. Guy	City of Vernon	
	Alternate Director T. Durning	City of Vernon	
	Director R. Hoyte	District of Coldstream	
	Director A. Shatzko	Electoral Area "C"	
	*T. Ouchi	Agricultural Representative	
<b>Staff:</b>	S. Banmen	General Manager, Finance	
	Z. Marcolin	General Manager, Utilities	
	T. Brett	Manager, Water Quality	
	*A. Hunsberger	Manager, Rural Services	
	A. Affleck	Manager, Parks and Recreation	
	T. Nelson	Manager, Culture and Community Services	
	A. Summerfelt	Water Efficiency Coordinator	
	C. Howkins	Clerk, Corporate Services	
<b>Also Present:</b>	Director S. Fowler	City of Armstrong (Board Chair) (electronic)	
	Councillor P. Cochrane	District of Coldstream (electronic)	
	Councillor S. Runyan	District of Coldstream	
	Media and Public		

\*Denotes presence for part of the meeting

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### CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Greater Vernon Advisory Committee - June 3, 2026**

Moved and seconded

That the Agenda of the June 3, 2026 regular meeting of the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee be approved with the following addition:

- Item D.5 - In Camera Section 90(1)(k)

**CARRIED**

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**Greater Vernon Advisory Committee - May 6, 2026**

Moved and seconded

That the Minutes of the May 6, 2026 regular meeting of the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee be adopted as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Greater Vernon Water - Water Supply and Distribution Protocol with Electoral Area "D"**

Moved and seconded

That it be recommended to the Board of Directors, staff be authorized to implement the Greater Vernon Water: Water Supply and Distribution Protocol with Electoral Area "D".

**CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Coldstream Creek Watershed Water Quality Impact Assessment  
Bryer Manwell, Hydrogeological Engineer, CaulWell Engineering Geoscience Ltd.**

Moved and seconded

That the report dated June 3, 2026 from the General Manager, Utilities titled "Coldstream Creek Watershed Water Quality Impact Assessment" be received; and further,

That the presentation dated June 3, 2026 from CaulWell Engineering Geoscience Ltd. titled "Land Use & Water Quality Impact Assessment of the Coldstream Creek Watershed" be received.

**CARRIED**

**June 2026 Greater Vernon Water Supply Update**

Moved and seconded

That it be recommended to the Board of Directors, the Greater Vernon Water Use and Regulation Bylaw No. 2545, 2014 be amended to strengthen the rules within Stage 3 Restriction level to include:

- Eliminating aesthetic lawn and garden watering for all domestic
- Eliminating pool filling unless permitted in writing by the General Manager
- Topping up pools - will quantify how much is acceptable
- Review restrictions with parks and schools - developing water use plan
- Agriculture - reduction of allocation will be calculated based on storage levels

**CARRIED**

**Greater Vernon Water - Multi-Family Fire Storage Deficiencies**

Moved and seconded

That the report and presentation dated June 3, 2026 from the General Manager, Utilities titled "Greater Vernon Water: Fire Storage Availability and Deficiencies for Multi-Family Development" be received; and further,

That it be recommended to the Board of Directors, the recommendations and development direction outlined within the Technical Memo titled "Greater Vernon Water: Fire Storage Analysis to Identify Areas that Support Multi-Family Development" dated April 8, 2026 from the Utilities Department (attached to the June 3, 2026 staff report as Attachment "A") be endorsed.

**CARRIED**

Moved and seconded

That it be recommended to the Board of Directors, staff be directed to provide a report on triggers and exemptions as it relates to fire flow standards for new development applications within the Greater Vernon Water Utility at the Development Variance Permit stage.

**CARRIED**

**Greater Vernon Cultural Centre Update**

The Manager, Cultural and Community Services provided Greater Vernon Cultural Centre Update No. 8 with recent progress photos of the facility.

**RESOLUTION TO GO IN CAMERA**

Moved and seconded

That the regular meeting of the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee convene In Camera to deal with matters deemed closed to the public in accordance with the following paragraphs of Section 90(1) of the Community Charter:

- (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;
- (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality; and,
- (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public.

**CARRIED**

Greater Vernon Advisory Committee - Regular

June 3, 2026

The regular meeting of the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee adjourned to meet In Camera at 6:19 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee reconvened at 7:15 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

**CERTIFIED CORRECT**

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Chair  
Bob Fleming

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General Manager  
Stephen Banmen

Unadopted



## REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN

### GREATER VERNON ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Board Room - 9848 Aberdeen Road  
Coldstream, BC

## SPECIAL MINUTES

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<b>Members:</b>	Director B. Fleming *Alternate Director J. Garlick *Director V. Cumming Alternate Director B. Guy Alternate Director K. Fehr Councillor D. Dirk Director A. Shatzko	Electoral Area "B" District of Coldstream City of Vernon City of Vernon City of Vernon District of Coldstream (electronic) Electoral Area "C" (electronic)	Chair Vice Chair
<b>Staff:</b>	D. Sewell S. Banmen T. Nelson J. Hammer C. Howkins	Chief Administrative Officer General Manager, Finance Manager, Culture and Community Services Project Coordinator, Parks and Facilities Clerk, Corporate Services	
<b>Also Present:</b>	Director S. Fowler	City of Armstrong (Board Chair) (electronic)	

\*Denotes presence for part of the meeting

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### CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

#### Greater Vernon Advisory Committee - Special - June 24, 2026

Moved and seconded

That the Agenda of the June 24, 2026 special meeting of the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee be approved with the following addition:

- Item C.2 - In Camera Section 90(1)(c)

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION TO GO IN CAMERA**

Moved and seconded

That the special meeting of the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee convene In Camera to deal with matters deemed closed to the public in accordance with the following paragraphs of Section 90(1) of the Community Charter:

(c) labour relations or other employee relations;

(k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public.

**CARRIED**

The special meeting of the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee adjourned to meet In Camera at 4:04 p.m.

The special meeting of the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee reconvened at 6:21 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

**CERTIFIED CORRECT**

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Chair  
Bob Fleming

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Chief Administrative Officer  
David Sewell



## REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN

### REQUEST TO APPEAR AS A DELEGATION

<b>Name of Person or Group Making Presentation:</b> Okanagan Science Centre	
(Please Print)	
<b>Contact Information:</b>	
First Name: Dionne	Last Name: Chambers
Street Address: 2704 BC-Highway 6	
City: Vernon	
Province: BC	Postal Code: V1T 5G5
Phone: (250) 545-3644	
Email: d.chambers@okscience.ca	
In order that we may process your request, please indicate which department and / or staff member you have been in contact with: Board Chair Shirley Fowler suggested an update to the RDNO board is long overdue.	
<b>Subject of Presentation:</b>	
To update the Board on the current state of affairs for the Okanagan Science Centre following a recent fire and to provide the RDNO board with an update on operational growth, demand, and impact on those living within the Regional District of North Okanagan. We will also address how we plan to address the growing demand for our youth focused (STEAM) programs.	
<b>Purpose of Presentation:</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Only	<input type="checkbox"/> Request a Letter of Support
<input type="checkbox"/> Request Funding	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (provide details)
<b>Are there any deadlines around your request?</b> <input type="radio"/> yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <b>Deadline Date:</b>	
<b>Will you be providing supporting documentation?</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> yes <input type="radio"/> no	
If <b>yes</b> : <input type="checkbox"/> provide handouts at meeting	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> included in agenda package (submit one copy no later than 10 day prior to your requested appearance)	
<b>Technical Requirements:</b>	
<b>Will you be using a PowerPoint presentation?</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> yes <input type="radio"/> no	
If <b>yes</b> , you are required to submit your presentation prior to the meeting date to allow sufficient time to transfer the presentation onto the Boardroom computer and to ensure that your software requirement is compatible with the Regional District's software system. Please note that <u>delegations are limited to 10 minutes in length</u> unless otherwise previously arranged or unanimous vote of the Board or Committee members present.	
<small>Following receipt of your request, your information will be reviewed by the Corporate Officer and you will be notified as to how your request will proceed. Be advised that submission of your request does not constitute approval to appear. If you receive confirmation that your request has been approved or denied, you will be advised as such. If you receive approval to appear as a delegation, you will be provided with the date, time and location of the meeting.</small>	
<b>INTERNAL USE ONLY</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reviewed and Approved to Appear as a Delegation	
<b>Type of Meeting:</b> Greater Vernon Advisory Committee	<b>Date:</b> July 8, 2026
Please note that all information provided on the request form will be included in a public meeting agenda and as such considered a matter of public information.	

# OKANAGAN SCIENCE CENTRE



Celebrating 40+ years of inspiring youth, families, and communities.

# OKANAGAN SCIENCE CENTRE

## Building our Future Together

PRESENTATION TO  
GREATER VERNON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

8 July 2026

**PRESENTED BY**  
Dione Chambers  
Executive Director

# OVERVIEW

1. OUR HISTORY AND IMPACT

2. OUR RESILIENCE TESTED

3. OUR AMBITIOUS PLANS



# OUR HISTORY AND IMPACT



OKANAGAN  
SCIENCE  
CENTRE

# OUR HISTORY



okanaganscience  
The Okanagan Science Centre



Founded in 1984 by  
Bill Sim.

First located in the  
former Tolko  
building.

OSC moved to  
current location in  
1997.

# OUR DEEP IMPACT

**40,000+**  
Annual Visitors

**956**  
Families supported by  
subsidized memberships  
& camps

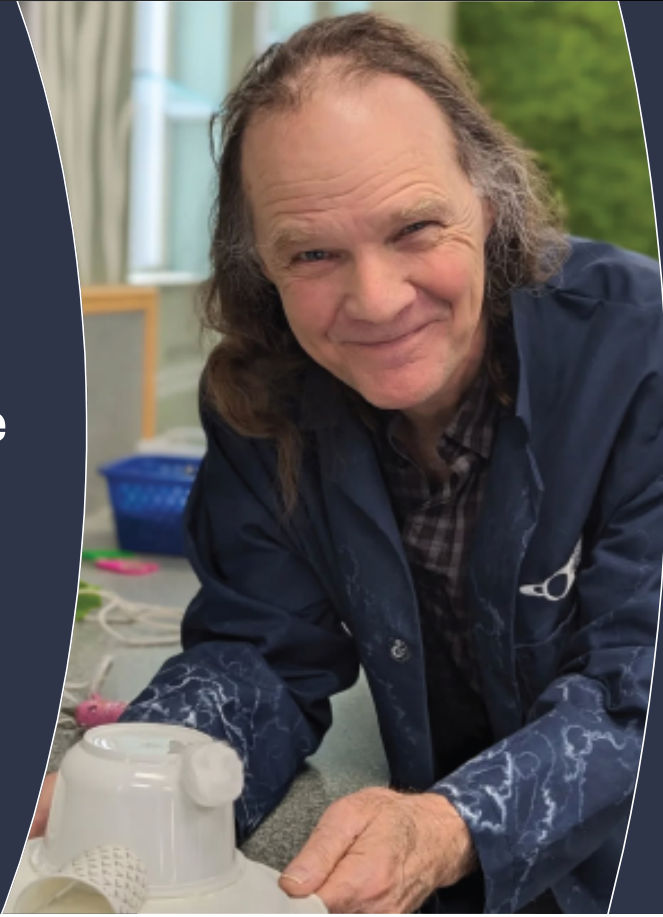
**2,200**  
Members

**43**  
Communities  
Served  
Including  
**8**  
Indigenous  
Communities

**5,727**  
Students Engaged from 45  
schools

**780**  
Homeschool Classes  
Delivered

**150**  
Post Secondary Teacher  
Training Sessions



## We Inspire & Employ

- Weekly Little Scientist for Toddlers
- Volunteer program for high school students
- Planetarium shows weekly (only fixed-roof planetarium in BC)
- Adult programming (Meet & Geek)
- 400+ sleepovers (Guides/ Scouts)
- 15 Staff (4 FT, 6 PT, 6 Summer, 16 Volunteers)

# HOW WE ARE FUNDED

- > Admission and memberships
- > Programming
- > Event space rental
- > RDNO Youth Operating Grant
- > Other Grants (mostly program-related)
- > Donations (we are a registered charity)





# OUR RESILIENCE TESTED

OKANAGAN  
SCIENCE  
CENTRE

# SHORT-LIVED FIRE

## Major Smoke Damage

Vernon News

WARMING FIRE TO BLAME  
**Vernon Fire Rescue, RCMP responded to a fire at Okanagan Science Centre**







OKANAGAN  
SCIENCE  
CENTRE

# OUR AMBITIOUS PLANS

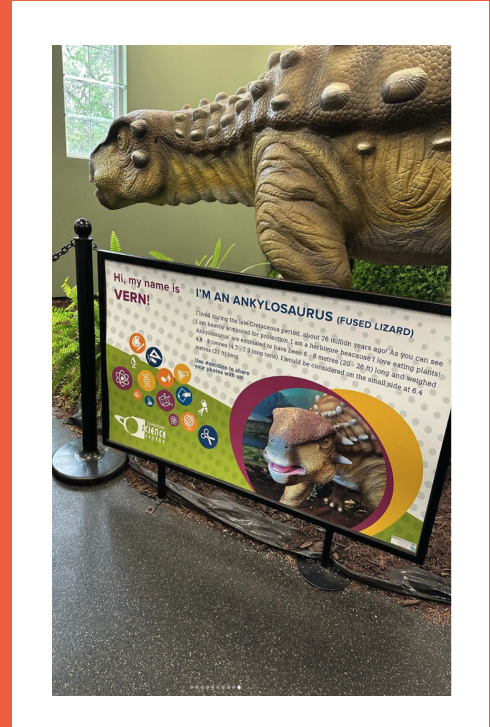
# BUILDING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER



- > A new centre with inspiration and accessibility at its core.
- > Fully inclusive & accessible for all visitors.
- > A more functional and inclusive space.
- > A science and discovery hub.
- > A major tourism destination in our backyard.

# WHY MOVE

- > Demand is exceeding capacity.
- > There's a recognized need for a larger facility that would be fully accessible.
- > 2022 market assessment showed there's a large audience seeking what we provide.



# COMMUNITY CONNECTED

With a new science centre, we can:

- > Grow our programs and impact.
- > Inspire more on the value of STEAM-focused education.
- > Engage many more on the value of our heritage, culture, and geography.

We have seen the need but are at maximum capacity.



# BUILDING A LEGACY

Aside from a new facility, we are also planning ways we can expand our reach and impact - across the Okanagan and beyond.

More to come on our plans and efforts in 2027



A promotional poster for the 'Pterosauria: Evolution of Flight' exhibit. The background features a large, detailed illustration of a pterosaur in flight against a sunset sky with other pterosaurs in the distance. The text is overlaid on the image.

OKANAGAN  
SCIENCE  
CENTRE

# PTEROSAURIA

## Evolution of Flight

OKSCIENCE.CA

NEW TRAVELLING EXHIBIT  
JUNE 9 - AUGUST 31, 2026

**Rooted** in the Okanagan.  
**Powered** by science.  
**Inspiring** the future.

*Thanks*

**Questions?**

**OKANAGAN  
SCIENCE  
CENTRE**



## REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN

### REQUEST TO APPEAR AS A DELEGATION

Name of Person or Group Making Presentation: DAVID GEEN AND JOHN BYLAND

(Please Print)

**Contact Information:**

First Name: DAVID Last Name: GEEN

Street Address: 16041 CARR'S LANDWG RD.

City: LAKE COUNTRY

Province: B.C. Postal Code: V4V 1A9

Phone: 250 878-3025

Email: david@jealousfruits.com

In order that we may process your request, please indicate which department and / or staff member you have been in contact with: CHAIR OF GVAC, MR. BOB FLEMING, & MR. TOM OUCHI

**Subject of Presentation:**

PLAN TO DRILL 3 WELLS INTO COLDSTREAM AQUIFER, AND APPLY FOR A TEMPORARY USE PERMIT UNDER SECTION 10 OF THE WATER SUSTAINABILITY ACT. SUCH WELLS TO BE IN CONFINED AQUIFERS AND BE DRAWN UPON ONLY IN DROUGHT YEARS.

**Purpose of Presentation:**

- Information Only       Request a Letter of Support  
 Request Funding       Other (provide details)

PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE BENEFITS TO THE APPLICANTS AND EQUALLY, BENEFITS TO THE BROADER COMMUNITY. WELL USE WOULD ONLY BE PERMITTED IN YEARS WHERE GVW CURTAILS SUPPLY, AND IN THOSE YEARS GEEN AND BYLAND WOULD FOREGO THEIR

Are there any deadlines around your request?  yes  no **Deadline Date:** JULY 10 ALLOTMENT

Will you be providing supporting documentation?  yes  no

If yes:  provide handouts at meeting INTENT IS TO APPEAR BEFORE GVAC JULY 8<sup>th</sup>/2026  
 included in agenda package (submit one copy no later than 10 day prior to your requested appearance)

**Technical Requirements:**

Will you be using a PowerPoint presentation?  yes  no

If **yes**, you are required to submit your presentation prior to the meeting date to allow sufficient time to transfer the presentation onto the Boardroom computer and to ensure that your software requirement is compatible with the Regional District's software system. Please note that delegations are limited to 10 minutes in length unless otherwise previously arranged or unanimous vote of the Board or Committee members present.

Following receipt of your request, your information will be reviewed by the Corporate Officer and you will be notified as to how your request will proceed. Be advised that submission of your request does not constitute approval to appear. If you receive confirmation that your request has been approved or denied, you will be advised as such. If you receive approval to appear as a delegation, you will be provided with the date, time and location of the meeting.

**INTERNAL USE ONLY**

Reviewed and Approved to Appear as a Delegation

Type of Meeting: Greater Vernon Advisory Committee

Date: July 8, 2026

Please note that all information provided on the request form will be included in a public meeting agenda and as such considered a matter of public information.



# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Greater Vernon Advisory Committee

**File No:** 5730.02.04.06.12

**FROM:** Utilities Department

**Date:** July 8, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Greater Vernon Water – Water Capacity Study

## RECOMMENDATION:

That the report dated July 8, 2026 from the General Manager, Infrastructure titled “Greater Vernon Water – Water Capacity Study” be received; and further,

That the presentation dated July 8, 2026 from Kerr Wood Leidal Associates titled “Water Capacity Study” be received.

## BACKGROUND:

At the July 16, 2025 Board of Directors regular meeting, the following motion was carried:

*“That staff be directed to undertake a Request for Proposal (RFP) process for a Water Capacity Study.”*

At the May 21, 2025 Board of Directors regular meeting, the following motion was carried:

*“That a detailed water capacity study for Greater Vernon Water be included in the 2026 budget that assesses the concerns identified in the staff Technical Memorandum dated May 7, 2025 re: Greater Vernon Water - Review of Water Licences and Long-Term Water Capacity Concerns and the impacts to future development.”*

At the February 19, 2025 Board of Directors regular meeting, the following motion was carried:

*“That staff be directed to bring back a report summarizing existing water licences along with risks to the water system.”*

## SUMMARY:

The Water Capacity Study work was awarded to Kerr Wood Leidal Associates (KWL).

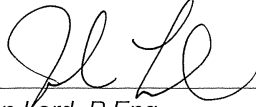
Staff met with KWL on June 17, 2026, reviewed the draft Water Capacity Study Report and provided comments. The final report will be provided in July and will not be substantially different than the draft report.

Report to: GVAC  
From: Utilities Department  
Re: Greater Vernon Water – Water Capacity Study

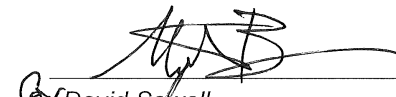
File No.: 5730.02.04.06.12  
Date: July 8, 2026  
Page 2 of 2

Submitted by:

Approved for Inclusion:



John Ford, P.Eng.  
General Manager, Infrastructure



David Sewell  
Chief Administrative Officer



# RDNO Water Capacity Study

July 8, 2026



**Water is one of the most valuable substances on earth**



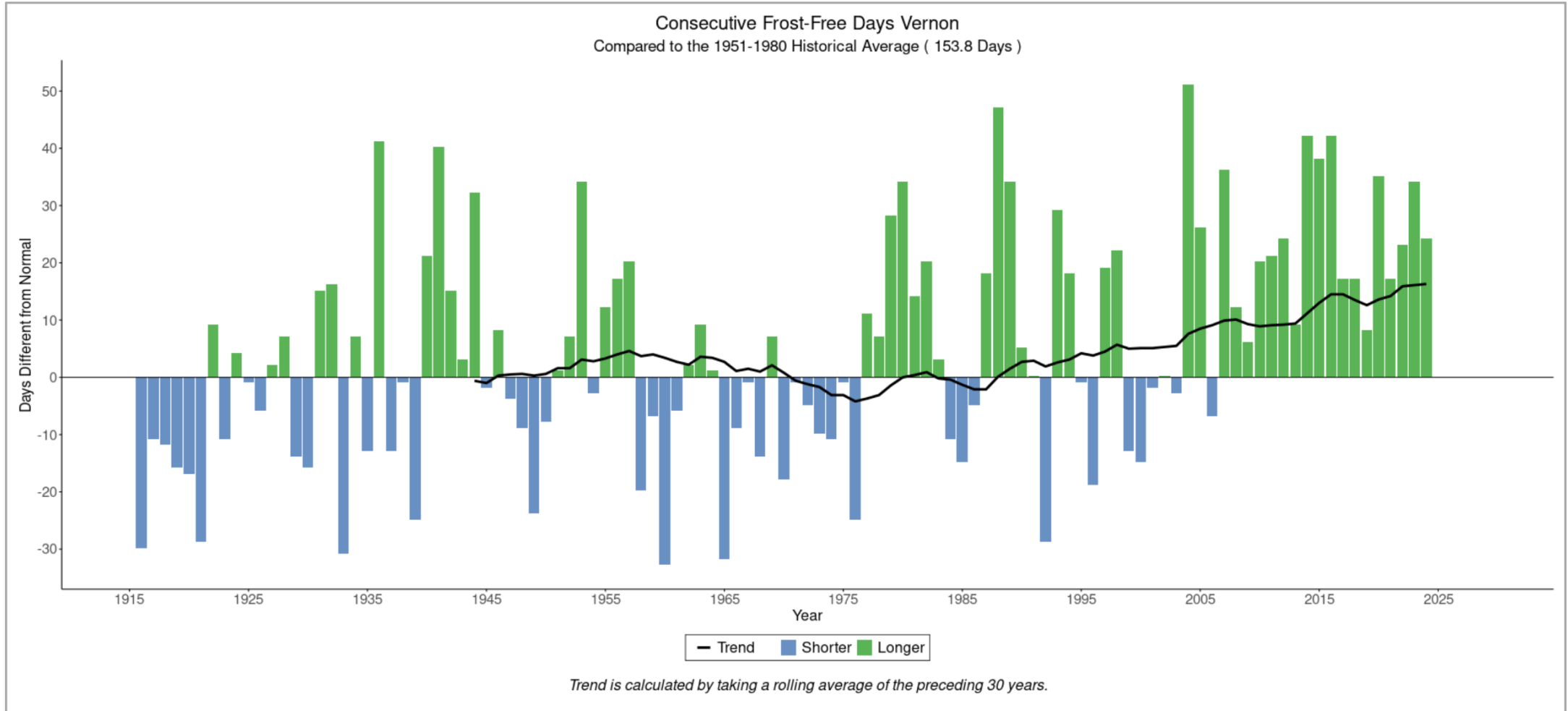
# Background

- RDNO currently operates two main water sources (Kal Lake and Duteau Creek) and several wells
- Growth and climate change are threatening the reliability of the current water supply
- Escalation of water restrictions will be come more frequent and severe over time

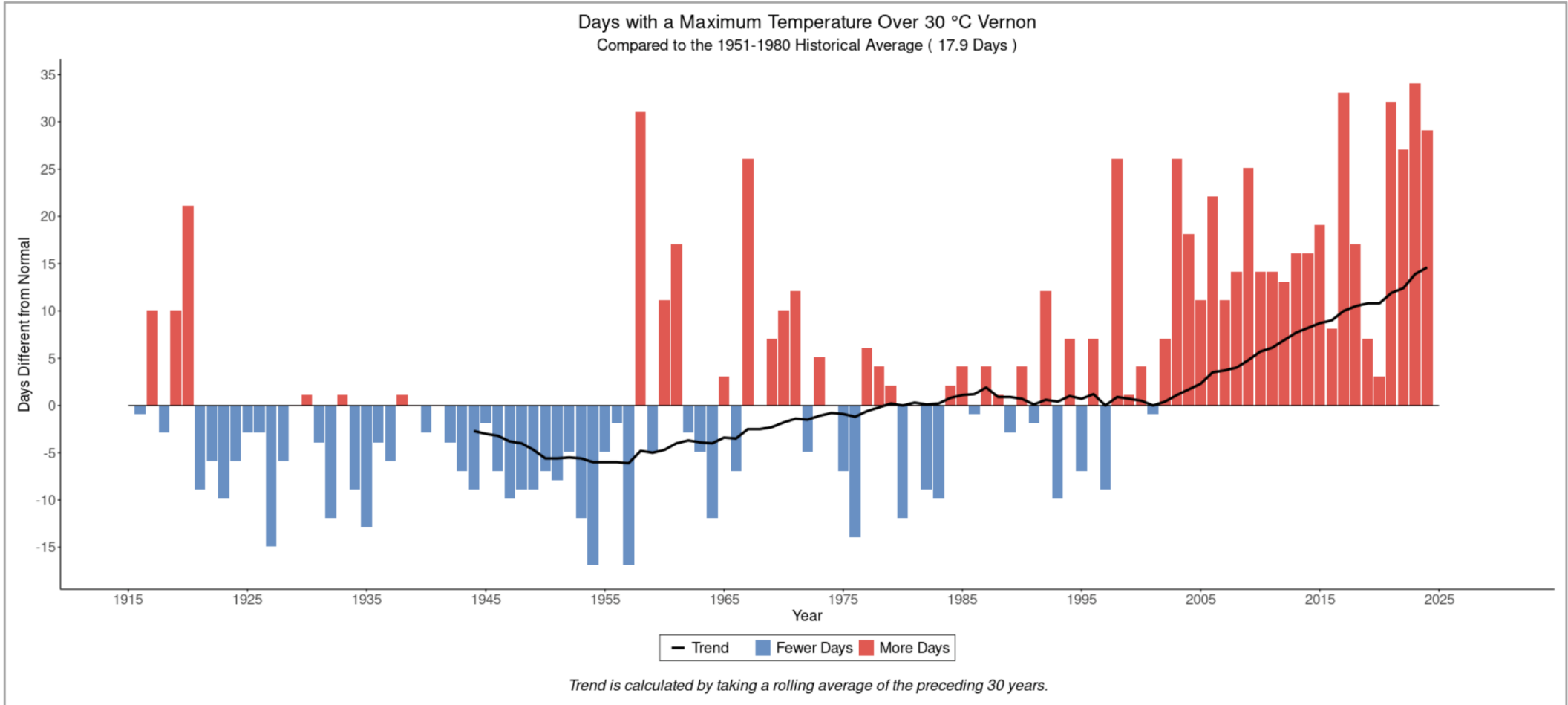


# Water Capacity Study - Scope

- January 2026 RDNO engaged KWL to:
  - Review previous water reports and records
  - Project future water needs for urban and agricultural uses
  - Comment on optimization of the various water supplies RDNO operates
  - Align asset maintenance and renewal planning with water supply planning



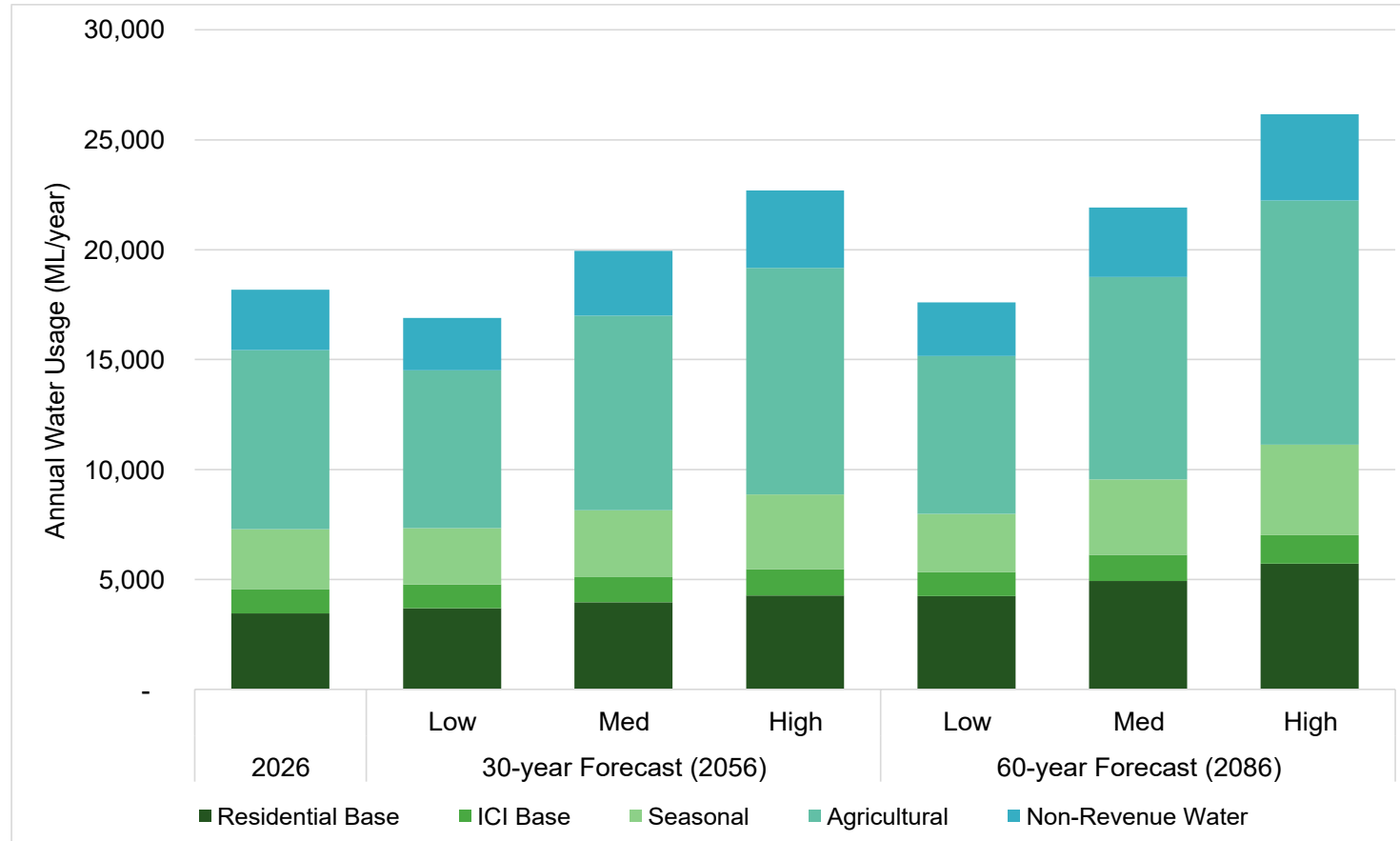
Consecutive Frost Free Days Vernon



Days with Maximum Temperature over 30°C Vernon



# Demand Projections





# Potential Future Water Sources

Source	Current Supply (ML)	Potential Additional Supply (ML)	Total Supply (ML)
Aberdeen Reservoir	18,900	14,500	33,400
Goose Lake	2,400	2,000	4,400
MacKay Reservoir	0	4,000	4,000
Lower Duteau Creek	0	10,000	10,000
Okanagan Lake	0	9,600	9,600
Groundwater	7,900		7,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,200</b>	<b>40,100</b>	<b>69,300</b>



# Climate Change

Annual Flow Condition	Future Demand Scenario – Annual Supply Deficit (ML)			
	Best Demand Forecast		High Demand Forecast	
	RCP 4.5 Climate Projection		RCP 8.5 Climate Projection	
	Max Annual Deficit	Deficit in Excess of Existing Storage	Max Annual Deficit	Deficit in Excess of Existing Storage
<b>2050s</b>				
1:10 Year Drought	12,000	0	14,500	240
1:20 Year Drought	15,300	1,040	18,500	4,240
1:50 Year Drought	17,000	2,740	20,400	6,140
<b>2080s</b>				
1:10 Year Drought	13,500	0	19,500	5,240
1:20 Year Drought	17,500	3,240	23,400	9,140
1:50 Year Drought	19,300	5,040	25,700	11,440
<b>Notes:</b> 1. Values rounded to nearest 100 ML.				



# Summary

- The water supply will fall short of 'business as usual' demands more often in the future
- Shortfalls will increase in frequency and magnitude
- Currently unused agricultural allocations cannot be supplied during drought cycle
- New water sources and demand management for urban and agriculture uses should be assessed



# Recommended Actions

## Water Conservation Actions

- Investigate non-revenue water during summer
- Review metering infrastructure age and condition
- Consider a follow up study on additional future agricultural water use scenarios
- Consider minor amendments to residential water rates including fixed charges



# Recommended Actions

## Water Supply Actions

- Confirm acceptable target for source water supply
- Review Gold-Paradise Diversion capacity and timing to determine how much supply there may be in the 2050s
- Perform a multi-year analysis to determine if multi-year storage is possible pertaining to raising Aberdeen dam
- Carry out evaluations of water supply yield for supplemental sources



# Recommended Actions

## Groundwater Supply Actions

- Develop a program for test well drilling in high potential areas
- Monitor climate change and carefully track water levels in all wells



Thank You!

Mark Forsyth P.Eng  
mforsyth@kwl.ca

Colwyn Sunderland PL.Eng  
Craig Sutherland P.Eng  
Jacqueline Smith P.Eng  
Brandon Johnson P.Eng



# STAFF REPORT

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<b>TO:</b>	Greater Vernon Advisory Committee	<b>File No:</b>	26-0508-VER-DVP
<b>FROM:</b>	Utilities Department	<b>Date:</b>	July 8, 2026
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Greater Vernon Water Development Variance Permit Application – 3211 22 St, Vernon, BC		

---

**APPLICANT:** ABIDE Developers Ltd., referred to herein as the “Applicant”;

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** Lot A, Section 35, Township 9, ODYD, Plan EPP147473, referred to herein as “Subject Property”;

**P.I.D#** 032-611-200

**CIVIC ADDRESS:** 3211 22 Street, Vernon, BC

**PROPERTY SIZE:** 0.69 Acres

**SERVICING:** Greater Vernon Water

**ZONING:** MUS – Multi-Unit: Small Scale

**PROPOSAL:** Development

**PROPOSED VARIANCE(S):** Request to vary section 112.5 of *Greater Vernon Water (GVW) Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw No. 2650, 2013*, as amended, with respect to construction of off-site water works.

**RECOMMENDATION 1:**

That it be recommended to the Board of Directors, upon consideration of input from adjacent landowners, a Development Variance Permit **be issued** for the property legally described as Lot A, Section 35, Township 9, ODYD, Plan EPP147473, and located at 3211 22 St, Vernon, BC to vary section 112.5 (Full Frontage) of Greater Vernon Water Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw No. 2650, 2013, waiving the requirement to construct off-site waterworks on the dead-end laneway located between 22 St and 20A St, subject to the condition that if a future subdivision or development of 3211 22 St requires construction of the water main on the laneway, that it will be at the developer’s cost.

**SUMMARY:**

Greater Vernon Water (GVW) received an application for a Development Variance Permit (DVP) related to the Subject Property located at 3211 22 St, Vernon, BC, legally described as Lot A, Section 35, Township 9, ODYD, Plan EPP147473. The Applicant has applied for a DVP to vary *Greater Vernon Water Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw No. 2650, 2013* (BL 2650) by varying section 112.5 “Full Frontage”, with respect to construction of off-site water works.

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From: Utilities Department  
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The request is to waive the requirement to construct a water main along the road frontage of the Subject Property on the laneway between 22 St and 20A St as outlined in Attachment "A". Staff support the issuance of the DVP as requested as all surrounding properties fronting the laneway are currently serviced from pipe mains on adjacent roads and hence a pipe in the laneway is not required to facilitate future development.

If the property were to subdivide in the future creating a lot facing the laneway, they would be required to service the property from the laneway at that time.

**APPLICANT PROPOSAL:**

The Applicant has applied on behalf of the property owner who is proposing to construct a multi-family development on the Subject Property.

The Applicant is requesting that a variance to BL 2650 be issued to waive the requirement to construct the required off-site waterworks.

**DISCUSSION:**

GVW received a referral on a development variance permit / development permit application on November 11, 2025 (City of Vernon DVP00704 / DP001142) for a development of a 16 unit townhouse located at 3211 22 St (Attachment "A"). During the review of this application, GVW provided a referral response to develop to GVW standards. Subsequent review of the application addressed the requirements of the full frontage off-site waterworks, which was relayed to the property owner and Applicant.

In response of the abovementioned requirements, the Applicant submitted a Greater Vernon Water Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw Variance (DVP) application on May 27, 2026 on behalf of the property owner. The Applicant is requesting a bylaw variance for a DVP to not build off-site waterworks on the laneway between 22 St and 20 A St.

All properties adjacent to the laneway between 22 St and 20 A St along the frontage of the Subject Property are currently serviced and provided with fire protection from other streets (22 St, 20 A St, 32 Ave). Upon reviewing lots that might access this proposed water main in the future, 3305 22 St appears to be the only property with the ability for further development, but has access to water from 22 St, so it would not inhibit future development in the area. In addition, the 3305 22 St property owner would be required to submit an application for a DVP to vary the required frontage waterworks on the laneway between 22 St and 20 A St where another review would occur.

If any lot applied to subdivide creating a lot(s) facing the laneway, the developer would be required to service the property from the laneway and construct a pipe main at that time.

**GVW BYLAW 2650 REQUIREMENTS:**

According to Section 112.5 of BL 2650, the Subject Property is required to construct waterworks along the "Full Frontage" of the Subject Property:

*"All Waterworks shall be installed by the Owner/Developer along the full frontage or the extension thereof furthest from the existing termination point of Waterworks except where it is essential that Waterworks be extended beyond the parcel to tie into RDNO water mains and/or where the Approving Officer has approved a phased subdivision with a separate plan of subdivision required for each phase."*

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**SITE SERVICING AND UTILITIES ANALYSIS:**

The Subject Property is located within the City of Vernon along 22 St, and is:

- currently serviced by GVW
- zoned MUS (Multi-Unit Acreage: Small Scale)
- outside of the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR)
- in the City of Vernon fire protection area.

Computer hydraulic modelling has been completed for the development, indicating that adequate capacity for fire flow is provided by the hydrants and water mains on the frontage of 22 St and 32 Ave, with sufficient capacity in the McMechan Reservoir for a standard multi-family fire flow storage of 90 litres per second for two (2) hours (624 cubic metres).

Constructing the waterworks on the frontage of the Subject Property would not be used in the near or distant future and would add lifecycle costs to the existing ratepayers of GVW. If subdivision of any property were to occur with lots fronting the laneway, the developer would be required to construct the pipe main at that time. There are no other development areas that would be hindered if this water main was not constructed.

**CONCLUSION:**

The recommendation by utility staff is to approve the DVP to waive the requirement to construct the water main on the laneway between 22 St and 20 A St. This infrastructure is not required and has no foreseeable purpose in the future. Hydraulic modelling confirms sufficient fire flows for the area are being met.

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Enclosure:

- Attachment "A" – Map of Subject Property

Submitted by:



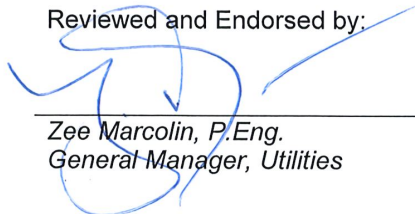
Cole Woodliffe,  
Utilities Technologist

Reviewed and Endorsed by:



John Lord, P.Eng.  
Manager, Infrastructure

Reviewed and Endorsed by:

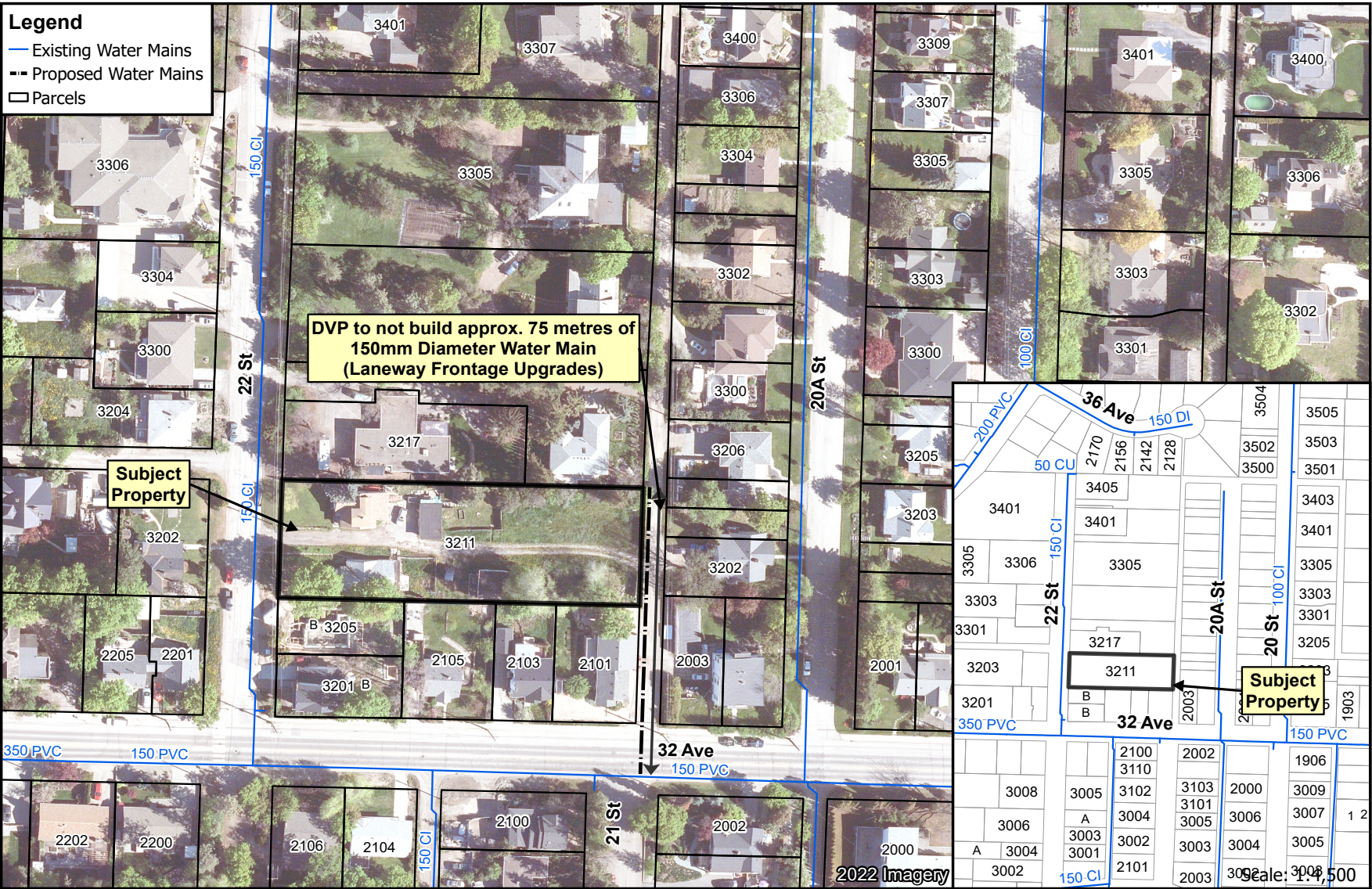


Zee Marcolin, P.Eng.  
General Manager, Utilities

Approved for Inclusion:



David Sewell  
Chief Administrative Officer

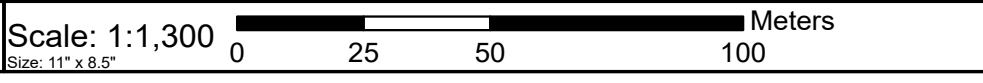


This map was compiled by RDNO, using data believed to be accurate; however, a margin of error is inherent in all maps. This product is distributed without warranties of any kind, either express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of sustainability or particular purpose or use.

## Attachment "A"

**REGIONAL DISTRICT NORTH OKANAGAN**

**Date: Jun 25, 2026**



Folder: H:\ArcGIS\_Pro\Aprx\_MasterMaps\Utilities\Master\_BoD\_Reports\



# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Greater Vernon Advisory Committee

**File No:** 26-0330-C-DVP

**FROM:** Utilities Department

**Date:** July 8, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Greater Vernon Water Development Variance Permit Application – 5195 Hartnell Road, Electoral Area “C”

**APPLICANT:** Rafael and Sabine Disterhoft, referred to herein as the “Applicant”;

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** Lot A, Plan, EPP31195, Section 6, Township 5, ODYD, except Plan KAP89813 & EPP31195 referred to herein as the “Subject Property”;

**P.I.D#** 029-129-842

**CIVIC ADDRESS:** 5195 Hartnell Road

**PROPERTY SIZE:** 0.181 Hectares

**SERVICING:** Greater Vernon Water

**ZONING:** Country Residential (C.R)

**PROPOSAL:** Building Permit

**PROPOSED VARIANCE(S):** Request to vary sections 112.5, B11.2, B12.6 and B12.7 of *Greater Vernon Water (GVW) Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw No. 2650, 2013*, as amended, with respect to construction of off-site water works.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That it be recommended to the Board of Directors, upon consideration of input from adjacent landowners, a Development Variance Permit **be issued** for the property legally described as Lot A, Plan, EPP31195, Section 6, Township 5, ODYD, except Plan KAP89813 & EPP31195 and located at 5195 Hartnell Road, Electoral Area “C” to vary sections 112.5 (Full Frontage), B11.2 (Fire Hydrants), B12.6 (Fire Flow) and B12.7 (Water Storage) of Greater Vernon Water Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw No. 2650, 2013, which require the Applicant to construct off-site waterworks on Hartnell Road including the full frontage of the property, upgrades to South BX #2 Pump Station and the construction of a reservoir to provide fire storage and fire flows to the area with the condition that a covenant be placed on title advising that the property does not have fire flow or storage meeting Bylaw No. 2650 requirements and further development be restricted until those requirements are met.

**APPLICANT PROPOSAL**

GVW received a Proof of Water on a Building Permit application on March 16, 2026 (Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO) BP028775) for the property located at 5195 Hartnell Road (Figure 1 below). During the review of this document, it was determined that off-site waterworks upgrades were required to meet GVW bylaws. In response, the applicant submitted a Greater Vernon Water Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw Variance (DVP) application on April 10, 2026. The applicant is requesting a bylaw variance in order to remove the requirement to construct:

- waterworks along the full frontage of the Subject Property on Hartnell Rd per *Greater Vernon Water Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw No. 2650, 2013* (BL 2650) section 112.5
- a fire hydrant
- substantial upgrades to South BX#2 Pump Station, and
- a reservoir for fire storage.

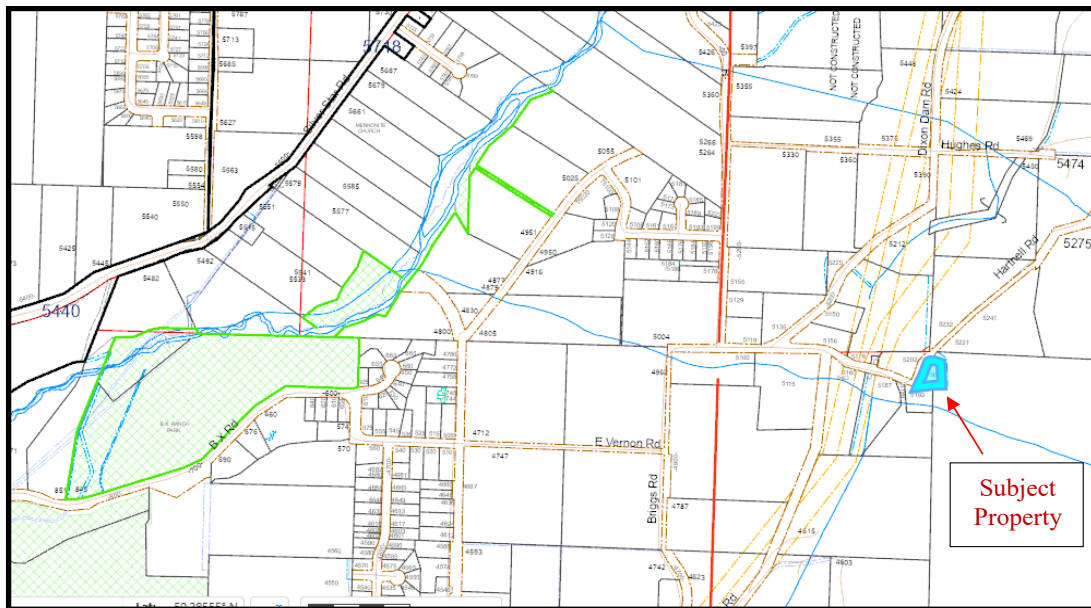


Figure 1. Subject Property Location

**DISCUSSION**

The applicant wishes to construct a single-family dwelling on the subject property and obtain water from the existing water service connection provided to the subject property. The existing water service connection was provided to the subject property during a boundary lot adjustment subdivision in 2009.

If the **recommendation** above is carried, the applicant would *not* be required to construct the following to service the Subject Property and obtain sufficient fire flows:

- Upgrade the South BX#2 Pump Station to provide fire flows to the area
- Construct a reservoir to provide fire storage to the area
- Install a fire hydrant

Report to: Greater Vernon Advisory Committee  
From: Utilities Department  
Re: GVW DVP Application for 5195 Hartnell Road

File No. 26-0330-C-DVP  
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- Install approximately 61 meters of 150 mm dia. water main across the Hartnell road frontage of the Subject Property.

The Applicant would be required to register a covenant on title that indicates that the Subject Property:

- Does not have sufficient fire flows from Greater Vernon Water
- That further development is restricted until fire flows are met.

Staff have completed an 'order of magnitude' cost estimate and conclude that the work would cost several million dollars. A latecomer charge would be applicable for all properties that would benefit from fire flows and fire storage resulting from the water system upgrades within 15 years of construction, as per the *Local Government Act*.

The Board may want to consider an alternate recommendation:

**Alternate Recommendation:** That the applicant be required to construct a 150 mm dia. water main from the terminus of the existing water main across the entire frontage of the Subject Property and connect to the existing GVW water service and register a covenant on title that indicates that the Subject Property:

- Does not have sufficient fire flows from Greater Vernon Water
- That further development is restricted until fire flows are met.

Staff have completed an 'order of magnitude' cost estimate and conclude this work may cost in excess of \$220,000.

#### **SITE CONTEXT AND SERVICING**

The subject property is a vacant lot located within Electoral Area "C" of the RDNO with the following site conditions:

- Zoned CR (Country Residential)
- Within the BX Swan Lake fire response zone
- Not within the Agricultural Land Reserve
- Within and near the edge of the GVW service boundary with a GVW 150 mm dia. water main on Hartnell Road that terminates at the southeast corner of the property (Figure 2)
- Near a treed area (Figure 3)



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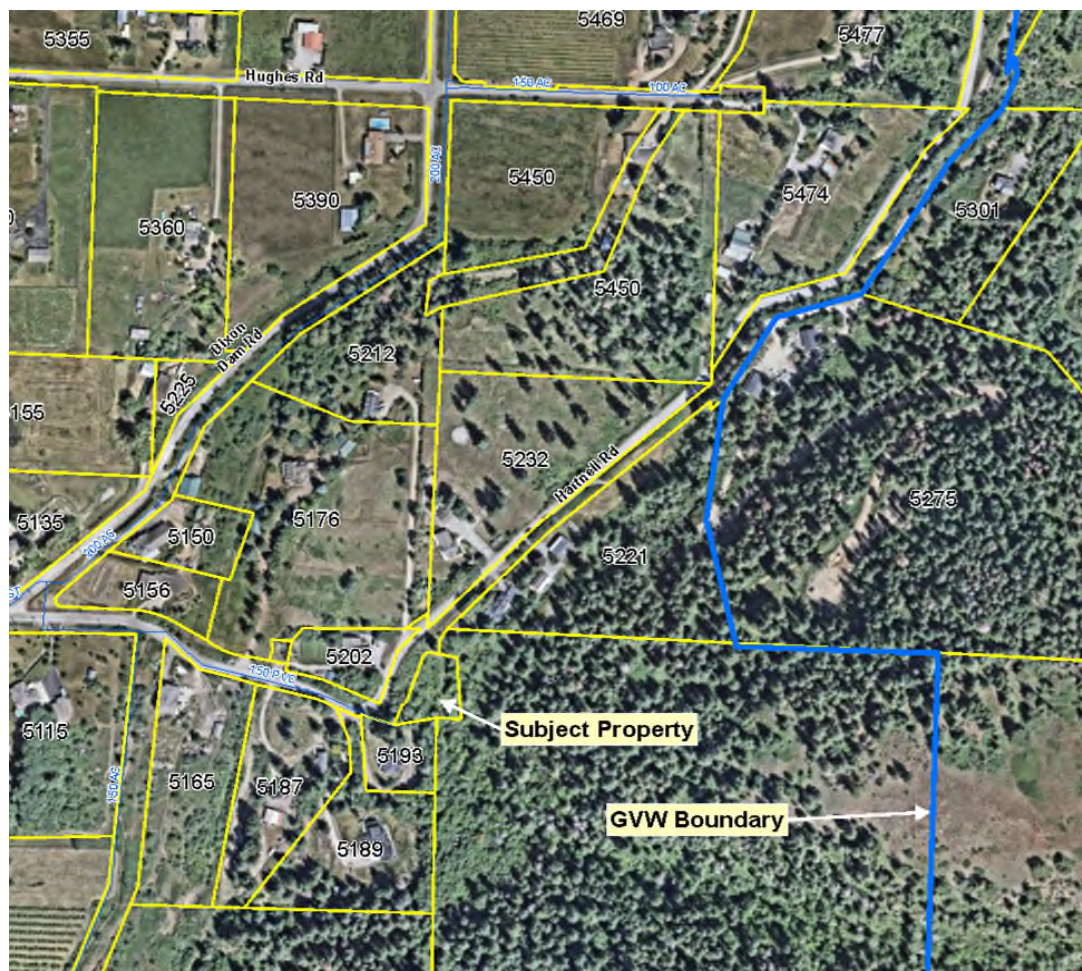


Figure 3. Aerial Photo (near GVW boundary / trees)

**APPLICABLE BYLAW SECTIONS**

**Full Frontage**

Section 112.5 requires the pipe be constructed along the full frontage of the parcel:

*“All Waterworks shall be installed by the Owner/Developer along the full frontage or the extension thereof furthest from the existing termination point of Waterworks except where it is essential that Waterworks be extended beyond the parcel to tie into RDNO water mains and/or where the Approving Officer has approved a phased subdivision with a separate plan of subdivision required for each phase.”*

**Fire Hydrants**

Schedule B of BL 2650, section B11.2 states:

**B.11 FIRE HYDRANTS**

*“2. For subdivision and/or development not within the municipal boundaries of Vernon or Coldstream and within the GVW boundary, additional fire hydrants shall be located and spaced as follows;*

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- a. *Approval of plan of subdivision: fire hydrant spacing shall not exceed 150 metres in low density residential zones, 300 metres in rural zones and 90 metres in medium and high-density residential zones, commercial, industrial and institutional zones.*
- b. *Issuance of Building Permit: The calculation for fire hydrant spacing and the distance to the principal entrance of a building must be reasonable and practical and shall not be separated by a Controlled Access Highway for commercial, industrial or institutional development."*

**Water Main Size**

Schedule B of BL 2650, section B12.6 states:

**B.12 MAIN SIZING**

"6. Fire Flow: In separated water system areas, fire protection must be available to meet Insurers' Advisory Organization (IAO) requirements at all times of the year.

*Water mains servicing fire hydrants shall be sized to provide Fire Flows in accordance with the recommendations of the Fire Underwriters Survey publication 'Water Supply for Public Fire Protection' 1999 edition. Calculations supporting the theoretical fire flow available are to be submitted with the design drawings. Fire flow requirements for a development with a sprinklered building under the Building Code may be determined in accordance with the water supply requirements in National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 13. All fire hydrants shall be installed on a looped water system unless otherwise approved by the Municipal Engineer. Water distribution systems shall also be designed to ensure that fire flow, as required by the Insurers' Advisory Organization (IAO), is available for the required duration. Minimum available fire flow shall be calculated in accordance with the Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS). The following minimum fire flows must be met for the noted zones under Maximum Day Demand condition. The greater of these two standards shall apply, but in no case shall the minimum required fire flow be less than 60 L/s unless otherwise approved by General Manager - Engineering.*

*Minimum Required Fire Flow - Detached Single-Family Units (may have secondary suite)  
60 L/s."*

**Water Storage (Reservoirs)**

Schedule B of BL 2650, section B12.7 states:

"7. *Water Storage Prior to subdivision approval and/or issuance of building permit the Owner/Developer's Consulting Engineer must confirm the water storage requirements for the proposed development as follows:*

- a. *Reservoir to be based on the formula;  $A + B + C = \text{Total Storage Required}$ ; A = Balancing Storage = Maximum daily water demand for service area for 6 hours; B = Fire Storage = Highest fire demand for area for time span as specified by F.U.S. C = Emergency Storage = 25% of the sum of A and B.*
- b. *Volume of reservoir may be reduced if emergency storage and fire protection can be supplied from a higher elevation reservoir. Balancing storage is to be provided at the local elevation. Water may be cascaded through no more than one pressure zone unless previously approved by the Municipal Engineer.*
- c. *Reservoir is to be a minimum of two compartments with interconnection to promote turnover of reservoir water. Maximizing turnover of water is to be incorporated into the design. An approved baffle system is preferred but alternative mixing systems will be*

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*considered. If reservoir filling will be intermittent, such as during initial growth of the service area, additional mixing will be required*

- d. A minimum freeboard of 0.3 m to be provided above high water level. This volume is not to be included in calculating the reservoir storage capacity.*
- e. Size and location of all reservoirs shall be subject to the approval of the General Manager Engineering. Where the provision of water storage is required, Section 112.7 shall apply"*

**RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION**

Recent DVPs have identified areas without adequate fire flow protection, but also that the lack of density made it onerous for the few properties to fund the system upgrades. A variance was permitted in a similar situation for 8485 Harbour Heights Road that allowed the property, through the DVP process with the Board, to construct a single-family home with the condition that a covenant be registered on the property indicating fire flow is not available to the property and further development required meeting GVW standards or submitting another DVP application. The Subject Property would require substantial pump station upgrades and potential off-site waterworks (e.g. water main) as well, in order to obtain adequate fire flows. The fire hydrant bylaw requirement on its own would not provide fire flows.


At the June 17 Board of Directors meeting, the Board endorsed the staff recommendations and development directions outlined within the Technical Memo titled "Greater Vernon Water: Fire Storage Analysis to Identify Areas that Support Multi-Family Development" dated April 8, 2026 from the Utilities Department (attached to the June 3, 2026 staff report as Attachment "A"). The recommendations were to allow (to be enabled through future Bylaw updates) single-family developments within the area identified as "MF Not Permitted (Red)" which is the area that the Subject Property exists.

There are three (3) unserviced properties past the Subject Property within the GVW service area; one (1) is a large undeveloped property, and the other two (2) have existing buildings onsite where they are likely serviced by alternative water sources. The existing water main to the Subject Property is an over 300 metre dead-end, and a further extension would worsen water quality and increase lifecycle costs to existing ratepayers. If a variance is permitted for the frontage upgrade, the properties that are downstream of the Subject Property would be responsible for the cost of future upgrades or apply to the Board for a DVP at that time.

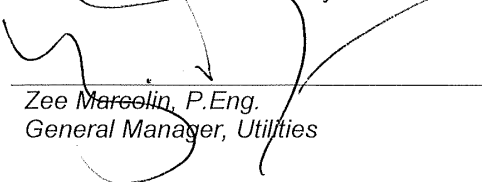
Submitted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Phillips, ASCT.  
Engineering Technologist


Reviewed and Endorsed by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Lord, P.Eng.  
General Manager, Infrastructure

Reviewed and Endorsed by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Zee Marcolin, P.Eng.  
General Manager, Utilities

Approved for Inclusion:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Sewell  
Chief Administrative Officer



# MEMORANDUM

**File No: 5790.10.09.2026**  
**Date: July 8, 2026**

**TO: Greater Vernon Advisory Committee**

**FROM: Utilities Department**

**SUBJECT: July 2026 Greater Vernon Water Supply Update**

## SUMMARY

Based on the Water Storage Triggers Assessment for July 2026, **Stage 3 Water Use Restrictions** continue due to low water storage levels, low trending water input into Greater Vernon Water (GVW) reservoirs, forecasted low precipitation and high temperature predictions for July and August. Detailed restrictions for each customer class are provided in the GVW Water Use and Regulation Bylaw. Stage 3 water restrictions have been in place for the past month, with a required 50% reduction in overall water use. Although customer demand has decreased and compliance has improved, all users must continue to take action to continue to meet conservation targets.

These measures are necessary due to low snowpack this winter, which did not provide sufficient water input to the reservoirs, along with a forecast of low rainfall in the coming months. In addition, higher seasonal temperatures have resulted in increased customer use, already drawing on storage needed for summer dry periods. Under the GVW Water Shortage Management Plan, enhanced restrictions under the GVW Water Shortage Management Plan remain in place to safeguard water supplies and infrastructure.

Stage 3 Water Use Restrictions remain in effect for all GVW customers, including properties within the City of Vernon, the District of Coldstream, and portions of Spallumcheen and Electoral Areas "B", "C", and "D".

Water use and customer trends are being closely monitored, and enforcement is strictly applied. Customers found in violation of the GVW Water Use and Regulation bylaw will receive one (1) warning; a second offence will result in a \$100 fine, and a third offence will result in a \$400 fine. Additional enforcement measures may be taken where necessary, including water shut-off.

Operations staff continue to actively conserve water. Routine distribution system flushing has been suspended, and the use of the Kalamalka Lake water source is being maximized wherever feasible. The Antwerp Deep Well is also being utilized to supplement demand on the Duteau system. Operations staff are coordinating closely with the District of Coldstream and the City of Vernon to move water as needed, reducing spill at Headgates and conserving storage levels on the Aberdeen Plateau. Staff continue to meet regularly to review storage levels and system performance.

GVW has continued to enhance customer outreach and engagement to achieve meaningful reductions in water use. Communication efforts have been expanded through roadside signage,

MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES:  
 CITY OF ARMSTRONG  
 DISTRICT OF COLDSTREAM  
 CITY OF ENDERBY

VILLAGE OF LUMBY  
 TOWNSHIP OF SPALLUMCHEEN  
 CITY OF VERNON

ELECTORAL AREAS:  
 "B" – SWAN LAKE  
 "C" – B.X. DISTRICT  
 "D" – LUMBY (RURAL)

"E" – CHERRYVILLE  
 "F" – ENDERBY (RURAL)

increased radio advertising, social media outlets and active patrols. Staff are closely monitoring consumption trends through metering to support compliance and enforcement. GVW is also actively communicating with the agricultural community, including holding weekly meetings with producers. In addition, work is underway to finalize opportunities for allocation sharing among producers based on water source, providing flexibility as the season progresses, recognizing the challenges all producers are facing.

GVW is also supporting and promoting the Ministry of Agriculture and Food outreach initiatives targeted to specific producer groups. A tailgate meeting was held for producers on June 17. A tailgate meeting for perennial producers was held on June 29 at 3:00 PM and another meeting for vegetable and flower producers was held on June 30 at 4:00 PM. In addition, a webinar for livestock producers is scheduled for July 9 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM.

**TRIGGER ASSESSMENT**

GVW uses the Water Shortage Management Plan (WSMP) decision tree to guide decisions about GVW water management. Staff monitor four (4) triggers to assess the water supply and drought conditions (Figure 1):

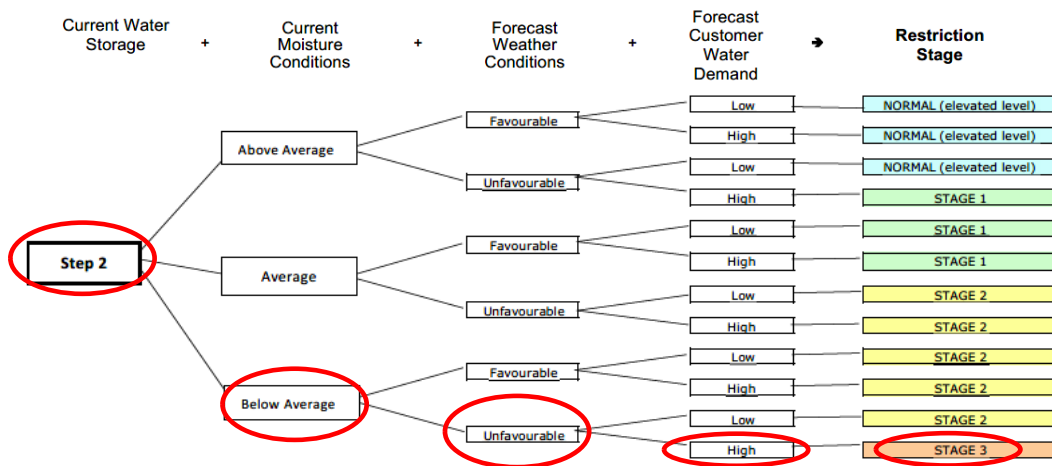


Figure 1 – Water Shortage Management Plan Decision Tree

1. Reservoir Levels (Water Storage)
  - **Duteau Reservoir** – The Duteau Reservoir is currently within Step 2, and staff continue to closely monitor storage levels. Implementation of Stage 3 restrictions, combined with precipitation during the freshet period, helped stabilize reservoir levels, with inflows generally matching outflows through late spring. System demand is now exceeding inflows to storage, marking the transition out of freshet conditions and placing increased reliance on stored water through the summer period.
  - **Kalamalka Lake** - Kalamalka lake levels continue to be below the average and provincial targets and trends showed minimal recovery through freshet (Figure 3).
2. Current Moisture Conditions – Precipitation at the “Vernon Auto” site has been significantly below normal since October last year, with only March showing above average levels. April, May, and June returned to below-average conditions (Figure 4).
3. Forecast Weather Conditions – The Federal forecast indicates an increased probability of of below-normal precipitation over July and August, with probabilities ranging from 50–59% for below-normal conditions and low forecast skill, indicating uncertainty. At the same

time, above-average temperatures are expected, with a forecast skill of 54% and a 90–100% probability of above-normal temperatures, suggesting a strong likelihood of warmer-than-normal conditions

- Customer Demand Forecast – Customer demand for the last week of April and first week of May saw unseasonably high temperatures resulting in higher customer demand (Figure 5). With Stage 3 restrictions issued on June 4, cooler temperatures and precipitation led to a decrease in demand in early June. As temperatures increase, demand is expected to rise as producers adjust schedules to accommodate Stage 3 allocation reductions.

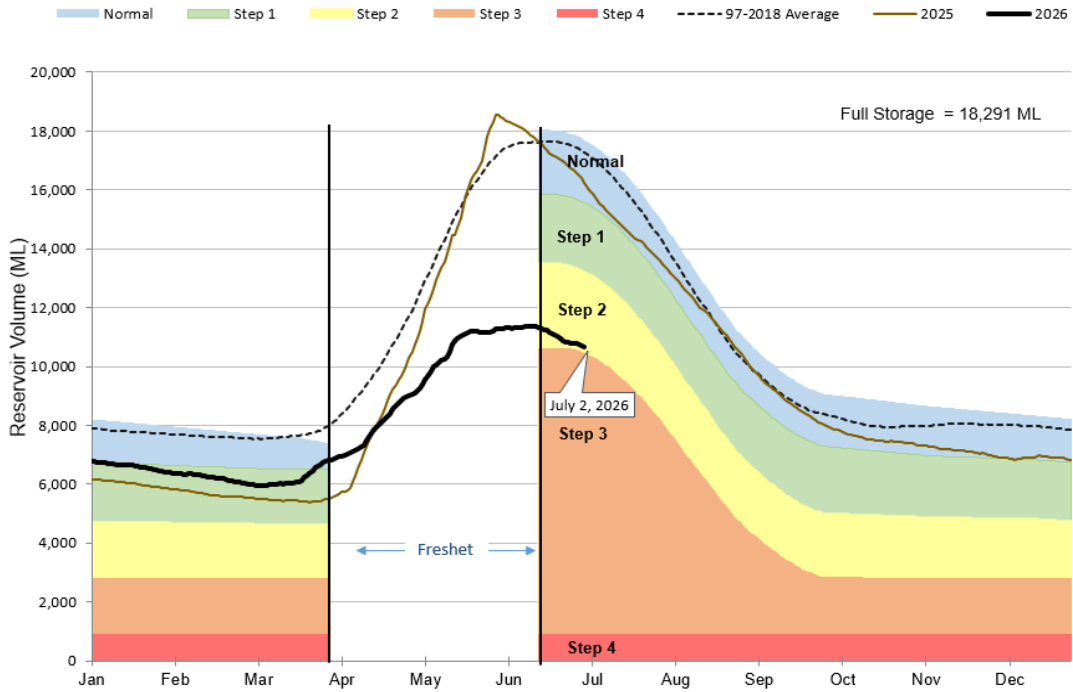


Figure 2: The Duteau reservoir levels in Megaliters (ML)

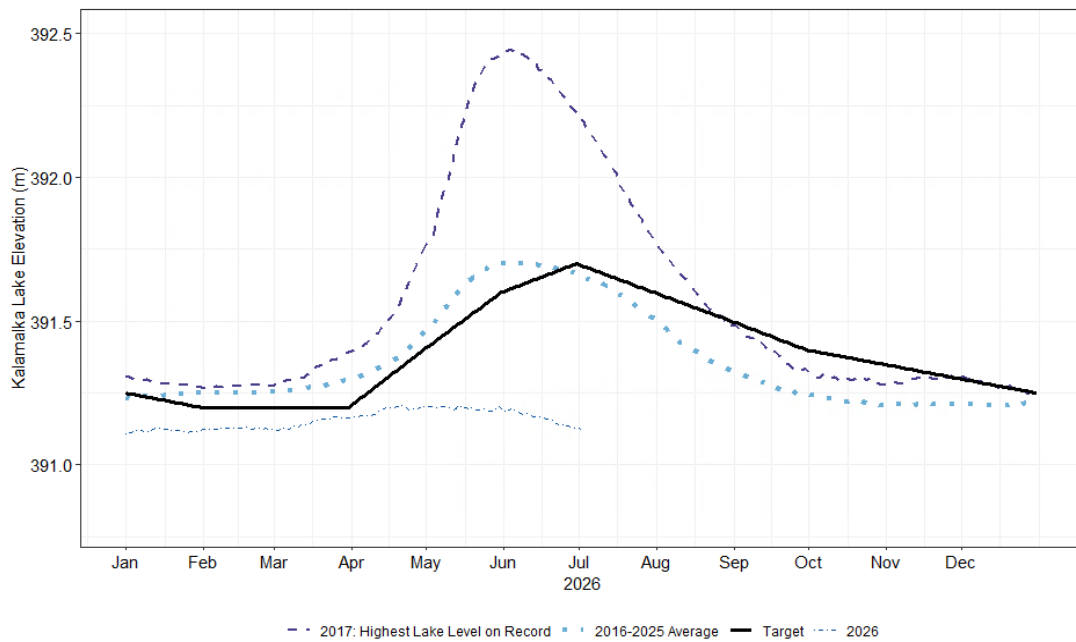


Figure 3: Kalamalka Lake elevation for 2026 compared to the 2018-2025 average and provincial targets

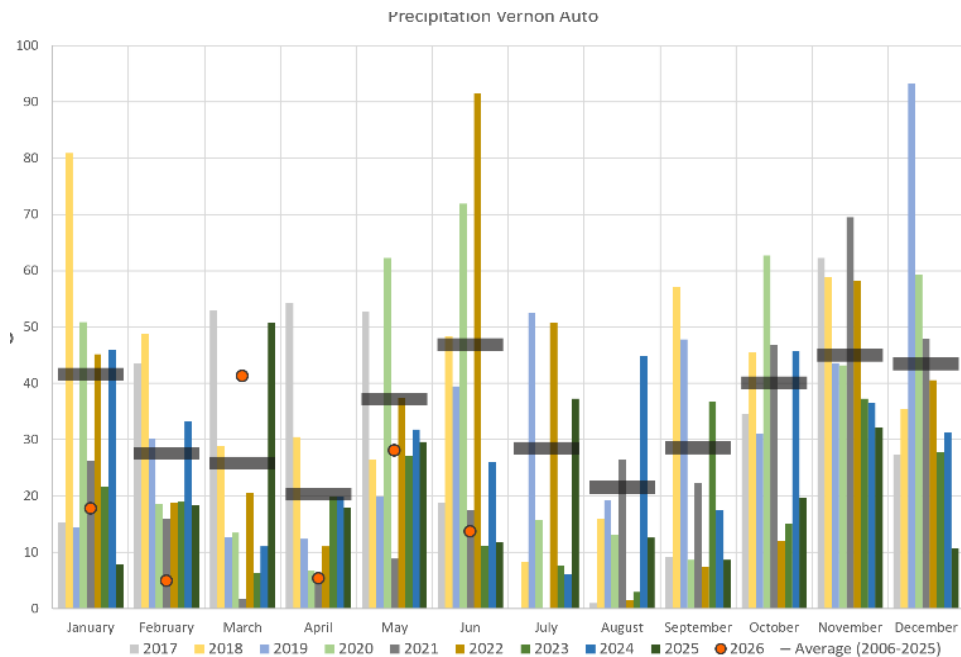


Figure 4: 2017 – 2026 Comparison of monthly precipitation at Vernon Auto

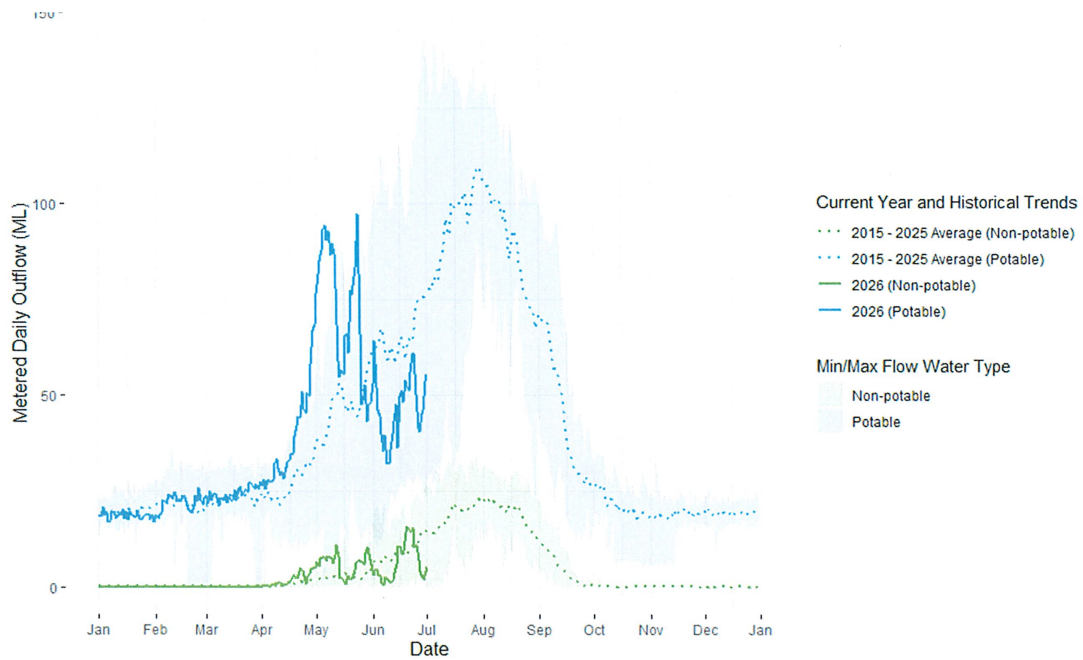


Figure 5: Potable and Non-Potable customer demand trends

The GVW Water Shortage Management Plan and further information on the triggers and the water system can be found at [www.rdno.ca/restrictions](http://www.rdno.ca/restrictions).

Submitted by:

  
John Lord, P.Eng.  
General Manager, Infrastructure



# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Greater Vernon Advisory Committee

**File No:** 4750.01.02.2026

**FROM:** Community Services

**Date:** July 8, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Greater Vernon Trails & Natural Spaces – 2026 Public Satisfaction Survey

## RECOMMENDATION:

That the report dated July 8, 2026, and titled “Greater Vernon Trails & Natural Spaces – 2026 Public Satisfaction Survey”, be received.

## BACKGROUND

As part of Strategy 10 of the Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces (GVTNS) Master Plan, a public satisfaction survey is to be conducted every four years, aligned with the municipal election cycle, with results shared with the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee and the public. This report is provided to the Committee to present the latest survey results and to highlight progress made toward the goals and objectives established in the GVTNS Master Plan since its adoption in 2022.

Staff retained Ipsos, an international marketing research and public opinion company to conduct the public satisfaction survey on behalf of the RDNO to ensure the survey results were unbiased and statistically valid. Additional background on how the survey was conducted are provided in the attached *Greater Vernon Trails & Natural Spaces, Public Satisfaction Survey – Final Report dated June 11, 2026*

## SUMMARY

Invitations to participate in the online survey were mailed to 4,000 randomly selected households within City of Vernon, District of Coldstream, and Electoral Areas B & C, resulting in 399 completed responses (a response rate of approximately 10%). This response rate is consistent with Ipsos’ expectations and aligns with rates typically achieved for similar municipal surveys conducted in recent years.

Survey results indicate strong public support for the Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service, with high levels of familiarity, frequent use, and an overall satisfaction rate of 95%. Residents place significant value on the service for recreation, exercise, and experiencing nature, and generally feel the balance between conservation and recreation is appropriate. While most residents report no barriers, some barriers identified include limited parking, insufficient washroom facilities, and insufficient proximity for some users.

Priority improvements identified include additional washroom facilities, expanded trail and natural space acquisition, enhanced invasive species management, improved parking, and additional amenities.

Report to: Greater Vernon Advisory Committee  
From: Community Services  
Re: Greater Vernon Trails & Natural Spaces – 2026 Public Satisfaction Survey

File No.: 4750.01.02.2026  
Date: July 8, 2026  
Page 2 of 2

Notably, a majority of respondents expressed willingness to support these improvements through increased property taxes.

The Manager of Parks & Recreation will provide a more detailed presentation on the attached Public Satisfaction Survey – Final Report.

**FINANCIAL/BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS:**

Financial/budgetary considerations related to this report will be presented to the Committee during annual budget deliberations.

ATTACHMENT A - *Greater Vernon Trails & Natural Spaces, Public Satisfaction Survey – Final Report dated June 11, 2026*

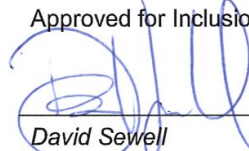
Submitted by:



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Andy Affleck  
Manager, Parks & Recreation

Approved for Inclusion:



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David Sewell  
Chief Administrative Officer

# GREATER VERNON TRAILS & NATURAL SPACES SERVICE

Public Satisfaction Survey

FINAL REPORT  
June 11, 2026

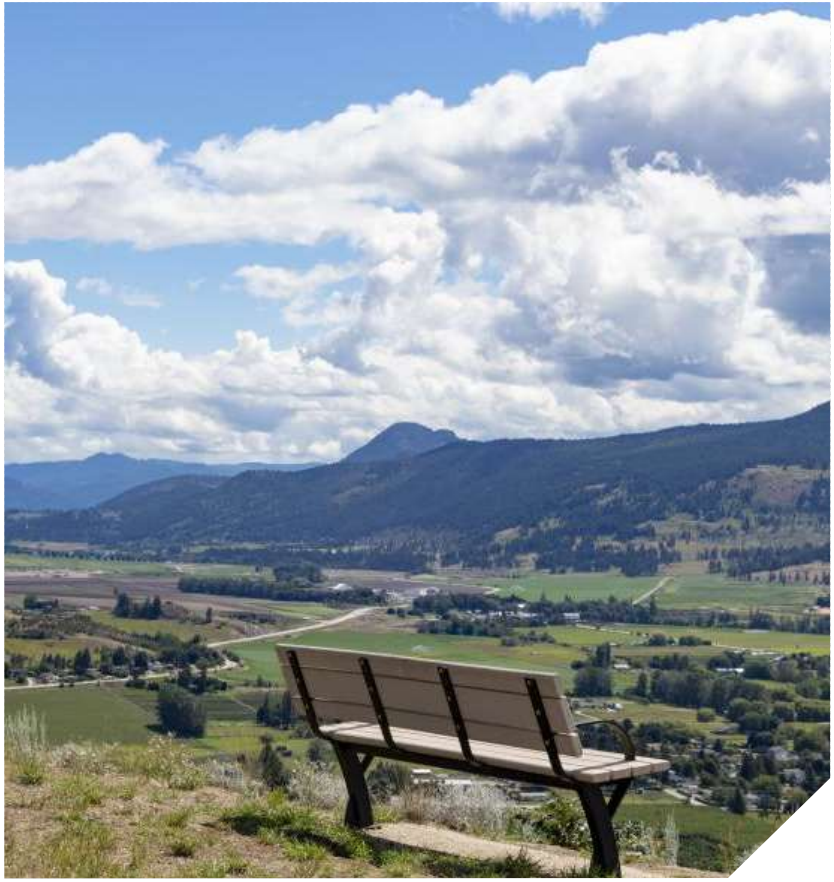


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Trails & Natural Spaces Service -  
Public Satisfaction Survey | June  
2026



# Contents

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- 02** EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
- 03** DETAILED RESULTS
  - 3.1** Familiarity and Importance
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  - 3.3** Satisfaction
  - 3.4** Improvements and Expenses
  - 3.5** Final Comments
- 04** WEIGHTED SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS





# 01 INTRODUCTION



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# Objectives and methodology

## Objectives

This report presents the findings of the Regional District of North Okanagan’s Greater Vernon Trails & Natural Spaces Service – Public Satisfaction Survey. The primary objective of this survey is to obtain residents’ feedback on trails and natural spaces in Greater Vernon. The results of the survey will be used to guide strategic planning, budgeting, and decision-making.

## Methodology

Invitations to an online survey were mailed to 4,000 randomly selected households in the City of Vernon, the District of Coldstream, Electoral Area B, and Electoral Area C.

Each invitation included a link to the survey and a unique, single-use password that residents could use to answer the survey securely and anonymously online.

All respondents were screened to confirm they are 18 years of age or older and live in one of the targeted communities.<sup>1</sup>

All fieldwork was completed between May 7 and 26, 2026.

Residents who completed the survey were offered the opportunity to be entered into a prize draw.

A total of 399 residents completed the survey, for a final response rate of 9.98%.

A summary of the number of invitations mailed and final sample size in each community can be found below.

Community	Number of Invitations Mailed	Final Sample Size
City of Vernon	2,000	171
District of Coldstream	1,200	149
Electoral Area B	400	22
Electoral Area C	400	57
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>399</b>



# Notes to reader

## Data Weighting and Margin of Error

The final data has been weighted to ensure that the age and community distribution reflects that of the actual population in the region according to 2021 Census data.

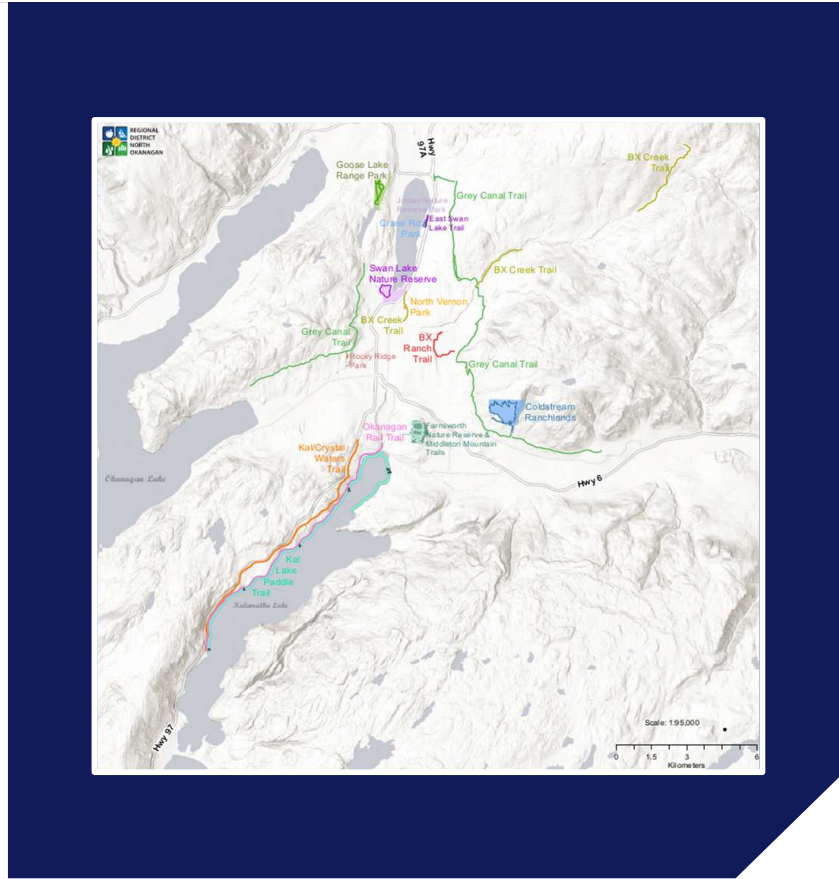
Overall results based on a sample size of 399 are accurate to within 4.9%, 19 times out of 20. The margin of error will be larger for any sample subgroups.

## Interpreting and Viewing the Results

The survey specifically solicited residents' feedback on the trails and natural spaces managed by the Regional District of North Okanagan Greater Vernon Trails & Natural Spaces Service. A map illustrating these trails and natural spaces is located on the right.

Percentages may not always add up to 100% due to rounding.

Subgroup comparisons are presented where relevant and statistically significant. Results based on small sample sizes (<100) should be interpreted with caution.



# 02 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



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## Executive summary (1/3)

### FAMILIARITY AND IMPORTANCE

- Most (84%) residents say they are familiar with the trails and natural spaces managed by the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service.
- An even greater proportion (98%) perceive these areas as important, indicating widespread acknowledgement of their value, regardless of the level of personal familiarity.

### USAGE

- Nearly eight-in-ten (79%) residents say they visit these trails and natural spaces at least once a month, with almost half (48%) frequenting them once a week or more, suggesting a strong community interest and reliance on these recreational areas. Only 2% of residents report 'never' visiting these areas.
- Among visitors to these trails and natural spaces:
  - The Okanagan Rail Trail is the most popular (78%), followed by the Grey Canal Trail (66%) and the BX Creek Trail (55%).
  - Exercise is the primary motivator for visiting (84%). Enjoying nature and observing wildlife follows closely at 78%.
- More than four-in-ten (41%) residents do not identify any specific barriers preventing them from visiting these trails and natural spaces.
  - Among the barriers cited, parking challenges are the most common (21%).
  - Other deterrents include insufficient or poorly maintained washroom facilities (16%), inconvenient location (not close enough to home or work) (15%), and lack of dog-friendly amenities (11%).

## Executive summary (2/3)

### SATISFACTION

- Overall satisfaction with the trails and natural spaces managed by the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service is high (95% total satisfied).
- Residents are also largely satisfied with various aspects of these areas.
  - The top-rated attributes are the *number of trails available* (92%), *condition and maintenance* (91%), and *variety of trail experiences* (90%).
  - Strong satisfaction ratings are also seen for *signage, maps, and wayfinding* (89%) and *safety* (87%).
  - In comparison, *parking availability* (78%) and *garbage facilities* (77%) score relatively lower, although are still deemed satisfactory by more than three-quarters of residents.
  - The three lowest scoring attributes are *washroom facilities* (67%), *accessibility* (e.g., *mobility-friendly access*) (61%), and *dog-friendly amenities* (54%).
    - However, a notable number of residents say they 'don't know' how to evaluate accessibility and dog-friendliness, possibly due to not having personal experience with these features. Overall dissatisfaction with these attributes remains low.
- Residents generally feel that the balance between conservation and recreation in these trails and natural spaces is 'about right', particularly for *recreation primary areas* (75%) and *conservation with passive recreation areas* (70%). Opinions are more varied regarding *conservation-focused areas*, where 57% feel the balance is 'about right' compared to 19% saying 'too little', 4% saying 'too much', and 20% saying 'don't know'.
  - Overall, residents show greater uncertainty ('don't know' responses) about *conservation-focused areas* (20%) than *conservation with passive recreation areas* (13%) and *recreation primary areas* (13%), likely reflecting a lower level of familiarity due to restricted access.
- Perceptions of the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service's performance over the past four years are positive, with very few residents saying the RDNO is performing poorly in any of the evaluated areas.
  - The highest ratings go to *providing enjoyable, accessible, and well-distributed trails and natural spaces* (90% total good) and *connecting communities with a well-maintained and sustainable trail network* (82%).
  - While *supporting and working with partners to enhance trails and natural spaces across Greater Vernon* (72%) and *protecting important natural and cultural areas through land acquisition and management* (67%) score relatively lower, one-quarter say they 'don't know' how to rate the RDNO in these areas, pointing to a lack of familiarity rather than an actual performance issue.

## Executive summary (3/3)

### IMPROVEMENTS AND EXPENSES

- Residents prioritize increased washroom facilities as the improvement they would most like to see made to the trails and natural spaces managed by the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service (36%).
  - They also express interest in increased land acquisition for both trail development (30%) and natural spaces (29%).
  - Other frequently requested improvements encompass a mix of maintenance and amenities, including increased invasive species management (28%), increased benches or rest areas (27%), increased garbage receptacles and dog bag dispensers (26%), and increased parking lot and access road maintenance (21%).
- In terms of the types of trails that residents would most like to see more of, the greatest preference is for *moderate hiking trails* (52%).
  - *Easy gravel-surfaced multi-use trails* are also in demand, selected by 29% of residents.
  - Fewer (8%) say they would most like to see more *difficult backcountry-style hiking trails*.
- The majority (63%) of residents say they would be willing to pay an increase in property taxes to support some of the improvements or expansions identified in the survey. Of these, most (47%) say 'somewhat willing', while 16% say 'very willing'.

### FINAL COMMENTS

- Overall, 61% of residents do not provide any additional comments or suggestions about the trails and natural spaces that are managed by the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service.
- Of the open-ended comments and suggestions that are provided, the top mention is "more trail improvements / maintenance" (11%). This encompasses activities such as removing dead and fallen trees, cleaning trail debris, removing invasive species, repairing wooden walkways, resurfacing trails, enhancing trail tread (particularly during the winter), and managing dust.



# 03 DETAILED RESULTS

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10



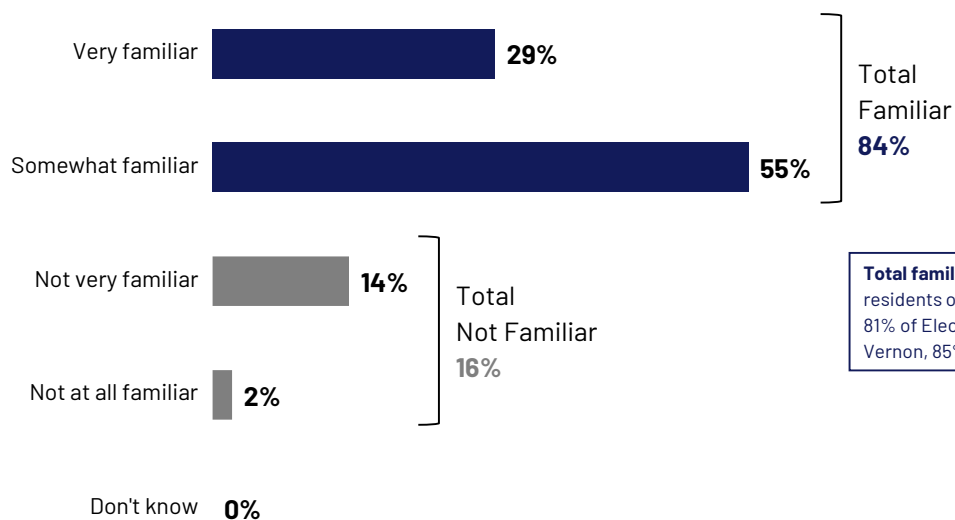
# 3.1

# FAMILIARITY AND IMPORTANCE



## Familiarity with trails and natural spaces

- Most (84%) residents say they are familiar with the trails and natural spaces managed by the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service.
- This includes 29% reporting to be 'very familiar' and 55% identifying as 'somewhat familiar'.
- A total of 16% say they are not familiar with these trails and natural spaces.



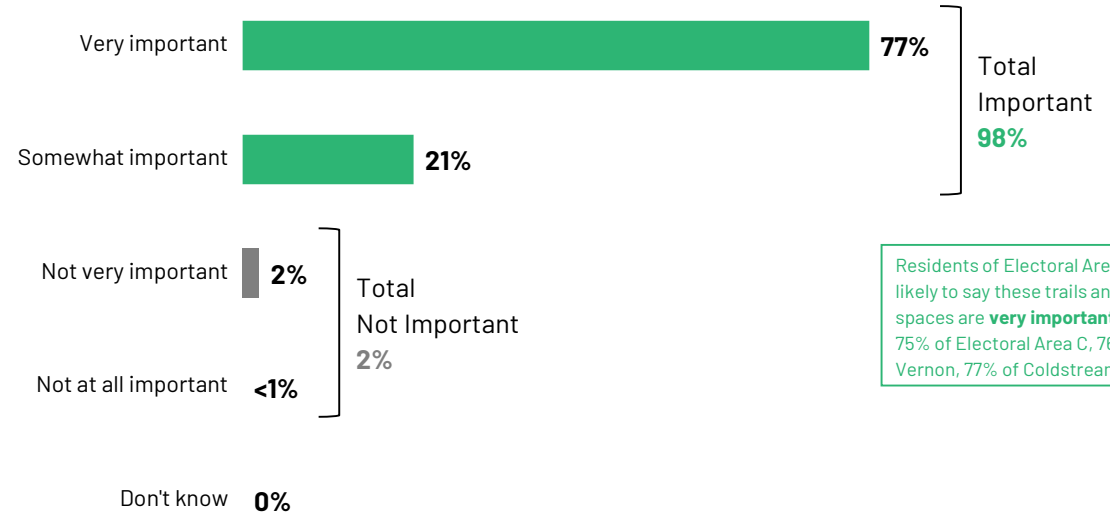
**Total familiar** is higher among residents of Coldstream (91% versus 81% of Electoral Area B, 82% of Vernon, 85% of Electoral Area C).

Base: All respondents (n=399)  
 Q1. Overall, how familiar are you with the trails and natural spaces that are managed by the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service? Select one response.



# Importance of trails and natural spaces

- Despite varying levels of familiarity, an overwhelming 98% of residents believe these trails and natural spaces are important, with the majority (77%) deeming them 'very important'. Another 21% say they are 'somewhat important'.
- Only a small fraction (2%) say these trails and natural spaces hold no personal significance.



Residents of Electoral Area B are more likely to say these trails and natural spaces are **very important** (97% versus 75% of Electoral Area C, 76% of Vernon, 77% of Coldstream).

Base: All respondents (n=399)  
 Q2. How important are these trails and natural spaces to you personally? For a reminder of what this includes, please click here. Select one response.



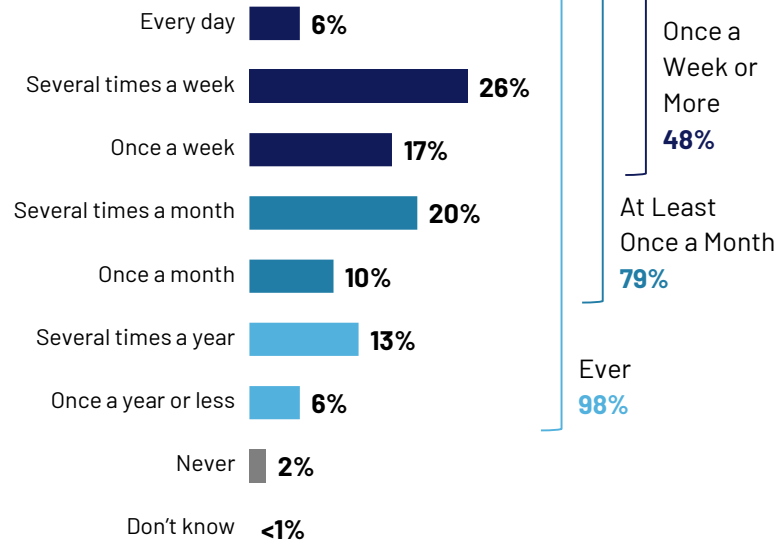
# USAGE

# 3.2



## Frequency of visiting trails and natural spaces

- A substantial portion of residents frequently use the trails and natural spaces managed by the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service, indicating a strong community interest and reliance on these recreational areas.
- Nearly half (48%) of residents say they visit these trails and natural spaces at least once a week, including 6% 'every day', 26% 'several times a week', and 17% 'once a week'.
- Furthermore, another 20% visit 'several times a month' and 10% visit 'once a month', culminating in 79% of residents visiting these trails and natural spaces at least monthly.
- Only 2% of residents report 'never' visiting these areas.



**Once a week or more** is higher among:

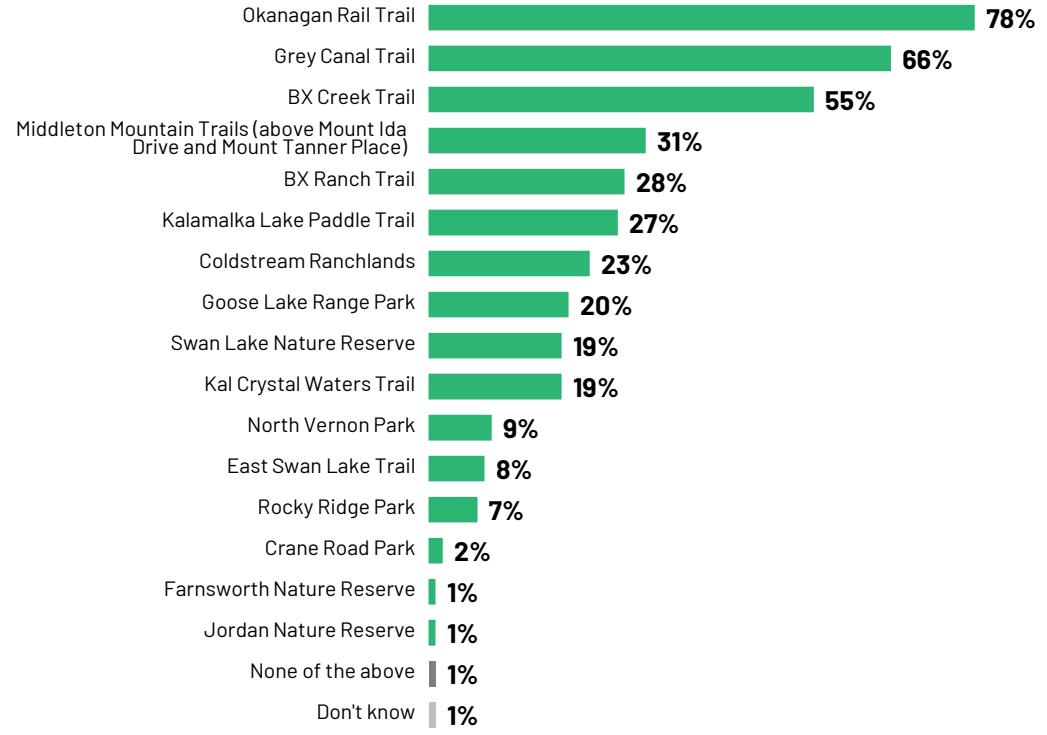
- 45-64 years of age (60% versus 41% of 18-44 years, 44% of 65+ years)
- Lived in the RDNO for 11-20 years (66% versus 40% of 21+ years, 49% of 10 years or less)

Base: All respondents (n=399)  
 Q3. Throughout the year, how often do you personally visit the trails and natural spaces that are managed by the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service?  
 Select one response.



## Trails and natural spaces visited the most often

- Among visitors to these trails and natural spaces, the Okanagan Rail Trail is the most popular overall (78%).
- This is followed by the Grey Canal Trail (66%) and then the BX Creek Trail (55%).

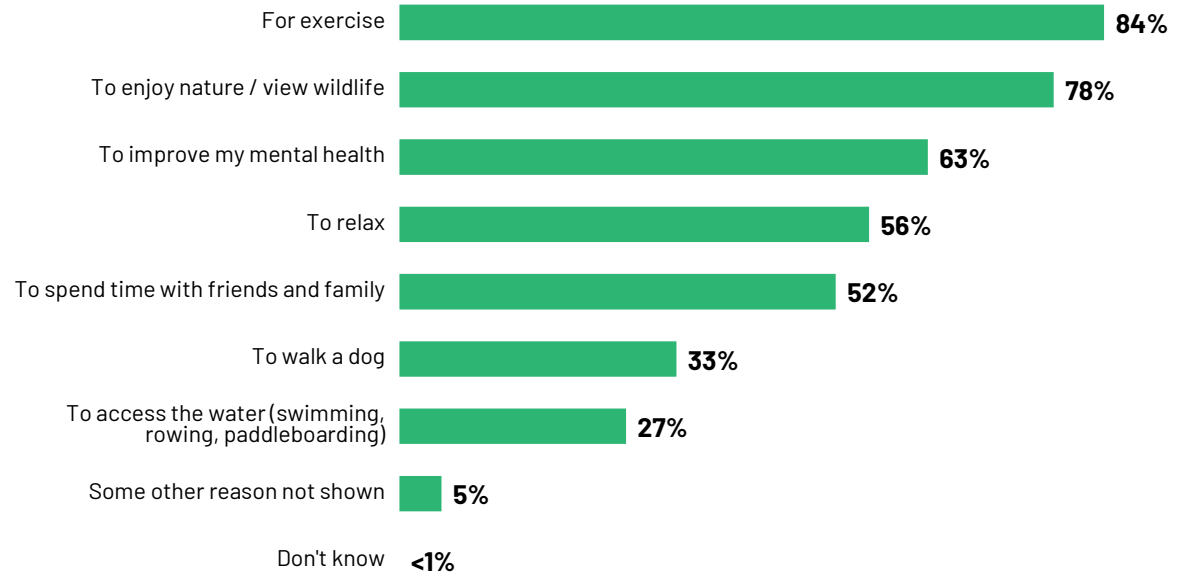


Base: Trails and natural spaces visitors (n=392)  
 Q4. Which of these trails and natural spaces do you personally visit the most often? Select all that apply.



## Reasons for visiting trails and natural spaces

- Residents visit these trails and natural spaces for a variety of reasons.
- Exercise is the primary motivator, mentioned by 84% of visitors.
- Enjoying nature and observing wildlife follows closely at 78%.
- Additional reasons include mental health (63%), relaxation (56%), and spending time with friends and family (52%).

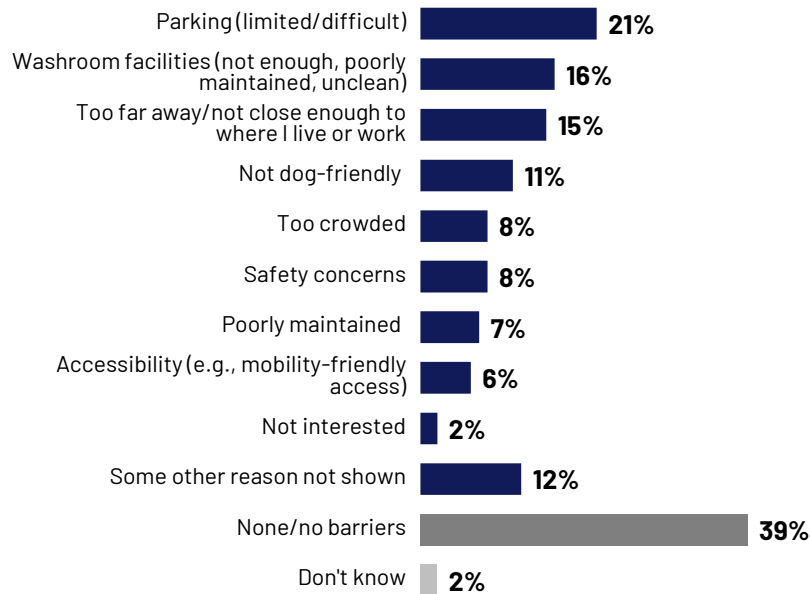


Base: Trails and natural spaces visitors (n=392)  
 Q5. Which of the following best describe why you visit these trails and natural spaces? Select all that apply.



## Barriers to visiting trails and natural spaces

- More than four-in-ten (41%) residents do not identify any specific barriers preventing them from visiting these trails and natural spaces (includes 39% saying 'none/no barriers' and 2% saying 'don't know').
- Among the barriers cited, parking challenges are the most common, mentioned by 21% of residents.
- Other deterrents include insufficient or poorly maintained washroom facilities (16%), inconvenient location (15%), and lack of dog-friendly amenities (11%).



Base: All respondents (n=399)  
 Q6. What, if anything, prevents you from visiting these trails and natural spaces? Select all that apply.



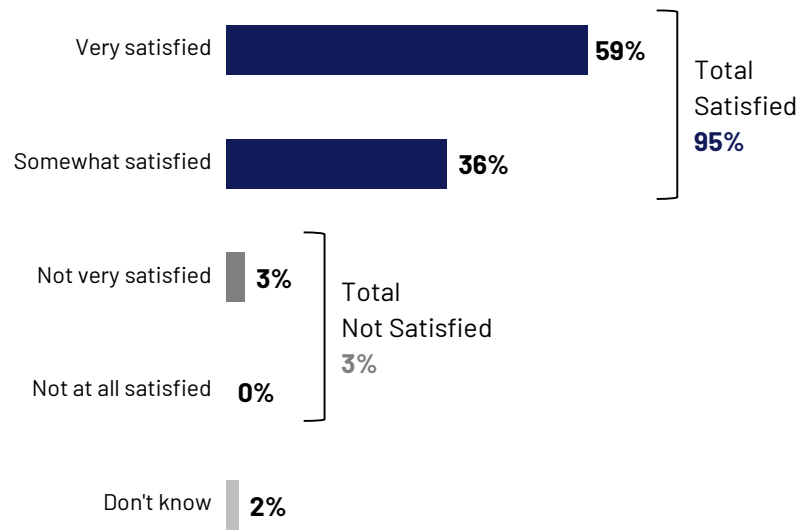
# SATISFACTION

# 3.3



# Overall satisfaction with trails and natural spaces

- Satisfaction with the trails and natural spaces managed by the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service is high, with 95% of residents saying they are satisfied overall.
- This includes nearly six-in-ten (59%) saying 'very satisfied', while an additional 36% are 'somewhat satisfied'.
- Only 3% of residents express dissatisfaction.



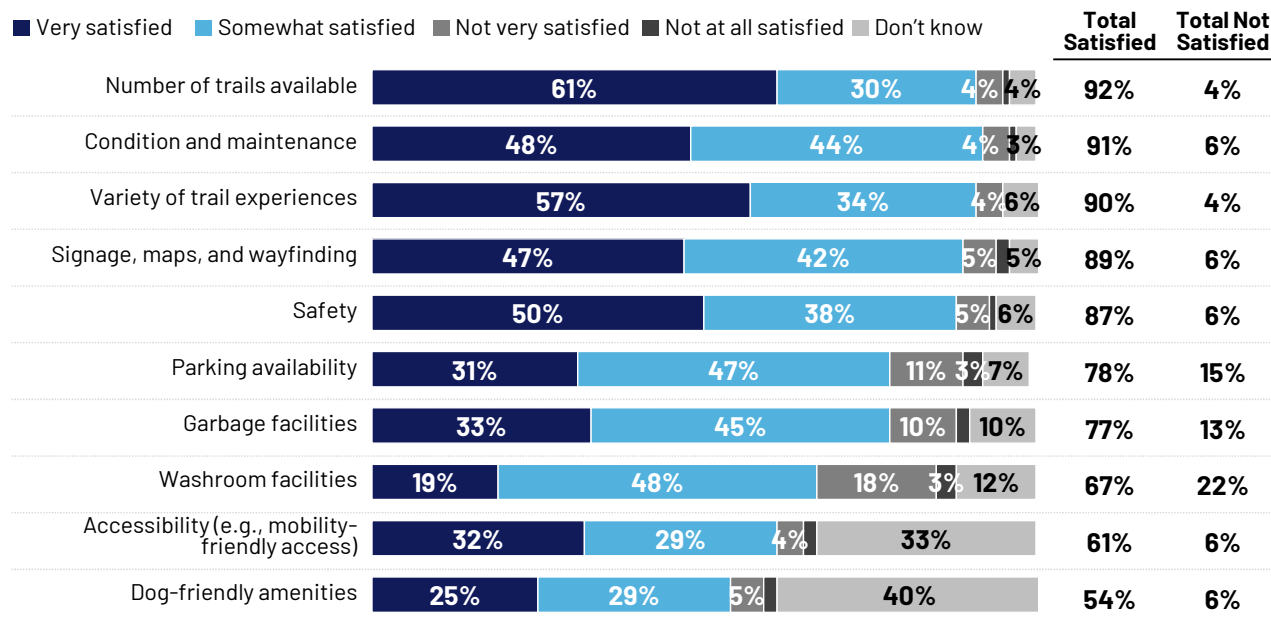
Those who have lived in the RDNO for 11-20 years are more likely to say they are **'very satisfied'** (69% versus 55% of 10 years or less, 57% of 21+ years).

Base: All respondents (n=399)  
 07. Overall, how satisfied are you with trails and natural spaces that are managed by the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service? Select one response.



## Satisfaction with specific aspects of trails and natural spaces

- Residents are also largely satisfied with various aspects of these trails and natural spaces.
- The top-rated attributes are the *number of trails available* (92% total satisfied), *condition and maintenance* (91%), and *variety of trail experiences* (90%).
- The three lowest scoring attributes are *washroom facilities* (67%), *accessibility* (61%), and *dog-friendly amenities* (54%).
  - However, a notable number of residents say they 'don't know' how to evaluate accessibility and dog-friendliness, possibly due to not having personal experience with these features. Overall dissatisfaction with these attributes remains low.

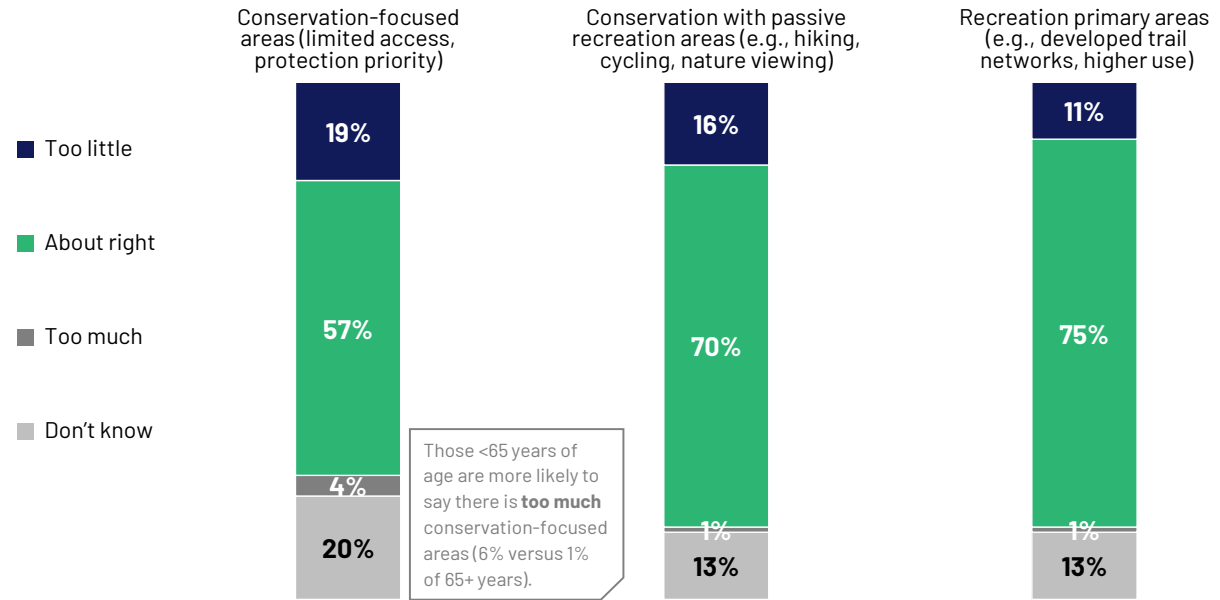


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 Base: All respondents (n=399)  
 Q8. How satisfied are you with the following aspects of Greater Vernon trails and natural spaces? Select one response per item.



## Balance of conservation and recreation

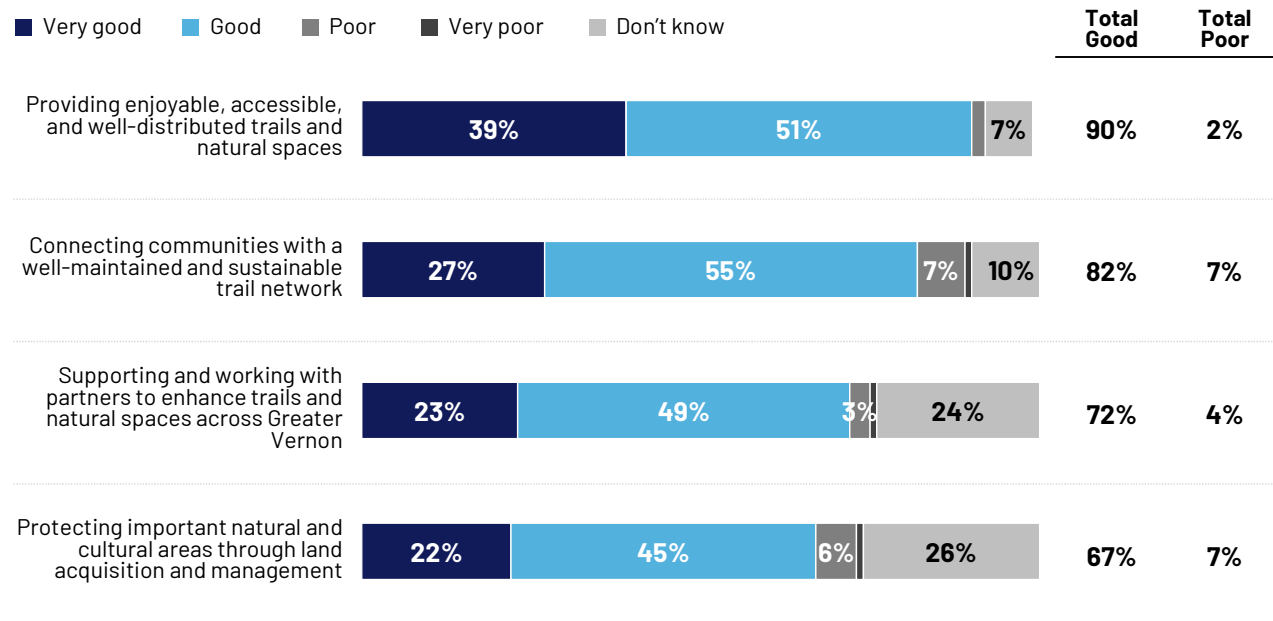
- Overall, residents perceive the balance between conservation and recreation in the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces as 'about right', particularly for *recreation primary areas* (75%) and *conservation with passive recreation areas* (70%).
- Opinions are more varied regarding *conservation-focused areas*, where 57% feel the balance is 'about right' compared to 19% saying 'too little', 4% saying 'too much', and 20% saying 'don't know'.
  - The higher number of 'don't know' responses for this item suggests a lower level of familiarity, likely due to restricted access.



Base: All respondents (n=399)  
 Q9. How do you feel about the current balance of conservation and recreation in the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails & Natural Spaces? Select one response per item.

## Performance of RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service

- Perceptions of the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service's performance over the past four years are positive, with very few residents saying the RDNO is performing poorly in any of the evaluated areas.
- The highest ratings go to *providing enjoyable, accessible, and well-distributed trails and natural spaces* (90% total good) and *connecting communities with a well-maintained and sustainable trail network* (82%).
- While *supporting and working with partners to enhance trails and natural spaces across Greater Vernon* (72%) and *protecting important natural and cultural areas through land acquisition and management* (67%) score lower, one-quarter say they 'don't know' how to rate the RDNO in these areas, pointing to a lack of familiarity rather than an actual performance issue.



Data labels <3% not shown.  
Base: All respondents (n=399)  
Q10. How would you rate the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service's overall performance in each of the following areas over the past 4 years? Select one response per item.



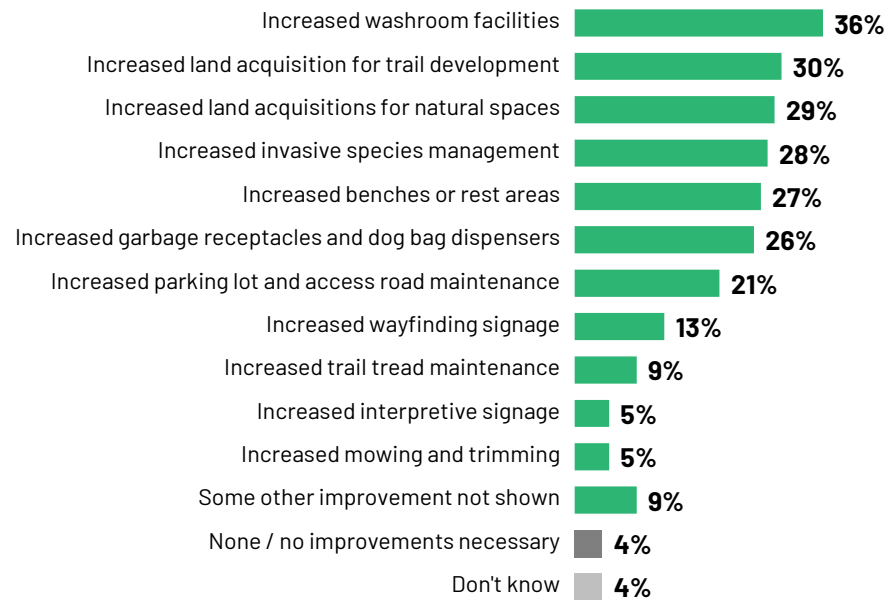
# IMPROVEMENTS AND EXPENSES

# 3.4



## Desired improvements to trails and natural spaces

- Residents identify increased washroom facilities as the top priority improvement (36%).
- Additionally, there is also interest in increased land acquisition for both trail development (30%) and natural spaces (29%).
- Other frequently requested improvements encompass a mix of maintenance and amenities, including increased invasive species management (28%), increased benches or rest areas (27%), increased garbage receptacles and dog bag dispensers (26%), and increased parking lot and access road maintenance (21%).

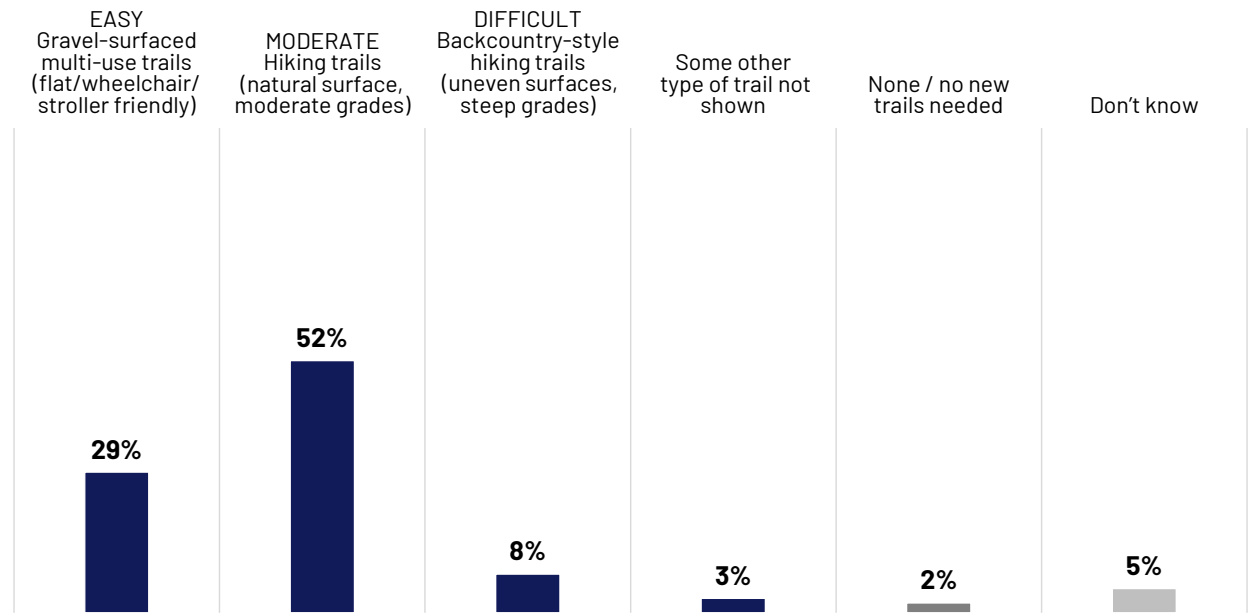


Base: All respondents (n=399)  
 Q11. What improvements would you most like to see made to the trails and natural spaces that are managed by the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service? Select up to three.



## Types of trails would most like to see more of

- Residents demonstrate the greatest desire for more *moderate hiking trails*, with over half (52%) saying they would most like to see more of these types of trails in the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service.
- *Easy gravel-surfaced multi-use trails* are the second most desired at 29%.
- Fewer (8%) identify *difficult backcountry-style hiking trails* as the type of trail they would most like to see more of in the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service.

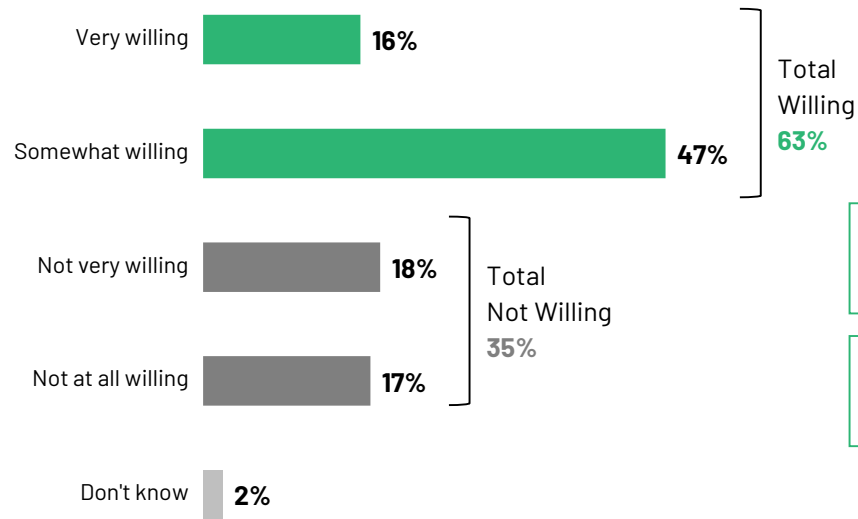


Base: All respondents (n=399)  
Q12. What types of trails would you most like to see more of in the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service? Select one.



# Willingness to pay increase in property taxes to fund improvements

- The majority (63%) of residents say they would be willing to pay an increase in property taxes to support some of the improvements or expansions identified in the survey.
- This includes 16% saying 'very willing' and 47% saying 'somewhat willing'.
- Slightly more than one-third (35%) of residents indicate they are unwilling to pay an increase in property taxes to fund any improvements.



**Total willing** is higher among residents who are 45+ years of age (includes 68% of 45-64 years and 67% of 65+ years versus 54% of 18-44 years).

**Total willing** is lower among residents of Electoral Area C (46% versus 67% of Electoral Area B, 64% of Vernon, 63% of Coldstream).

Base: All respondents (n=399)  
 Q13. To achieve some of the improvements or expansions identified in this survey, additional funding may be required. How willing would you be to pay an increase in property taxes to support these improvements?



# FINAL COMMENTS

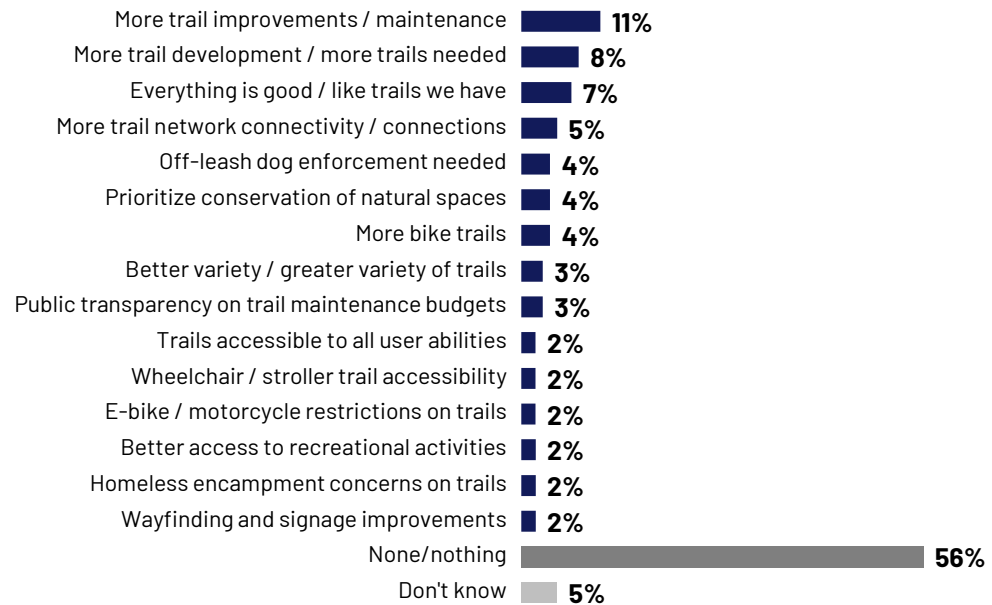
# 3.5



# Final comments and suggestions

(coded open-ends)

- At the end of the survey, residents were asked if they had any final comments or suggestions about the trails and natural spaces managed by the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service.
- Overall, 61% of residents do not provide any additional comments or suggestions (56% 'none/nothing' and 5% 'don't know').
- Of the open-ended comments and suggestions that are provided, the top mention is "more trail improvements / maintenance" (11%). This encompasses activities such as removing dead and fallen trees, cleaning trail debris, removing invasive species, repairing wooden walkways, resurfacing trails, enhancing trail tread (particularly during the winter), and managing dust.



Responses <2% not shown.  
 Base: All respondents (n=399)  
 Q14. Do you have any final comments or suggestions about the trails and natural spaces that are managed by the RDNO Greater Vernon Trails and Natural Spaces Service?



# 04 WEIGHTED SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS

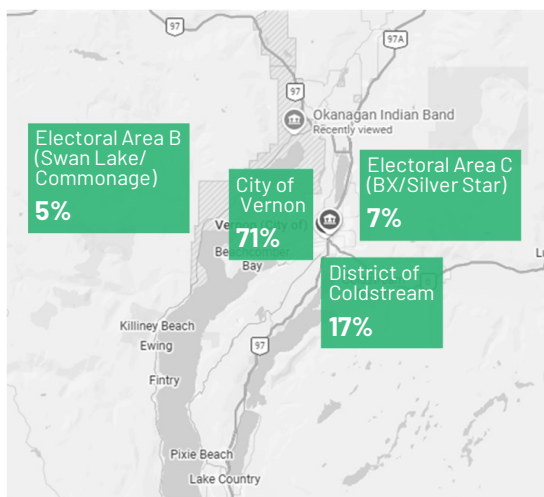


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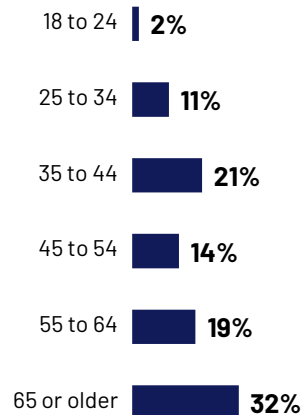


# Weighted sample characteristics

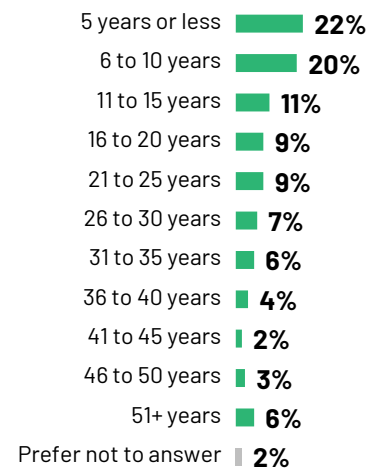
## COMMUNITY



## AGE



## NUMBER OF YEARS LIVING IN RDNO



Mean: 19 years

Base: All respondents (n=399)  
 QA. In which of the following communities do you currently live? Select one response.  
 QB. In which of the following age categories do you fall? Select one response.  
 Q15. How many years have you lived in the Regional District of North Okanagan?





# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Greater Vernon Advisory Committee

**File No:** 1700.2026.069

**FROM:** Finance and Parks, Recreation & Culture

**Date:** July 8, 2026

**SUBJECT:** 2026 Budget Follow-up – Grant Funding for Vernon Public Art Gallery and Greater Vernon Museum and Archives

## RECOMMENDATION 1:

That the presentation by the Greater Vernon Museum and Archives titled, *Current State and 2028 Readiness Update*, dated July 8, 2026, be received.

## RECOMMENDATION 2:

That the presentation by the Vernon Public Art Gallery Society titled, *2026 Annual Presentation and Transition Plan Update*, dated July 8, 2026, be received.

## SUMMARY:

During the 2026 Budget deliberations for the Greater Vernon Culture (069) service, the Committee included increases to the Vernon Public Art Gallery Society and Greater Vernon Museum and Archives Society that were subject to the organizations entering into multi-year agreements and presenting to the Committee on the details and need of the additional funding to support their operations, as well as their transition to the Greater Vernon Cultural Centre.

The presentations from each organization are included as attachments to this report, and the organizations will be in attendance to speak to the information and answer questions.

The following background information has been taken from the January 14, 2026 Greater Vernon Culture (069) 2026 budget report (with updated 2025 figures), and summarizes the requested increases.

### Greater Vernon Museum and Archives

The Greater Vernon Museum and Archives (GVMA) has been focusing on growing its earned revenue, and in 2025, saw a 30% increase over 2024. Fundraising, donations, endowment revenue, and earned revenue exceeded \$100,000 in 2025. The GVMA is requesting a \$60,000 (21.2%) increase to its 2026 grant and consideration of a funding agreement for a three-year term, as outlined in the table below, to prepare for the transition to the Greater Vernon Cultural Centre.

Report to: Greater Vernon Advisory Committee  
 From: Finance and Parks, Recreation & Culture Departments  
 Re: 2026 Budget Follow-up - Grant Funding for VPAG and GVMA

File No.: 1700.2026.069  
 Date: July 8, 2026  
 Page 2 of 2

	2025 Actual	2026 Requested	2027 Requested	2028 Requested
Grant	\$ 282,800	\$ 342,800	\$ 392,800	\$ 400,660
Increase (\$)	\$ 5,550	\$ 60,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 7,860
Increase (%)	2.0%	21.2%	14.6%	2.0%

The additional funding will enable increased capacity during the transition and ensure that programming delivery meets the community's expectations when the new building opens.

Vernon Public Art Gallery

The Vernon Public Art Gallery also continues to grow its earned revenue, exceeding \$100,000 in 2025. Fundraising, donations, endowment revenue, and earned revenue is estimated to be \$158,000 in 2025. The VPAG is requesting a \$77,500 (31.7%) increase to its 2026 grant and consideration of a funding agreement for a three-year term, as outlined in the table below, to prepare for the transition to the Greater Vernon Cultural Centre.

	2025 Actual	2026 Requested	2027 Requested	2028 Requested
Grant	\$ 244,840	\$ 322,340	\$ 372,340	\$ 379,790
Increase (\$)	\$ 4,800	\$ 77,500	\$ 50,000	\$ 7,450
Increase (%)	2.0%	31.7%	15.5%	2.0%

The additional funding will ensure capacity during the transition and that the delivery of programming meets the community's expectations when the new building opens.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

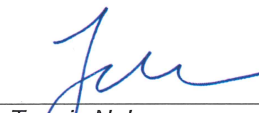
- Attachment 'A' – Greater Vernon Museum and Archives Presentation
- Attachment 'B' – Vernon Public Art Gallery Presentation

Respectfully Submitted by:




Stephen Banmen  
 General Manager, Finance

Respectfully Submitted by:



Tannis Nelson  
 Manager, Culture and Community Services

Approved for Inclusion:



David Sewell  
 Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment A

**THE MUSEUM**  
AND ARCHIVES OF GREATER VERNON

# Current State and 2028 Readiness Update

Preparing for the Greater Vernon  
Cultural Centre

Presentation to GVAC  
Adrianna Stange, Board President  
July 8, 2026



# Current State

*A capable organization, fully engaged, and stretched as it prepares for 2028.*



## A professional, committed team

Staff and volunteers deliver across collections, archives, curatorial, and public service



## An engaged, capable board

Renewed governance, active committees, and strong RDNO and community partnerships



## Strong community support

Growing public interest in the museum and the cultural centre project



## Operating at full capacity

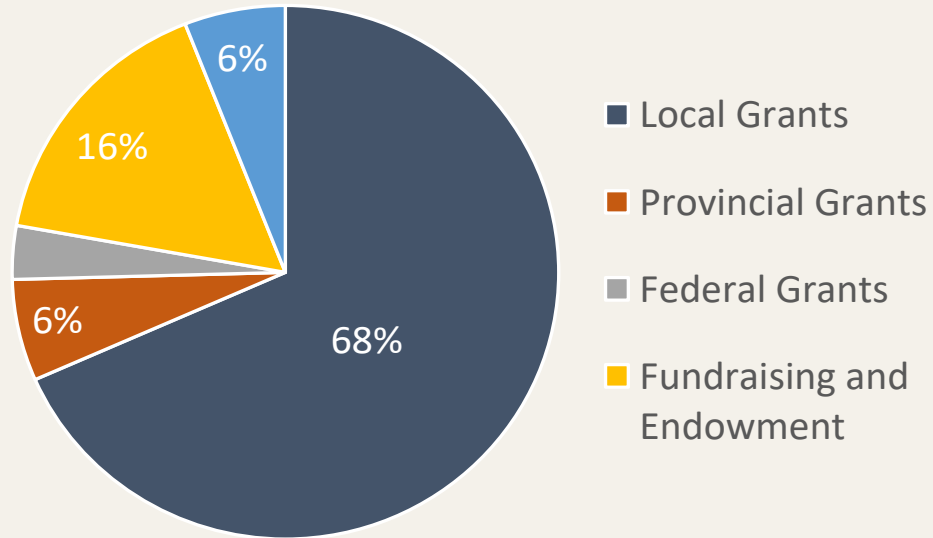
Four full-time staff are carrying the work of a much larger team, spanning operations, archives, collections, programming, marketing, volunteers, and front-desk coverage.

Several key roles remain to be filled, and the archives will require its own operating model once the museum moves to the GVCC.

# Current State

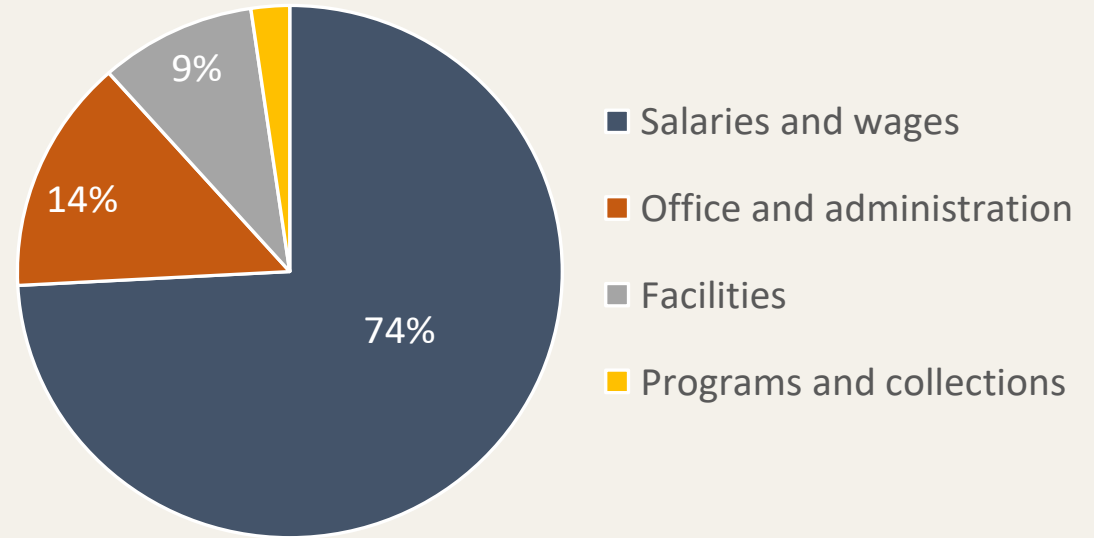
## Financial Position

### 2025 Revenue



**Total Revenue: \$453,124**

### 2025 Expenses



**Total Expenses: \$514,212**

**Deficiency of receipts over expenditures from operations: (\$61,078)**

# Progress: Programming & Exhibitions

*A year of exhibitions, education, and events that grew community engagement.*



## Two major exhibitions delivered

*Votes, Voices, Victory!* opened to a strong response, with a second feature exhibition now on display, *Battling the Blaze*



## Signature community events

Both exhibitions were paired with community events including a sold out speaker panel, opening reception, and free fire truck tours and games



## Education & school programming

2025 concluded with 22 school bookings bringing 483 students, pre-school to Grade 12, into museum learning



MAV Speaker Panel

### WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

CHALLENGING THE STATUS QUO

---

January 17th, 2026  
12-2 PM

The Museum & Archives of Vernon

---

**OUR SPEAKERS**

**HARWINDER SANDHU**  
MLA Vernon-Lumbly

**VANESSA MITCHELL**  
School District 22 Trustee

**JENELLE BREWER**  
OKB Council Member & Author

**TERESA DURNING**  
City Councillor

**KARI GARES**  
City Councillor

---

**Details**

- 1.5 hours of moderated discussion
- 30-minute audience Q&A
- Refreshments
- Admission: \$16
- RSVP online

---

Join in the conversation with panelists and contribute to the collective conversation!

In collaboration with our new exhibit *Votes Voices Victory!*

# Progress: Collections & Archives

*Preparing the collection for 2028 while strengthening stewardship and partnerships.*



## Deaccessioning Progress

748 items deaccessioned this year after committee review; 5,340 in total to date



## Collection Inventory

An intern and seven volunteers inventoried 700+ artifacts for the move



## Archival Digitization

Caetani fonds VHS tapes fully digitized; 113 items provided to MAXXI in Rome, Italy



## Indigenous Collections

Full Indigenous inventory shared with OKIB to guide next steps together



## Transfers & Move Planning

96 items placed with other institutions; GVCC storage layout planning complete

# Progress: Fund Development

*Diversifying revenue and building fundraising capacity for the years ahead.*



## Exhibition sponsorship secured

Corporate sponsorship secured in support of the museum's feature exhibitions



## BC Gaming grant reinstated

Community Gaming Grant funding restored for 2026, recovering a key revenue stream



## Project grant success

Successful project grant applications are supporting collections, archives, and programs



## A stronger foundation

The board established a Fundraising Committee last year, moving from planning into action with two board-approved initiatives to begin this fall.

# Gaps Requiring Investment

*Preparing responsibly for the move means investing in five areas over the next two to three years.*



## **Leadership Stability**

Stable executive leadership to guide the transition and enable every other plan



## **Staffing Capacity**

Enough people to run today's operations and prepare for the move simultaneously



## **Transition Coordination**

An integrated move plan owning inventory, packing, logistics, and continuity



## **Archives Operations**

A safe, staffed split-site model for the archives remaining in the current building



## **Revenue Development**

Building earned revenue through programming, memberships, and retail

# Transition Plan

*A staged plan that sequences the work into manageable steps.*



## Phase 1

### Readiness Review

**COMPLETE**

Current-state assessment, gap analysis, and a staged staffing roadmap.



## Phase 2

### Strategic Plan Refresh

**PLANNED**

Confirm priorities, planning assumptions, and community impact goals.



## Phase 3

### Operational & Staffing Plan

**PLANNED**

Detailed role design, sustainable staffing model, and volunteer strategy.



## Phase 4

### Implementation

**PLANNED**

Change management and recruitment sequencing toward the 2028 opening.

# Summary

**GVMA has done the work to understand where it is, what it needs, and how to get there.**

We have a committed team, a clear view of our gaps, and a staged approach to close them. Sustaining current services while preparing for the move requires capacity beyond our current envelope. The immediate priorities are leadership stability, critical staffing, and transition coordination.



## Leadership Stability

The first step that enables everything else



## Critical Staffing

Capacity to operate and prepare at once



## Transition Coordination

One owner for an integrated move plan

*With continued support, GVMA will move into the GVCC ready to serve the community well.*



## Discussion & Feedback

We welcome your questions, input, and guidance as we prepare for the transition together.

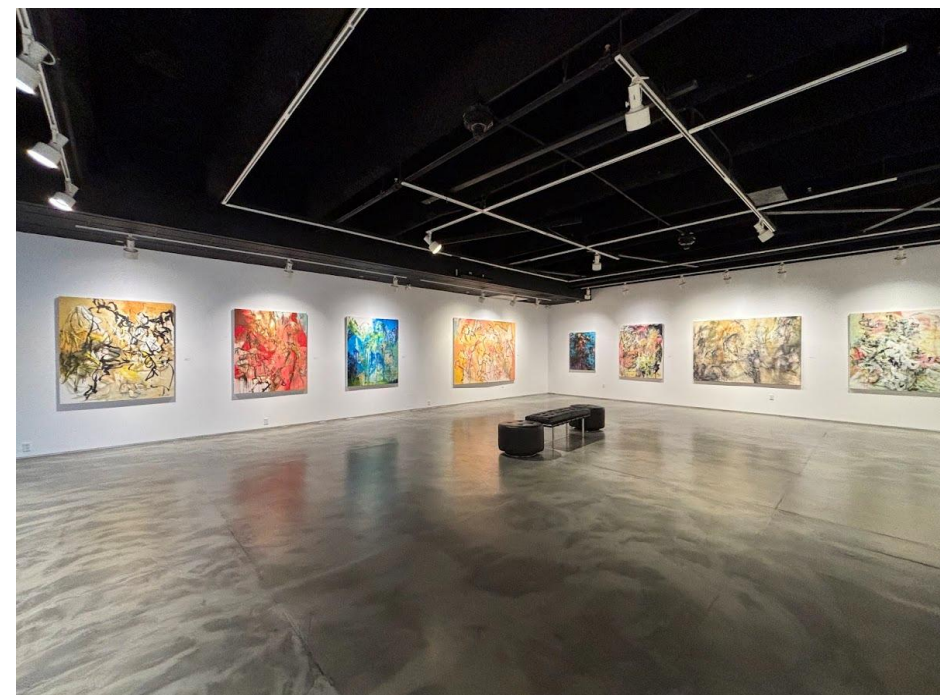
**THE MUSEUM**  
AND ARCHIVES OF GREATER VERNON

Thank You

Attachment B

# 2026 Annual Presentation & Transition Plan Update

*For Greater Vernon Advisory  
Committee*



July 8, 2026

# 2025 Highlights

- Strategic Plan Developed for 2026-2028
- Cultural Centre broke ground
- Midsummer's Eve of the Arts breaks record
- Philanthropy membership introduced
- Planned Giving workshops introduced



# Strategic Plan



## Executive Summary

The Vernon Public Art Gallery (VPAG) is entering a pivotal phase as we prepare for the opening of our new facility in 2028. This strategic plan for 2025–2028 builds on the foundation of our previous plan and positions VPAG as a leading cultural institution in the region.

Our focus over the next three years is clear:

- Lead a seamless transition into a purpose-built facility that enhances visitor experience and operational excellence.
- Strengthen financial resilience through diversified funding streams, bold fundraising initiatives, and sustainable revenue growth.
- Deepen community engagement by delivering inclusive, dynamic programming that reflects the diversity of our community and fosters authentic partnerships.
- Ensure organizational sustainability through strong governance, succession planning, and a culture of continuous improvement grounded in equity and respect. This plan reflects our commitment to remaining visitor-centric while advancing our role as a hub for creativity, dialogue, and cultural leadership. It serves as a roadmap for achieving long-term success and ensuring VPAG thrives as a regional destination for the visual arts.

# Community Support

The following businesses sponsored the VPAG during 2025:

- |                                      |                             |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Cypress Funeral & Cremation Services | Vantage One Credit Union    |
| Kal Tire                             | Vernon Family Dental        |
| Bannister Honda                      | Algra Bros                  |
| Clark Robinson                       | Okanagan Restoration        |
| Woolley & Co                         | North Okanagan Orthodontics |
| A & W                                | Wayside                     |
| Nixon Wenger                         | Beach Radio                 |
| The Morning Star                     | SVOI Media                  |
| Okanagan Spring Brewery              | Browns Transport            |
| Wayside Press                        | Uprooted Catering           |
| Big Steel Box                        | Gumtree Catering            |
| Sunbelt Rental                       | Apero Catering              |
|                                      | Tolko Industries Ltd.       |

The VPAG secured a \$1 Million donation for the new Cultural Facility from long time supporters the Galbraith Foundation!

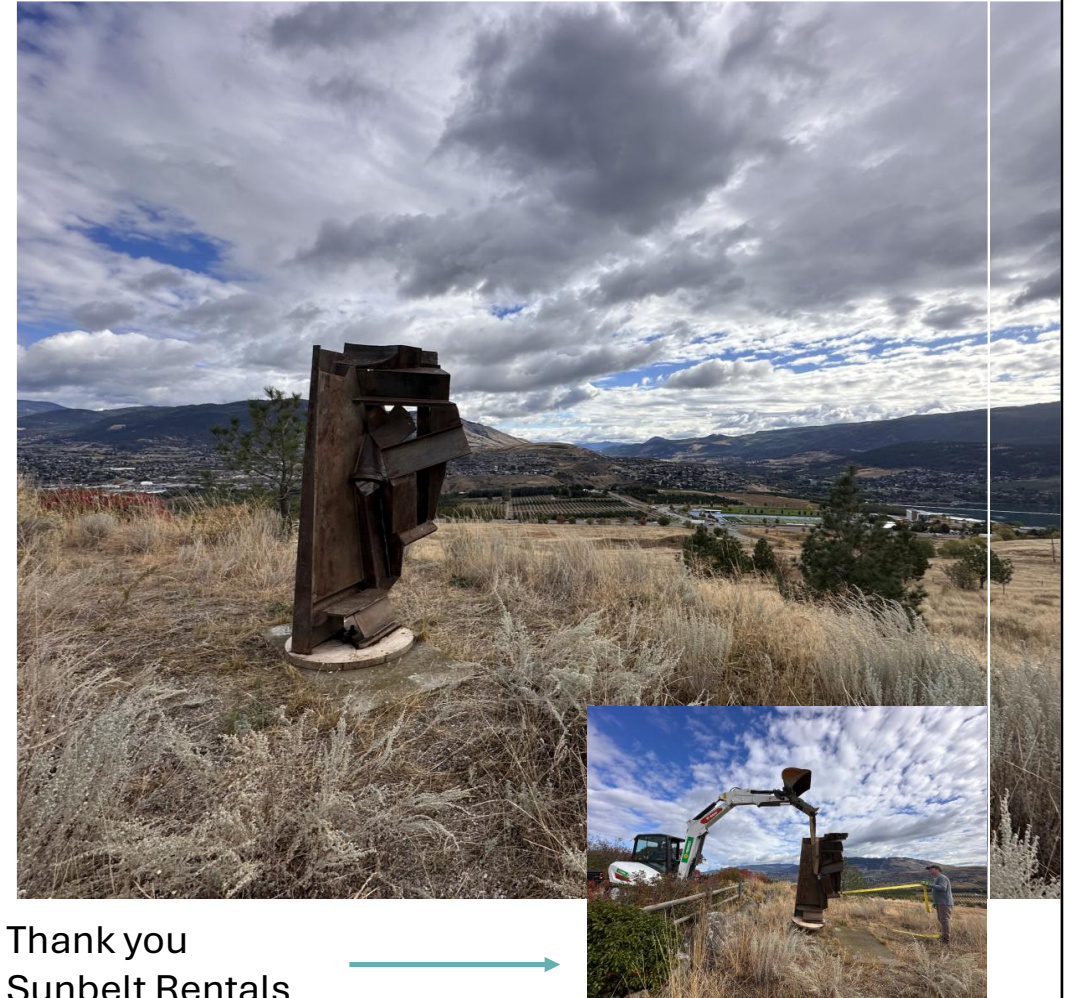
- **Midsummer’s Eve of the Arts broke the \$100,000 mark** at last year’s event. With 51 business auction packages and 188 art pieces donated, 2025's event was a true testament to our community’s passion for the arts.
- **Acquisitions** in 2025 included Brigitta Kocsis’ large-scale painting #techboyz\_8 as well as 24 drawings from the Ann Kipling estate, ranging from 1973– 2008, contributing important historical depth to the permanent collection.



Attachment B

# Community Partnership

On Loan to ABNC: One of the gallery's Permanent Collection pieces was moved to its new home at the Allan Brooks Nature Centre! The sculpture, *Corner Development* (1987), is a powerful steel work by renowned Canadian sculptor Peter Hide. Originally donated to the Vernon Public Art Gallery by David Mitchell, this significant piece now stands proudly in the beautiful grasslands of the Allan Brooks Nature Centre, overlooking the breathtaking Kalamalka Lake. We're proud to see this work recontextualized in a natural setting, where visitors can experience the intersection of art and environment in a whole new way.



Thank you  
Sunbelt Rentals



Attachment B

# Transition Plan

The VPAG is drafting a transition plan based on the confirmed elements that we have received information on. On the right, below are outstanding considerations that we have not yet received consultation on and therefore are unable to monetize into our operation budgets beginning in 2028.

BUILD		Person(s) Responsible	Timing
What - GOALS	Why - OBJECTIVES		
Lead a seamless and strategic transition into VPAG's new facility, ensuring it enhances visitor experience, operational effectiveness, and artistic impact.			
Governance for new facility in place	Draft Operational Plan for new facility in place by end of 2026 to influence governance structure negotiations.	Dauna/Staff	2026 Q4
			2027 Q2
	Negotiate governance structure based on operational plan.	Dauna/Board	2027 Q1
Gallery Operations ready for move	Create a transition plan	Dauna	2027 Q4
	Budget in place for move	Dauna	2027 Q4
Become a nationally-recognized Category A institution.	To ensure we are protecting the permanent collection to national standards.		TBD
	To provide the opportunity for the VPAG to acquire notable additions to its collection.		TBD
	To ensure our climate controls meet CCI specifications for category A	Victoria/Lubos	2028-29
<b>Building complete for Q2, 2028 move</b>			2028 Q2
	To create a celebration opportunity for the opening of the new facility		Q4 2027
	To create a curatorial vision for the new facility reflecting the new scope and direction	Dauna/Victoria/Lubos	2026 Q3
Level up our organization within the new space	To capitalize on the new exhibition halls to attract innovative and groundbreaking exhibitions	Victoria/Lubos	2028

## Consultation Needed

★ Exhibition Hall's Equipment and Design consultation review (Highest Priority)

Governance

IT systems

Security

Back of House, Office, Classroom consultation review

Gift Shop / Entrance Operations

# Curatorial Timeline

In addition to the timeline below, Curatorial will continue to run regular operational programming to meet 2026-2027 targets.





# TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES VS. TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES

Attachment B

Fiscal Years 2013–14 to 2029 | Figures in CAD Dollars

● Total Operating Revenues ● Total Operating Expenses

— Historical (Actual)  
- - - Projected



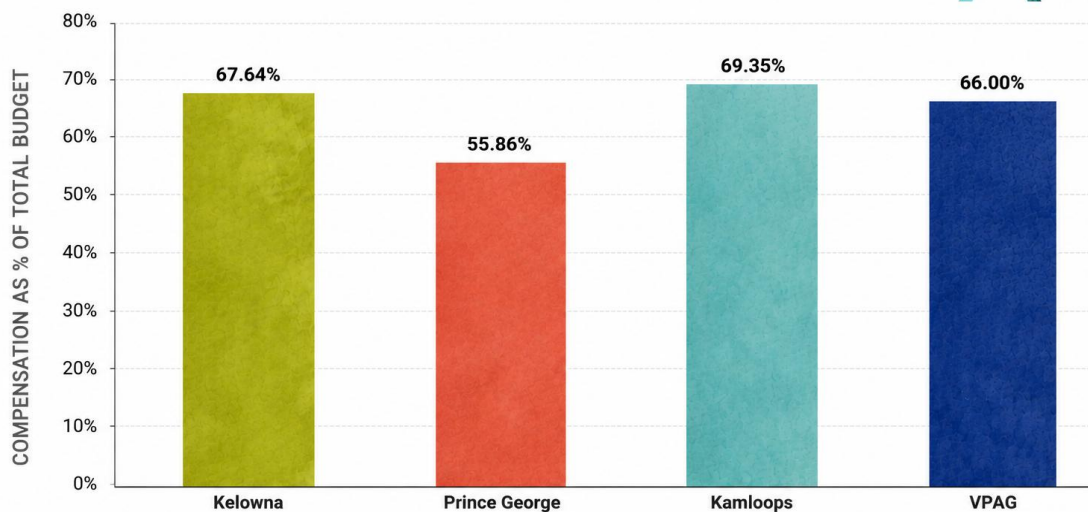
Note: 2027–2029 are projected figures.

# Compensation Evaluation

- VPAG is currently on par as % of budget and is anticipating staff growth for the new facility.
- VPAG is working with **Evolve Leadership Consulting** to determine the ideal mix of positions needed moving forward.
- *Based on 2025 financial data.*

## COMPENSATION AS % OF TOTAL BUDGET

Year 1 / Year 2 (CAD)



Compensation represents between 55.9% and 69.4% of total budgets among the four organizations.

Source: Financial Statements | All amounts in Canadian Dollars (CAD)

2028 Gap \$197,700

2029 Gap of \$128,400



This gap can be further reduced through a variety of means.

- Grant Strategy
- Entrance fee structure
- Governance surrounding rentable & programmable space

# Grant Strategy

## Provincial Funding

Become a regionally designated organization.

The VPAG currently provides programs throughout the North Okanagan region but are not yet recognized at that level with **Community Gaming Grants**. We will continue to pursue this designation which will open our level of funding beyond the municipal maximum of \$125,000.

The new facility will add to the credibility of our Business Case for that purpose.

Where possible, VPAG will seek out project grants to assist with project specific activities & equipment purchases, recognizing such money does not impact overall gaps in operations.

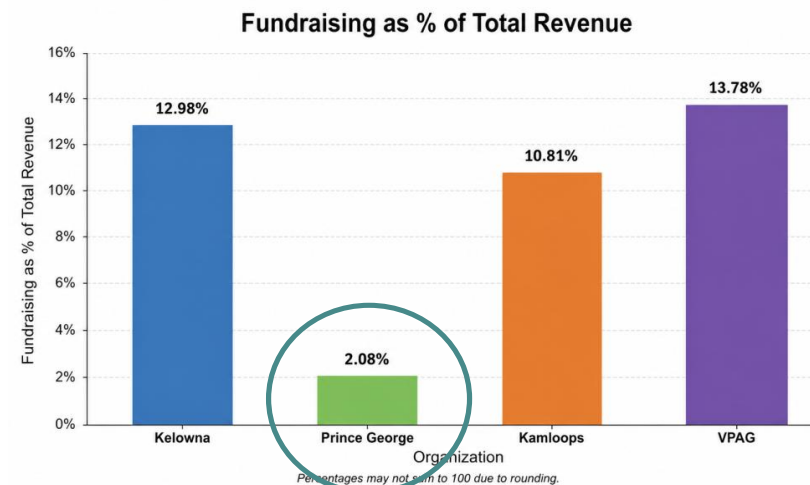
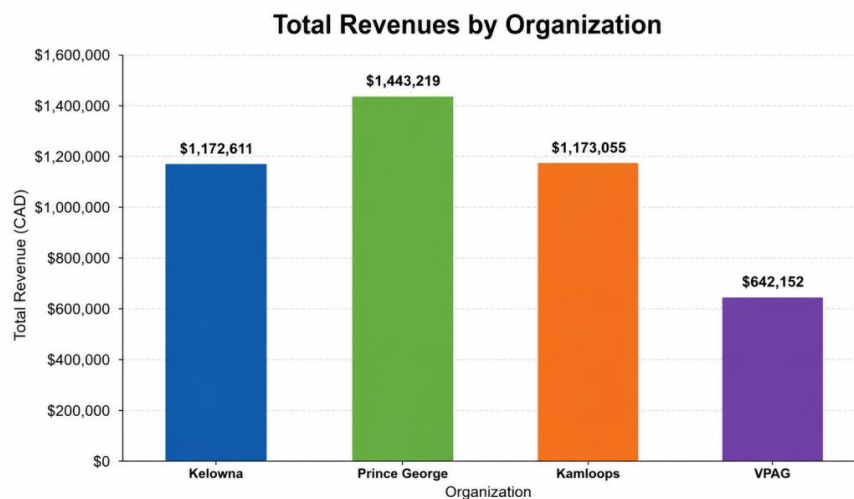
## Federal Funding

The VPAG is pursuing **project grants** with Canada Council for the Arts at this time. An organization must receive 2 project grants within a 5-year period in order to qualify for **multi-year or composite funding**.

## Regional Funding

The VPAG will work with RDNO to strategize multi-year funding in alignment with the scope and scale of operations within the new facility.

# Gallery Comparables



We are analyzing other **Category A** institutions to help project our operational estimates for the new facility, *recognizing* there are differences.

# Revenue Generation

- As a regional institution, the VPAG has the potential to follow the successful example of the **Two Rivers Gallery**.
- Two Rivers brings in roughly \$300,000 in programming revenue.
- This means they are able to focus more capacity to providing quality programming for revenue generation over fundraising.
- **Governance** will play a critical role in determining the level of success the anchor tenants will have within the new cultural centre in maximizing this potential.



# Core Public Programming



Programming and Education bring in

**23%**

of all Gallery Visitors

At the Gallery

**22%**

of Visitors are Youth

**Educational Programming:** VPAG offers public programming for audiences of all ages, such as artist talks, exhibition tours, presentations, and hands-on workshops. These allow community members of all ages to engage with the artists and the messages they are conveying with their artwork.

**Events:** VPAG conducts various signature events in order to reach new audiences in a social atmosphere. Riot on the Roof and Art After Dark are two successful events that help us to reach new visitors and introduce them to the benefits of the Visual Arts.

**Community Engagement:** The VPAG participates in community events such as the SunShine Festival, SunDog Festival, Chamber Expo in order to engage with the broader community.

**Biggest growth potential** within the new facility.



**BC MUSEUMS  
ASSOCIATION**

**Fall 2028**

**BC Museums  
Association  
Conference**

Hosted by the VPAG in  
partnership with Cultural  
Organizations throughout  
the North Okanagan

Attachment B

# Thank you

Dauna Kennedy

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dauna@vernonpublicartgallery.com

Sarah Kennedy

President

Victoria Verge

Curator

