



# The Board Reports

Regional District of Central Okanagan  
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## Highlights of the Regional Board Meeting– April 9, 2001

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### Regional Hospital District Meets

The same members that make up the Regional District Board form the Regional Hospital District Board. This Board makes decisions relating to capital expenditures for hospital facility construction and major equipment. Hospital District meetings are held just prior to the regular meeting of the Regional Board as necessary to allocate funding for various projects. For more information on the Okanagan Similkameen Health Region in general, visit their web site at [www.oshr.org](http://www.oshr.org)

At the Hospital District Meeting held last night, the Board passed bylaws to provide funding for two projects that had received previous approval. The first bylaw was for a renovation and addition to the Renal Section; and the second, the addition of one operating room at Kelowna General Hospital. The Regional District, City of Kelowna, and Districts of Peachland and Lake Country collectively funds 40% of these capital expenditures. Funding for the remaining portion of these projects comes from the Provincial Government.

Contact: *Harold Reay* 763-4918  
*Director of Financial Services*

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### Update on OUC

Diana Groffen, Vice Chair, Board of Governors and Alan Coyle, Communications Officer for Okanagan University gave the Regional Board an update on OUC. The presentation covered current and future plans for OUC and provided information about some of the issues they are currently facing. The presentation is part of an annual update to keep community leaders and the public informed about the activities of Okanagan University College.

Contact: *Diana Groffen,* 862-5410  
*Vice Chair Board of Governors, OUC*

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### Water Conference Gets the Go Ahead

The Regional Board received a report from the Okanagan Basin Water Board regarding future directions in water management. The Regional Board gave approval to authorize use of funds previously requisitioned for water management actions to host a conference on water management in the Okanagan, to assist in setting up a central water related data clearing house at OUC and to promote coordinated and cost effective water management actions among Okanagan communities by facilitating communications at a staff level.

The Conference will provide a venue for exchange of information and help reduce any duplication in research efforts.

Contact: *Robert Hobson* 763-4918  
*Chair, Okanagan Basin Water Board*

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### Fir Beetle Management Program Gets Underway

Nick Ankle of Gorman Brothers and representatives from the Ministry of Forests gave the Board an overview of the plan to manage fir beetle in the south slopes area. The fir beetle problem has been developing in the southern Okanagan since 1998, although it has continually recurred over the years. This particular outbreak was identified last fall and plans are underway to manage the spread of this destructive pest. Forest professionals will use a system of tree traps to attract the beetle, as well as selected logging in specific areas to remove infested trees. It is expected that the program to reduce this threat to the south slope forest areas will start in August, once all the assessments have been completed. As part of process, Gorman's and various Ministry of Forests representatives will meet with neighbourhood groups affected, such as the South Slopes Residents Association to update them on the current situation.

Contact: *Nick Arkle, Woodlands Mgr.* 768-5131  
*Gorman Brothers Lumber Ltd.*

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### Board Considers Traffic Safety

The Regional Board received a letter from Eric Buckley, Chair of School District No.23, regarding the position of a Traffic Safety Officer. For the last seven months the School District has employed a Traffic Safety Officer to work on the development of safety programs for students. The Regional Board decided not to approve the \$35,000 request from the School District to fund this position.

Contact: *Wayne d'Easum* 763-4918  
*Chief Administrative Officer*

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### March Building Statistics

During the month of March there were 72 permits issued with a total construction value of \$6,300,402. During this same time there were 43 permits completed with a total construction value of \$3,457,088. Of the permits issued during the month of March, the majority (35) were for single-family dwellings.

Contact: *Kelly Roth* 868-5211  
*Director of Inspection Services*

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## **Mission Park Greenway Phase 2 Gets Underway**

The Regional Board gave support in principle for the concept of the Mission Creek Greenway, Phase 2 Project. It extends from the Ziprick Road entrance to Mission Creek Regional Park to the Field Road entrance of Scenic Canyon Regional Park. Phase 2 of the Greenway consists of the design and construction of three bridges, and universal access trail wherever possible, adding an additional 8.4 km to the current Mission Creek Greenway Trail. A corporate and public fundraising campaign, led by "The Friends of Mission Creek", will get underway this year to meet the challenge of raising the \$1,000,000 required to complete this project.

The Board gave approval to developing a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Kelowna and the Friends of Mission Creek for the planning, design and financial administration of the project. The Board will consider final approval to the Management Agreement between the City of Kelowna and the Regional District once the operation and capital estimates are completed.

Contact: *Bill Vos* 868-5232  
*Director of Parks and Facilities*

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## **Grants-In-Aid**

International Sculpture Symposium - \$2,500 from Electoral Area 'Westbank', Director Len Novakowski.

Kelowna Rural RCMP Bike Patrol - \$1,000 from Electoral Area 'Westbank', Director Len Novakowski

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## **April Art Wall**

Take a moment to enjoy the works of Peigi Macmillan on the art wall, at our office at 1450 KLO Road. Described as an artist, educator, and birder, Ms. Macmillan uses acrylics to create collages. She is working on a series of bird collages to pay tribute to the beauty of their form, their personalities, and their inheritance. At the same time, she is experimenting with acrylics to try to get the effect of "geological artwork" – desert varnish – with petroglyphs.

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