

Funds sought for water work

Colton Davies - Feb 2, 2018 / 11:03 am



Photo: Contributed
Vaseux Lake

The Regional District Okanagan Similkameen is looking for funding for a pair of environmental projects in the South Okanagan.

On Thursday, the RDOS board voted unanimously to seek funding from the Okanagan Basin Water Board, through the water conservation and quality control grant program.

The first project would be phase two of assessing the water quality of Vaseux Lake, valued at \$25,000.

The small, shallow lake has been a [subject of concern](#) for nearby residents in recent months, as siltation is causing part of the lake to turn into land.

"Phase two will include a year of gathering data plus analysis with conclusions providing info on the pollution sources entering Vaseux Lake, influencing the growth of milfoil and algae blooms," RDOS staff said in their report to board members.

In the second project, the RDOS is seeking \$10,000 to help property owners make their properties more resilient to climate change.

All three of the Okanagan's regional districts are applying separately for funding to help create a "resilient landscape outreach program," which they plan to undertake collaboratively.

RDOS staff said the program would involve visiting homes and helping landowners "adjust to the 'new normal'" of uncertain weather. Measures include improving water use efficiency and addressing landscaping and irrigation concerns, among other steps.