

THE OKANAGAN BASIN

The Okanagan Basin spans the communities of Osoyoos in the south to Armstrong in the north – incorporating most of the three Okanagan regional districts.

Clean water is the most precious natural asset in the Okanagan – essential to the beauty of our landscapes, our healthy economy and the well-being of our citizens and ecosystems.



DIRECTORS AND STAFF

Chair Stu Wells, Mayor, Town of Osoyoos
Vice-Chair Rick Fairbairn, Director, RDNO Electoral Area 'D'
James Baker, Mayor, District of Lake Country
Graeme James, Councillor, City of Kelowna
Doug Findlater, Mayor, District of West Kelowna
Michael Brydon, Director, RDOS Electoral Area 'F'
Gordon Clark, Councillor, District of Summerland
Buffy Baumbrough, Councillor, City of Vernon
Gyula Kiss, Councillor, District of Coldstream
Timothy Manuel, Chief, Upper Nicola Indian Band
Bernard Bauer, Chair, Okanagan Water Stewardship Council
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WATER MANAGEMENT IN THE OKANAGAN

“The purpose of the Okanagan Basin Water Board is to provide leadership to protect and enhance quality of life in the Okanagan Basin through sustainable water resource management.”

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WHAT WE DO

The Okanagan Basin Water Board addresses water issues that cross community boundaries by providing information to decision makers and working toward agreements that protect the resource for everyone.

We provide the following essential functions:

- Implementing basin-wide water management programs
- Advocating and representing local needs to senior government
- Providing science-based information on Okanagan water
- Communicating and coordinating between local governments and other stakeholders
- Building funding opportunities

EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The *Eurasian Watermilfoil Management Program* focuses on removing aquatic weeds in winter (rototilling) and cutting stems in summer (harvesting). The goal of the program is to reduce the density of weeds so they do not interfere with public enjoyment of lakes, or negatively impact aquatic ecosystems.



WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The *Water Management Program* connects the dots between the people, the information, the policies and the plans we need to protect water in the Okanagan.

The program includes:

- Water Conservation & Quality Improvement Grant Program
- Water Stewardship Council (technical advisory council to the Board)
- Water Science (including the Water Supply & Demand Project)
- Communication & Outreach (including the Sustainable Water Strategy)

SEWAGE FACILITIES GRANT PROGRAM

The *Sewage Facilities Grant Program* provides funding for municipalities to upgrade or replace sewage treatment facilities or extend community sewers. The goal of the program is to reduce nutrient input to Okanagan mainstem lakes from wastewater discharges.

