

Grants for water quality

Okanagan Water Board opens floodgates for grant applications

Sarita Patel - Nov 28, 2019 / 6:10 pm



Photo: Okanagan Basin Water Board

Facieux Creek is an important waterway that drains into Okanagan Lake.

The Okanagan Basin Water Board is accepting applications to its Water Conservation and Quality Improvement grant program. There will be a total of \$350,000 available in 2020, as the board recently approved a \$50,000 increase in funding.

"We're very happy to enhance funding for this program," said Sue McKortoff, OBWB chair and Mayor of Osoyoos.

"Anything we can do to support the quality and quantity of water in our valley will be key as our population continues to grow, and as we see the impacts of climate change in what is already a water-stressed region."

"Ensuring we are taking care of our water for the future is critical," she added, noting that past projects have shown great success in helping address these issues.

This is the first increase in grant funding since the program began in 2006, recognizing that project costs have gone up.

"This year, our main focus is on encouraging collaborative projects that provide water benefits in large areas throughout the valley," added James Littley, operations and grants manager.

Projects that are partnerships between different organizations and span multiple jurisdictions are more likely to receive funding.

Successful applicants can receive up to \$30,000. Full criteria can be found on the [OBWB website](#).

The application deadline is Feb. 28 at 4 p.m.