

Water Sustainability in the South Okanagan

- PART 1 – CONTEXT PRESENTATIONS

- Partnerships, Partnerships, Partnerships
- Communities in Transition**
- Regional Growth Strategy

- PART 2 – “A MINI-SUMMIT”

Water for Life and Livelihoods:
Protecting the Agricultural Legacy and
Strengthening Communities

Water Sustainability in the South Okanagan: Balancing Settlement and Ecology

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THE REAL ESTATE
FOUNDATION
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

We promote...

- Responsible use and conservation of land and real estate
- Informed practitioners

BCWWA Grants

2003	Water Balance Model	\$50,000
2003/04	education & outreach	\$32,250
2004	Convening for Action	\$25,000
2005	South Okanagan work	<u>\$30,000</u>
		\$137,250

RDOS Population Growth

Location	1996	2005	% Change
Unincorporated	22,862	25,397	3.8
Osoyoos	4,152	4,801	4.1
Keremeos	1,204	1,306	2.2
Summerland	10,927	11,405	1.1
Overall	78,593	83,037	1.7

Columbia Valley Research

- 75-121% increase in home prices '00-'02
- <20% increase in household incomes
- 40% non-resident ownership in RDEK--
65% since 2000
- all-time high building permit activity
- more building in unincorporated areas
- many new jobs & influx of capital



Growth = Change





Communities in transition

Real Estate Foundation of BC

www.communitytransition.org

Settlement

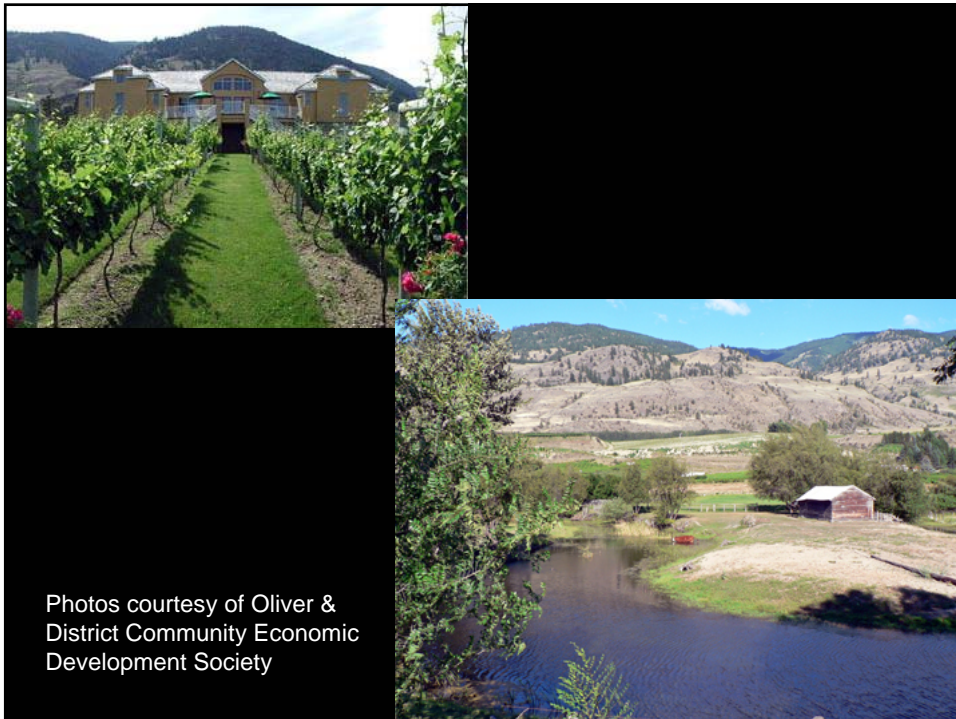
Ecology

Settlement is human activity of any kind upon the land. It is habitation. **Habitation** is layered systems.

Ecology is natural systems. It is water, climate, flora and fauna, and their relationships.

Balancing Settlement & Ecology

Province
Area
Landscape/Watershed
Region (regional government)
Locale (local government)
Community
Neighbourhood
Zone (wetland, riparian, agricultural, multi-family, etc.)
Parcel
Site
Lot



Water Sustainability = Stewardship

- Urban water conservation to support urban change
- Agricultural conservation to support agricultural growth
- Healthy watersheds and aquifers?

Public Consultation Canada West Foundation

- *Water Conservation and Economic Growth*
- Alberta consultation process

Canada West Findings

- Current public policy discouraging
- Common myths
- Lack of metrics
- Lack of human resources

Convening for Action in the South Okanagan

“Water-Centric Planning” in Oliver

1. Water management at the site level and in the landscape
2. “Made in Oliver” strategy
3. Water-Centric Planning Guidebook
4. Local leadership
5. “Water for Life and Livelihoods”

*Markets are ahead of perceptions.
Perceptions are ahead of politics.
Political decisions address issues that have
already transformed.*

*Jonathan Schechter
Charture Institute*

