

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: J. Zaffino, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: April 17, 2025

RE: **Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 3106, 2025**

Administrative Recommendation:

THAT Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 3106, 2025, a bylaw of the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen to authorize the borrowing of up to ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) to purchase a Corporate Building within the City of Penticton be read a first, second and third time and be forwarded to the Inspector of Municipalities for approval; and

THAT the maximum term for which debentures may be issued to secure the debt created by this bylaw is thirty years (30); and

THAT upon approval of the Inspector, approval for Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 3106, 2025 be obtained from the electorate within the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen through an alternative approval process (AAP) in accordance with the *Local Government Act*; and

THAT the deadline for submitting elector response forms in relation to Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 3106, 2025 to the Corporate Officer is no later than 4:30 pm on Thursday, July 31, 2025; and

THAT the elector response form attached to the report dated April 17, 2025 be the approved form for the Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 3106, 2025 alternative approval process; and

THAT the total number of eligible electors to which the alternative approval process applies is 75,283; and

THAT the number of elector responses required to prevent the bylaw from proceeding without a referendum is 7,528.

Purpose:

To provide the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen with the legislative authority to borrow up to ten million dollars \$10,000,000.00 to purchase a Corporate Building within the City of Penticton.

Reference:

Letters Patent dated March 4, 1966
Local Government Act

Business Plan Objective:

4.0 Governance & Oversight in a Representative Democracy

Elector Approval:

Section 345 of the *Local Government Act* and Section 86 of the *Community Charter* outline the requirements of the AAP. The Board must establish a deadline for elector response forms, establish an elector response form, and determine the number of eligible electors in the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen.

Staff propose statutory advertising as follows:

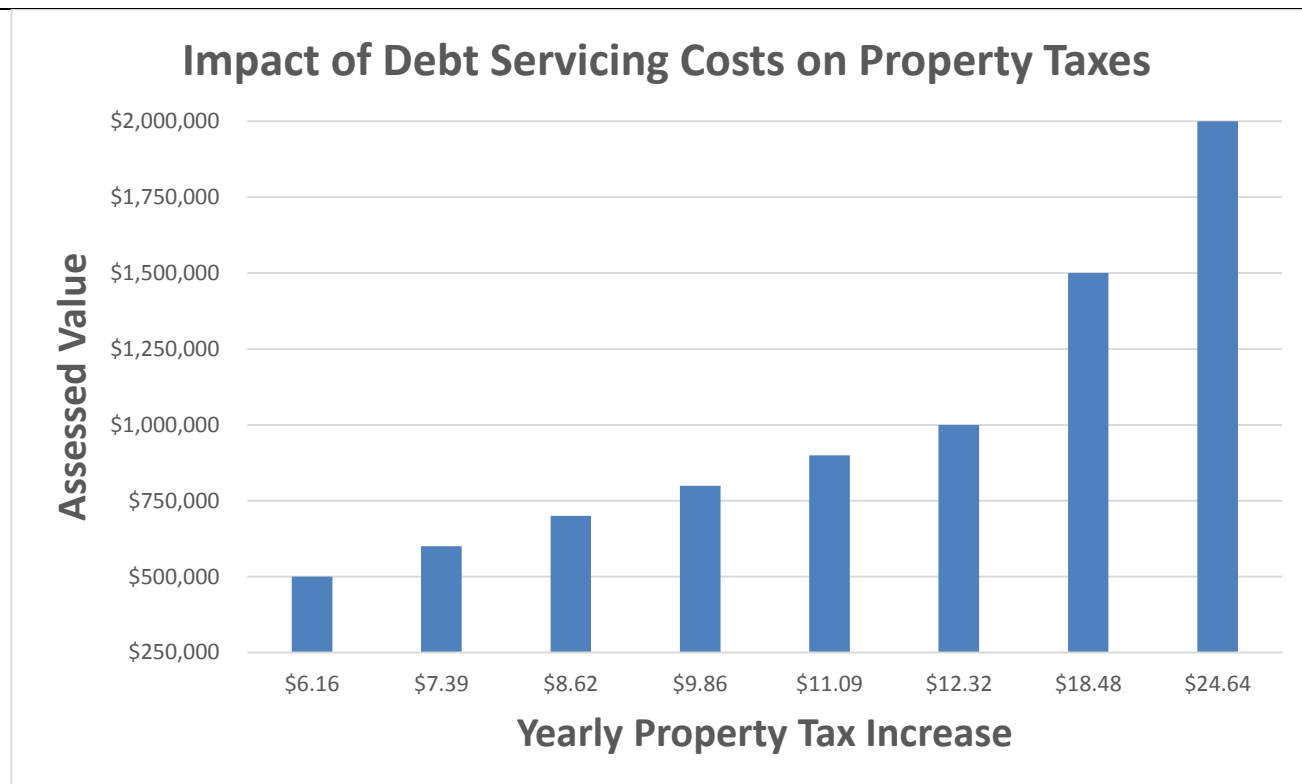
Newspaper		
Black Press Media	Keremeos Review	Last day to post before June 23/30
	Penticton Western News	Last day to post before June 23/30
	Similkameen Spotlight	Last day to post before June 23/30
	Summerland Review	Last day to post before June 23/30
Penticton Herald		Last day to post before June 23/30
Times Chronicle	South Okanagan (Oliver/Osoyoos)	Last day to post before June 23/30

The deadline for elector response forms must be at least thirty days after the second publication date advertised, therefore the deadline date will be Thursday, July 31, 2025.

The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen does not maintain a voters list. The Regional District's GIS department has calculated that the number of eligible electors within the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen is 75,283. If the number of signed elector response forms received prior to the deadline is less than 10% of the estimated eligible electors, the Board may consider adopting the bylaw. If the number of signed elector response forms received prior to the deadline is more than 10% of the estimated eligible electors, the bylaw could either be abandoned or could proceed to elector assent through referendum.

Financial Implications:

Annual debt servicing costs will have an estimated tax impact of \$1.23 per \$100,000 assessed property value.



Communication Strategy:

The following public engagement initiatives will be offered:

- The statutory requirement of advertising the APP in two editions of a newspaper; noted above

Additional Engagement Initiatives		
Castanet	Penticton/Oliver/Osoyoos	
Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)	RDOS, Member Municipalities	Develop post for all participating municipalities using social media
Voyent Alert	RDOS, Member Municipalities	Develop post for all participating municipalities using Voyent Alert
Poster		Develop poster for public notice boards and municipalities throughout the RDOS
RDOS Regional Connections	Web Page	Develop AAP page with required forms and bylaw

The Province of BC has developed a guide for local governments in BC on the alternative approval process. The guide, although created primarily for local government staff and elected officials, contains information which is an excellent resource for the public on helping to understand why an

AAP is held instead of an Assent Vote (referendum). Staff have developed a more condensed guide geared toward the public and a copy will be available on the AAP webpage.

Alternatives:

1. THAT approval for Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 3106, 2025, be obtained from the electorate within the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen through an Assent Voting (referendum) process.
2. THAT Bylaw No. 3106, 2025, not proceed.

Will a PowerPoint presentation be presented at the meeting? No

Respectfully submitted: <u>"Diane Vaykovich"</u>	Endorsed by: <u>"Gillian Cramm"</u> G. Cramm, Acting Corporate Officer
--	---