

Q: What is the Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO) doing to help Lake Okanagan Resort property owners?

A: The RDCO has connected directly with the ministries and agencies to identify a clear path or process map to guide reconstruction. RDCO staff have identified specific representatives for agencies required outside the RDCO to support property owner in their outreach for information. In particular, the process map and contacts this will help property owners understand what is needed to complete the work needed to rebuild power, water and wastewater before building permits can be accepted by the RDCO. Please find a process map and agency contacts on rdco.com/resiliency.

Q: It says our building is within 50 m of an archaeological site what would this mean to us for the rebuilding? If we were to rebuild in the same location and the same type of building, would it be easier to get the permitting after the infrastructure is built? Thank you in advance for the answers

A: Archaeology review is governed under the Heritage Conservation Act and is a provincial function. There are known archaeological sites located within 50 m of the Lake Okanagan Resort property. The Province is committed to supporting residents in rebuilding their homes. To facilitate this, the Archaeology Branch is developing a Wildfire Structure Heritage Investigation Permit to support expedited rebuild. If you are interested in having your work completed under this permit, your chosen consulting archaeologist will be able to further advise and liaise with the Archaeology branch. You may also apply for your own permit, be advised that the standard permit application and issuance process takes approximately 20 to 40 weeks. The permit application process includes an application review by Archaeology Branch staff, referral to First Nations, and subsequent engagement. For more general information, visit the Archaeology Branch website at www.gov.bc.ca/archaeology.

Q: Does RDCO have an option of taking over the infrastructure for the area?

A: The RDCO Utility Acquisition Policy doesn't have the option to take privately-owned infrastructure, it must be freely given and fully funded.

The same Policy outlines the process and requires that the majority of utility customers and owners request the RDCO investigate feasibility of utility acquisition. The consent of the utility owner is also required. As is freedom of the utilities from legal entanglements.

The policy is available [here](#) for those who want to research and learn more.

Q: Can RDCO influence BC Assessment to drop the property tax from the properties that cannot be rebuilt due to natural disasters?

A: BC Assessment is an independent agency that values all property in BC. Local governments in BC cannot influence those valuations. However, BC Assessment considered the impact of the McDougall Creek Wildfire on properties at LOR in determining their value for 2024.

Q: Is there anything the RDCO can assist with to ensure the timely rebuilding of the infrastructure at LOR?

A: The RDCO will continue to facilitate discussion and provide information as it becomes available. Our legal tools as a regional district are limited when it comes to enforcing action. We can require compliance to resolve health and safety concerns, like ensuring proper and timely demolition of unsafe buildings. However, we can't require a private company on private property to rebuild a their infrastructure (i.e. water) quickly or at all.

Q: Can I live in my RV onsite?

A: Temporary RV use is not a permitted use under the current zoning for any of the properties at Lake Okanagan Resort.