

Hillside Development

A hillside development strategy supports development in appropriate locations while protecting the natural topography and maintaining and enhancing the quality of hillside habitat.

Active Transportation

Combining multi-use paths along road expansion projects is one way the City is developing transportation infrastructure that eases traffic congestion while providing accessible clean, green travel options such as biking or walking.

- ▶ Kelowna now has more than 240 kilometres of bike lanes – the highest per capita in British Columbia.
- ▶ Highway 97 upgrades include sidewalks, new lighting, six RapidBus BC Transit pullouts and two High Occupancy Vehicle lanes, which encourage alternate modes of transportation, while creating a safer means of travel.

Waste Management

The Glenmore Landfill composts materials such as yard waste to produce Glenmore Grow.

The compost operation will exceed 40,000 tonnes produced in 2009, up from less than 15,000 tonnes in 2003. The City of Kelowna was one of the first in the province to capture landfill gases and convert them to electricity. Annually, the microturbine system helps prevent approximately 25,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases from entering the atmosphere.

Solar Power

Kelowna continues to explore new options for solar power, as one of the province's SolarBC Communities. Solar-powered trash compacting bins were introduced, in addition to solar lighting in parks and 28 pedestrian-controlled solar crosswalk signals. A solar hot water installation is planned for the Kelowna Family Y and Athans Pool in Rutland.



Firsts & Bests

- ▶ 2008 Solar Community of the Year
- ▶ 2007, 2008 Provincial Green Cities 2nd Place Award
- ▶ Ranked as one of the top ten cities in Canada to adopt sustainable transportation practices (Annual Smart Transportation Report)
- ▶ National Commuter Challenge Winner (Central Okanagan) 2007
- ▶ Planning Institute of BC Award 2007 - Hillside Development Audit
- ▶ First Organization in BC accredited under the new PlanetHealth BC Pest Management Program
- ▶ 2008 Best Blooming Community in Canada
- ▶ Received the Government Finance Officers Association Canadian Award for Distinguished Budget Presentation seven times and the Financial Reporting award six times.

Protecting the Future

The City continues to reach out to keep citizens educated and enthused about protecting our beautiful home. The City also works with businesses to implement sustainable practices.

Annual Events

- ▶ Earth Hour
- ▶ Environmental Mind Grind School Competition
- ▶ Earth Day
- ▶ Mayor's Environmental Expo
- ▶ Kokanee Salmon Festival
- ▶ Walk and Roll Car Free Day



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Building a Sustainable City

2009 Update



Committed to Sustainability

The City of Kelowna is passionate about environmental issues and has implemented many green initiatives to create a sustainable community for the health and wealth of current and future generations – emphasizing that sustainability isn't just about the environment any more.

A healthy, active community

The City of Kelowna is committed to fostering a healthy, active community.

Active Living

The City continues to support active living, providing more than 32,000 recreational programming hours each year and developing new city parks. Recent new facilities include tennis courts, an outdoor adult exercise park at the Parkinson Recreation Centre and new courts, sportfields and pathways in City Park.

Enhancing our natural surroundings and creating functionality, the City developed an artful Waterfront Parks Plan, a Linear Park Master Plan and a progressive Mountain Bike Strategy.

Vibrant Community

More than \$3 million invested to support arts and culture events and activities, including community public art projects and sculptural installations.

The City's cultural district is thriving with independent artist studios, galleries, theatres and stages, restaurants and boutiques to create an atmosphere unique to Kelowna. Heritage preservation projects such as the Guisachan House restoration and the Laurel Packinghouse renovation keep Kelowna's past alive.



“Sustainability and strong urban design guide our development decisions and investment in transportation infrastructure.”

– Mayor Sharon Shepherd

A natural, protected environment

Maintaining Kelowna's natural beauty is essential and drives the City to ensure a natural, protected environment. The City takes seriously its role as a steward of the natural and urban environments. A fundamental principle of the City is that the pursuit of economic growth cannot be permitted to have a negative effect on the quality of life in Kelowna.

Protecting Habitat

The City of Kelowna has completed inventory and mapping of environmentally sensitive areas including creeks, wetlands, Okanagan Lake foreshore and sensitive ecosystems that will guide future development. A Pesticide Bylaw was implemented to regulate cosmetic, non-essential pesticide use on residential properties by homeowners. This bylaw helps protect wildlife, aquatic life, the environment and the health of our residents.

Reducing Carbon Footprint

- ▶ The fifth annual Bike to Work Week was a great success with more than 6,000 participants in the Central Okanagan region. This year's participation has actively reduced CO₂ emissions by 76,728 kg.
- ▶ The Great Okanagan Wood Stove Change Out Program was in its ninth year, running March and April. This year saw 68 stoves exchanged, with a reduction of 4,216 kg of particulate entering the atmosphere.
- ▶ The City's fleet of hybrid cars and a bus transit system that uses biofuel are also reducing carbon emissions. Kelowna was the first city in Canada to use electric-diesel hybrid transit buses and has now converted the entire local fleet to alternate fuels.
- ▶ The City's new H2O Adventure & Fitness Centre features significant energy upgrades to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 850 tonnes a year.

Protecting Water

The City's Water Sustainability Action Plan aims to reduce water consumption by 15 per cent by 2012. Water conservation efforts have already made significant progress on consumption rates. In 2008, residential customers used an average of 39.6 cubic metres of water per month – a reduction of 28 per cent since 1994.



Diverse and sustainable infrastructure

Sustainable Building

The City continues to receive input from citizens to shape Official Community Plan policies. *Kelowna 2030: Greening Our Future* will reflect current challenges related to climate change, growth, affordability concerns and planning for sustainability.

A sustainability checklist helps guide developers to meet objectives such as the protection of natural areas; mixed-use, compact housing forms; and proximity to transit. The City's Energy/ Carbon Management Plan approaches its goal of a 20 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from civic buildings by 2011.

