



Year in review 2015

City of Kelowna accomplishments in 2015 contributed to building the best mid-sized city in North America by growing technological capacity, expanding active living options for residents and increasing access to the natural beauty that Kelowna is famous for.

Greater access | The City of Kelowna partnered with the District of Lake Country, board of the Regional District of North Okanagan and the Province of British Columbia to purchase the discontinued CN railway running from Coldstream to Kelowna, to create a multi-modal regional transportation corridor that will connect Okanagan communities and provide even more ways to explore.

Growing Kelowna's waterfront access by three acres, the City also acquired a significant property on Lakeshore Road for a future beach park with amenities.

Active city | In 2015, the City launched Active by Nature, an online interactive route map and marketing program to encourage residents to get out and get active. Active by Nature highlights our extensive network of pathways, shared trails and beaches. Watch the video and explore the interactive map to see what adventure is waiting for you!

Getting involved | A program designed through resident engagement, Strong Neighbourhoods is about increasing citizen attachment to the community by inspiring neighbourhoods to foster a culture of connection and engagement. Twenty-three initiatives were supported, \$9,000 in grants were awarded and more than 6,400 residents participated in the program in 2015. Watch the video to learn more.



maintained **1,640 lane kilometres** of roadway



5.5 million website visits to kelowna.ca



Kelowna Fire Department held **190+ public education events** with **9,900+ participants**



approved **\$320,000 in Rental Housing Grants** for a total of 76 units



1.6 million YLW passengers



provided **4,500+ recreation programs** with **32,000+ participants**



installed **40+ wayfinding signs** on Kelowna active transportation & recreation corridors



reviewed and issued **700+** development applications

Tech focus | This year, Council approved making dark fibre leases available to third parties, which creates a new source of revenue for the City and contributes to making Kelowna an attractive place for the high-tech sector.

Additional highlights include:

A well-run City

- Introduced Council Priorities with clean drinking water as the number one priority
- Adopted Principles & strategies for financial strength & stability
- Citizens actively engaged in several planning exercises, including the Infill Challenge and 2030 Infrastructure Plan
- Implemented a fast-track permit service in many building permit application categories for smaller projects. In 2015, the number of fast-track permits issued within two days increased by 22 per cent.

An active, inclusive city

- Administered and distributed approximately \$750,000 of community-building grants
- Initiated the Urban Centres Roadmap to transform and revitalize Kelowna's five urban town centres
- Completed construction of Stuart Park expansion
- Implemented the Civic Partnership Framework - a consistent and strategic approach that improves the partnership formation and management process

A safe city

- Supported six regional fires through Emergency Operation Centre activations
- Implemented daily Bylaw Enforcement Officer foot patrols in the downtown to improve public safety
- Began construction of the new Police Services Building

- Completed urban infrastructure improvements on Lakeshore Road between Dehart and McClure roads near Anne McClymont School, which include a sidewalk, street lighting, a multi-use pathway, on-road bike lanes and other features that make the location safer for pedestrians and motorists

A strong economy

- Kelowna International Airport (YLW) development, including completion of the Apron 1 expansion project, construction of a new Aircraft De-icing Storage Facility and work to update the Master Plan 2045
- Completed Phase 1 of the YLW Departures Lounge enhancements, featuring a bright and open retail shop, children's play area, and functional business centre
- YLW has 8 airlines operating out of the airport with an average of 20,000 seats available weekly
- Three customers were connected to the City's fibre network, including RackForce, Bardel Entertainment and UBC Okanagan/ Okanagan Regional Library (downtown Kelowna branch)
- Completed the second year of the national artsVest™ program in Kelowna, which generated 65 business sponsorships valued at \$234,478 for 17 cultural organizations, and was matched by \$71,635 in incentive grants, providing a total benefit to the local cultural community of \$306,113
- Supported and assisted user groups in hosting more than 60 tournaments and special events in Kelowna arenas and sportsfields

survey says...

Results of the 2015 Citizen Survey tell us that:

-  **95%** of residents surveyed in 2015 say their quality of life in Kelowna is good or very good
-  Overall **94%** of residents say they are satisfied with the level and quality of services the City of Kelowna provides
-  **84%** of residents say they receive good value for their tax dollars
-  **94%** said the city was safe

For the detailed report, visit kelowna.ca and search for Citizen Survey.

A clean, healthy environment

- Completed the first phase of the Ethel Street Active Transportation Corridor from Hwy 97 to Bernard Avenue
- Residents purchased 450 trees for their yards at a reduced price through the NeighbourWoods spring program
- Hired an Energy Specialist and began development of a partnership with FortisBC to save utility costs
- A Healthy City Partnership between the City of Kelowna, UBC Okanagan and the Interior Health Authority focused on sustainable growth options relating to housing and Greenhouse Gas reductions
- Began flowing landfill gas to FortisBC Gas Plant. Composed of 50 per cent methane, landfill gas is an ideal energy source and is captured through a series of underground pipes called a recovery system, and then sold to Fortis BC Energy for resale to customers.

Resilient, well-managed infrastructure

- Began construction on two downtown parkades (an expansion of the Library Parkade and the new Memorial Parkade), Interior Health Building and Okanagan Centre for Innovation
- Completed the implementation of the South Pandosy Parking Plan
- Initiated and developed the Civic Block Plan that will establish a vision for how this area will transition in the decades to come
- Developed the draft 2030 Infrastructure Plan, which identifies the City's infrastructure investment priorities for the next 15 years. Check out the budget allocator tool online - open for feedback until Jan. 3.
- Completed major transit exchange facilities at Queensway and Pandosy Village

For more information about the City of Kelowna, its services and projects, visit kelowna.ca.

awards & recognition: Government Finance Officers Association's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 2014 Financial Plan | Government Finance Officers Association's Canadian award for Financial Reporting for the 2013 Annual Report | Kelowna International Airport (YLW) won the B.C. Aviation Council's 2015 William Templeton Trophy | Kelowna International Airport received a Canadian Forces Liaison Council Employer Support Award for Support to Canadian Forces Operations: International | Southern Interior Construction Association (SICA) Thompson Okanagan Commercial Building Award for Queensway Transit Exchange and Renovation Award for the Kelowna Family Y | Canadian Institute of Planners, Great Places in Canada Contest for Stuart Park | North American Occupational Safety & Health Week Best presentation of theme & Regional Government/Cities/Municipalities category awards | WorkSafeBC Certificate of Recognition in Occupational Health & Safety