



RDOS
Electoral Area "G"
Official Community Plan



PROJECT UPDATE & OPEN HOUSE INVITATION
JUNE 2021

Electoral Area "G" is developing its first Official Community Plan (OCP). The OCP will outline the community's land use vision over the next 20-25 years.

Thank you to those who participated in the first round of community surveys! Here's a quick summary of some common things we heard.



What makes Area "G" Special?

- Rural lifestyle that is quiet, slow paced, relaxed, creative, and minimally regulated
- Close-knit community
- Being close to nature, clean water and air, outdoor recreation, and beautiful landscapes



What needs attention?

- Unkept properties
- Illegal dumping
- Limited services and infrastructure
- Unreliable telecommunications
- Poor water quality
- Limited arts & culture venues
- Loss of local businesses
- Safety concerns — speeding, buildings in disrepair, crime



What's changed?

- Less housing availability
- Increased number of people moving here
- More businesses closing
- Increased wildfire and flooding events



What are the top three items an OCP should address?

1. Protecting community watersheds for water quality and quantity
2. Maintaining ALR land primarily for farming and food production
3. Defining areas for future growth

Other priorities that residents would like an OCP to address include:

- Economic development through tourism, small businesses, and outdoor recreation
- Environmental protection
- Ensuring housing availability

OPEN HOUSE

Join us Thursday June 24th for an online open house. Details on reverse.

In 20 years, most residents said they hope their communities look similar to today. We heard some specific issues for each community.

Hedley residents:

- are proud of their community and local business
- would like to see improved water infrastructure and water quality
- observed a shift from seasonal to more permanent residents

Hedley residents worry work is needed to prevent wildfire, protect affordability, and promote economic development.

Olalla residents:

- appreciate their neighbours and rural lifestyle
- are concerned about property upkeep and safety issues

Olalla residents hope to preserve their quiet rural lifestyle.

Rural Keremeos residents:

- say existing businesses are important in their community
- want to develop a more business-friendly environment
- have a desire to connect to Village of Keremeos infrastructure
- see their community changing with fewer young adults, and an amalgamation of farms into larger businesses
- are concerned with climate change

Rural Keremeos residents want to protect a balance of residential, environmental, and agricultural uses, while maintaining the things they love about their community.

Residents also asked a few important questions. Here are our responses:

We are doing just fine, why is this important?

An OCP is a way for residents to tell the RDOS and other levels of government what they want. It also provides provincial agencies an understanding of how the communities envision their future.

How will having an OCP change my land?

The OCP will not bring forward a sudden surge in development or make any changes to what you can build or do with your land in Area "G". And it won't have an impact on the taxes you will pay. What the OCP will do is help us plan ahead and identify what should be preserved, protected, or improved.



OPEN HOUSE

What's happening next?

JOIN US FOR AN ONLINE OPEN HOUSE THURSDAY, JUNE 24th, 2021 ON ZOOM

Time:

12:00 noon or 6:00 pm

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83929524626>

Or visit the RDOS Regional Connections webpage to attend the open house:

rdosregionalconnections.ca/area-g-ocp

Learn about what we heard from residents and provide us your thoughts on key directions and priorities for the OCP.

If you don't have a computer or are unable to connect online, please call **1-778-907-2071** and use **Meeting ID 839 2952 4626** to listen to the meeting on your phone.

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? WANT MORE INFORMATION?

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