

COEDC LAUNCHES NEW CITYVIZ COMMUNITY DATA PORTAL

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The user-friendly data portal makes information, research and analysis instantly accessible to community stakeholders and businesses seeking data to make informed decisions.





Population Growth COEDC Launches Innovative Data Portal

↑ 1.9%

1.14.2021 | INVEST
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COEDC Launches Innovative Data Portal

The Regional District of Central Okanagan's Economic Development Commission (COEDC) announces release of COEDC Regional Community Data Portal: [CityViz](#). The user-friendly data portal makes information, research and analysis instantly accessible to community stakeholders and businesses seeking data to make informed decisions.

"In light of current COVID-19 restrictions and physical distancing, it has never been more important that we enhance the COEDC digital profile. We're very excited to launch this pilot program for the next 12 months and will continue to add features and datasets as we go. We are actually the first customer for this platform and we look forward to continuing to add data and features that will support the Region's economic recovery and business intelligence needs." – Krista Mallory, Manager Economic Development

The COEDC has launched online data tools on their website to put the Region firmly on the map for business relocation, investment and expansion. Using the CityViz web tool, decision-makers can search an online database of community information while simultaneously analyzing demographic, labour force, housing development, business and talent data at the district or city, and regional levels. The interactive tools are mobile-friendly and put key data at the fingertips of website visitors. Users have the ability to visualize data with interactive tools, charts,



By giving users direct access to thousands of data points and the most accurate, up-to-date information on the Region will help build a nuanced picture of the breadth of opportunity and value of relocating and growing in the Central Okanagan.



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"We are very excited about the possibilities of modern technologies together with the wealth of data available to create solutions for the good of our communities. We are very grateful to work with COEDC and hope to help decision makers further develop our district. Listening to the challenges municipalities face and adapting our solutions to their specific needs is our priority and we are looking forward to helping many more communities throughout Canada." - Izabela Bogdanovic, Ruby Industries Inc.



decision making in the Region – meeting industry and community needs for increased availability and accessibility of data. Additional resources such as the Quarterly Economic Indicators will continue to be published and all COEDC resources can be found at investkelowna.com/resources

To learn more about the COEDC and what we do visit www.investkelowna.com.

For More Information Contact:

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Central Okanagan Economic Development
Commission

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kmallory@investkelowna.com



COEDC 2021 Advisory Council Call for Expressions of Interest

WE'RE READY. ARE YOU SET?

OK **GO** #ReadySetOKGo



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CityViz has eye on business

Okanagan Edge Staff - Jan 14, 2021 - Biz Releases

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Population Growth

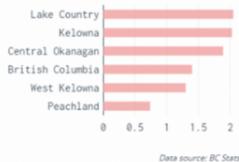
↑ 1.9%

The population of Central Okanagan in 2019 increased from previous year by 1.89 % to 217,214

Regional district population growth



Population growth by municipality

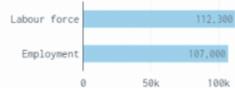


Unemployment Rate

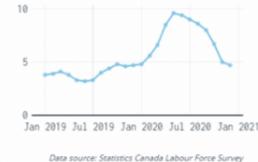
4.7%

The unemployment rate in Dec 2020 in Kelowna CMA decreased from previous month by 0.3%

Labour force (three-month moving average)



Unemployment rate



Housing Starts

↓ -19.8%

Total housing starts in 2020 Q3 in Kelowna, British Columbia decreased from the same period last year by 19.8%

Housing starts by type of dwelling



Total housing starts by quarter



Image: Contributed

The Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission is hoping a new data portal will help boost business in the region.

CityViz is developed and maintained by West Kelowna's Ruby Industries, and the COEDC is the first customer for the platform. Users will have the ability to search the online database of community information while simultaneously analyzing demographic, labour force, housing development, business and talent data at the district or city, and regional levels to make informed decisions.

"In light of current COVID-19 restrictions and physical distancing, it has never been more important that we enhance the COEDC digital profile," economic development manager Krista Mallory said in a press release. "We're very excited to launch this pilot program for the next 12 months and will continue to add features and datasets as we go."

Users will have the ability to visualize data with interactive tools, charts, graphs, infographics and reports that can be dynamically sorted and downloaded.

"We are very excited about the possibilities of modern technologies together with the wealth of data available to create solutions for the good of our communities," Ruby Industries' Izabela Bogdanovic said. "We are very grateful to work with COEDC and hope to help decision makers further develop our district. Listening to the challenges municipalities face and adapting our solutions to their specific needs is our priority and we are looking forward to helping many more communities throughout Canada."

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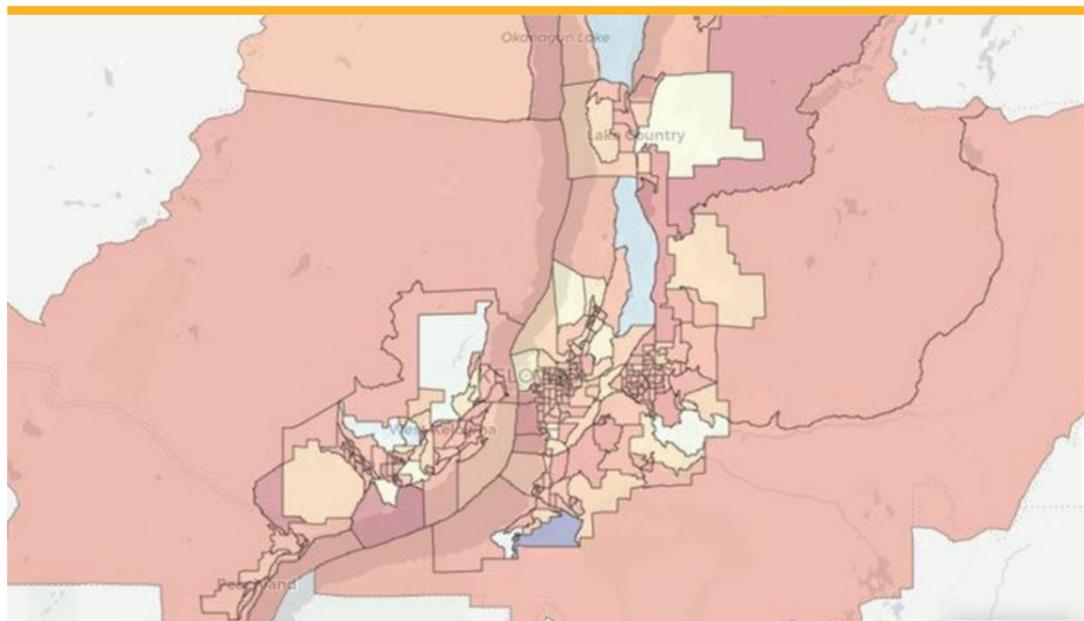
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New data portal launched



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JAN 14, 2021 9:49 AM | PETE MCINTYRE

The Regional District of Central Okanagan's Economic Development Commission (COEDC) has announced the launch of COEDC Regional Community Data Portal: [CityViz](#).

The user-friendly data portal makes information, research and analysis instantly accessible to community stakeholders and businesses seeking data to make informed decisions.

"In light of current COVID-19 restrictions and physical distancing, it has never been more important that we enhance the COEDC digital profile. We're very excited to launch this pilot program for the next 12 months and will continue to add features and datasets as we go. We are actually the first customer for this platform and we look forward to continuing to add data and features that will support the Region's economic recovery and business intelligence needs," Krista Mallory, Manager Economic Development, said.

The COEDC said the online data tools put the region firmly on the map for business relocation, investment and expansion.

"Using the CityViz web tool, decision-makers can search an online database of community information while simultaneously analyzing demographic, labour force, housing development, business and talent data at the district or city, and regional levels. The interactive tools are mobile-friendly and put key data at the fingertips of website visitors. Users have the ability to visualize data with interactive tools, charts, graphs, infographics, and reports that can be dynamically sorted and downloaded," a news release stated.

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COMMUNITY

RUBY INDUSTRIES LAUNCHES CITYVIZ DATA PLATFORM FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PARTNERS WITH COEDC

Fresh Off The Press
NEWS PROVIDED BY:
Ruby Industries Inc.

JANUARY 29, 2021

Posted by:
Harrison Crerar

SHARE ↗

Ruby Industries launched Cityviz – data platform for economic development and planning and welcomed Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission as their first client.

Cityviz solves challenges local governments face by providing 1 point of data access and always up to date, in one single safe location. What is more, it preprocesses and visualizes data in an engaging way, helping users make easier informed decisions.

The user-friendly data platform makes information, research and analysis instantly accessible to community stakeholders and businesses seeking data to make decisions relevant for business development and economic growth.

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"In light of current COVID-19 restrictions and physical distancing, it has never been more important that we enhance the COEDC digital profile. We're very excited to launch this pilot program for the next 12 months and will continue to add features and datasets as we go. We are actually the first customer for this platform so we anticipate adjustments and improvements that will continue to support the Region's economic recovery and business intelligence needs." – Krista Mallory, Manager Economic Development

To learn more about Cityviz, contact Ruby Industries at <https://cityviz.ca/contact/>
You can see it in action at <https://data.investkelowna.com>.

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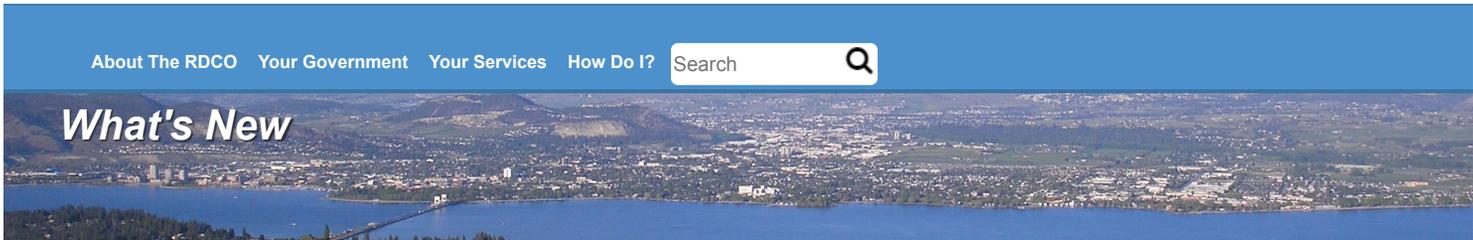
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What's New

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Audio is available for Regional District Board and Governance and Service Committee meetings - MP3 files will be available in the days following a Regional Board and Governance and Services Committee meeting. Please select the appropriate [Board meeting date file](#) or [Governance and Services Committee meeting date file](#) to link to the Audio MP3 file for that meeting. To listen you may require the free [Windows Media Player](#).

Save on 2021 Dog Licenses - February 1, 2021

Whether you own a Labrador retriever, Shih Tzu, Chihuahua* or a loveable mutt, all Central Okanagan dog owners have until the end of February to save by renewing or purchasing a new dog license.

Those purchasing a new or renewing an existing dog license before February 28 will save \$20 off the regular annual license fees. On March 1, regular annual rates will apply - \$40 for a dog that is spayed/neutered and \$80 if not. The fee discount and rates do not apply to licenses for Aggressive or Dangerous dogs.

All dogs in the Central Okanagan must be licensed as required by the Responsible Dog Ownership Bylaw. At the end of 2020, there were just over 22,000 licensed dogs in the region. More than 16,000 dog owners recently received a renewal notice by mail or email.

License renewals or purchases are quick, easy and secure using the online links at rdco.com/dogs. It also helps reduce person to person contacts during the COVID pandemic.

If owners wish to renew or buy a new license in person, visit the Regional District office in Kelowna (1450 KLO Road), the Regional Dog Pound (890 Weddell Place), municipal offices in Kelowna, West Kelowna, Lake Country and the Peachland Recreation Centre. Visitors to these facilities should anticipate health and safety requirements including the wearing of masks and physical distancing.

The Regional District reminds all dog owners to keep their license up to date as there is zero tolerance and a hefty fine for unlicensed dogs.

A license makes it easy to return a dog to its owner if it gets away and supports the service provided to all dog owners in the Central Okanagan.

For more information about dog licensing and Responsible Dog Ownership in the Central Okanagan visit rdco.com/dogs.

* Central Okanagan's top three licensed dog breeds in 2020

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October - December 2020 Program Highlights - January 26, 2021

For the health and safety of residents and staff, many programs and services provided by the Regional District of Central Okanagan continued to be impacted by Public Health Orders due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Like most people, these challenges created new, creative opportunities to continue the high level of service expected of the RDCO.

The region is highly connected, with proximity to the Lower Mainland and easy access to other BC Interior centres and Canadian markets through air and road networks. Kelowna boasts the tenth busiest airport in Canada, making it a national and international destination.

The Kelowna region benefits from a robust skills pipeline that is future focused to meet the changing skills needed by industry. It is an appealing community with the industry to attract and retain talent. Industry is supported by the connectivity to academia through campus presence of post-secondary including of UBC Okanagan and Okanagan College.

"We've got great strength in our business community," said Task Force Co-Chair and Regional Board Chair Gail Given. "And while our region's businesses continue to be supported through the immediate impact of the pandemic with existing resources, our planning has already started for economic recovery and growth. We want to see a Regional Development Agency office in our community, giving us an even greater opportunity for connection between Okanagan communities and the federal government."

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Scenic Canyon Park Land Exchange Alternative Approval Process - January 18, 2021

The Regional Board has approved using the Alternative Approval Process for a proposed exchange of park land for Scenic Canyon Regional Park.

The RDCO has a conditional agreement to acquire approximately ten hectares of new park land and receive an estimated .86-hectare Statutory Right of Way for Scenic Canyon Regional Park from property owned by David Geen. The exchanged lands will provide for future trail and park connections between Scenic Canyon Regional Park, the Mission Creek Greenway and to City of Kelowna parks and trails. The RDCO would also receive approximately \$454,000 in net compensation for the difference in land valuation to be used for future park land acquisition. In exchange, the Regional District would transfer 8.67-hectares of land in the park to Mr. Geen.

Before approving the proposed Parkland Exchange Bylaw No. 1473 and land exchange elector approval is required through the Alternative Approval Process. Residents that support the proposed park land exchange do not have to do anything.

Those opposed must submit a completed Elector Response Form to the Regional District by 4:00 pm March 1. The Alternative Approval Process requires at least ten per cent (20,598) of the estimated 205,983 eligible electors to submit a form in order to require the Regional Board to hold a Referendum before adopting the proposed bylaw and land exchange agreement.

Elector Response Forms and information about this Alternative Approval Process is available on the RDCO website: rdco.com/aap.

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challenges municipalities face and adapting our solutions to their specific needs is our priority and we are looking forward to helping many more communities throughout Canada." - Izabela Bogdanovic, Ruby Industries Inc.

With the new data portal, the COEDC continues providing sophisticated data and resources to guide and support business decision making in the Region – meeting industry and community needs for increased availability and accessibility of data. Additional resources such as the Quarterly Economic Indicators will continue to be published and all COEDC resources can be found at investkelowna.com/resources

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Living Greener Calendar Changes for 2021 - January 11, 2021

If you'd like to get your hands on a copy of the 2021 [Living Greener Waste Collection Calendar](#), please note calendars will not be available at the usual community pick up locations this year. Only a very limited number of printed copies are available, and at [Municipal halls only](#).

The Regional Waste Reduction Office has implemented the changes in distribution primarily to limit points of contact due to COVID-19. In addition the aim is to reduce unnecessary paper consumption and paper waste, and promote alternate means of delivering the calendar information to residents

All Information contained in the calendar, including garbage, recycling and yard waste collection schedules, depot locations, waste reduction events, and what can be recycled where can all be found on the free to download and easy to use [Recycle Coach App](#) for smart phone devices. The 2021 "[At a Glance Collection pullout page](#)" featuring an easy to reference collection schedule for the entire year, and the full calendar can also be downloaded or reviewed on our website at rdco.com/recycle

For those residents unable to head out into the community to pick up a calendar at their local Municipal Hall, and unable to use the web or smart phone apps, please contact the Regional Waste Reduciton Office for assistance. Please be advised that we do not have plans to direct mail calendars out in the future.

For further information on the Living Greener Calendar or other waste reduction programs, visit rdco.com/recycle, or call the Regional Waste Reduction Office at [250-469-6250](tel:250-469-6250).

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Highlights from the Regional Board meeting - December 7, 2020

Here is a link to the [Board Reports highlights](#) from the Regional Board meeting Monday, December 7.

And here's where you can view a recording of the:

- [Regional Board meeting](#)

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Public Meeting Attendance Curtailed - December 7, 2020

Public attendance at RDCO Board and Committee meetings is now curtailed following the latest Public Health Officer Order affecting gatherings and events.

The Provincial Health Officer's December 3 Order indicates that meetings are allowed to continue, but without members of the public in attendance. This practice will continue until the Order is rescinded or replaced.

Tonight's Regional Board meeting will take place without any public seating in the Woodhaven Boardroom. A link to the livestream of the meeting will be available starting at 7:00 pm at rdco.com/board. An audio/video recording of the meeting will be online tomorrow.

The Regional District continues to follow the direction of public health experts for the safety of its staff and residents to reduce the impact of coronavirus on our community and our health system. For the latest information and updates on the RDCO Response to COVID-19 visit rdco.com/covid-19.

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In-person Parks Programs Cancelled - December 4, 2020

The Regional District fully supports efforts to reduce the potential spread of COVID-19 and has been following strict health and safety guidelines in its public programs.