

# LAKE WINDERMERE MANAGEMENT PLAN

# FAQ



## **Q? Where did this Lake Management Plan come from?**

The Lake Management Plan was initiated by the Regional District following the adoption of the Lake Windermere Official Community Plan (OCP) in August 2008. During the development of the OCP, a number of issues related to the lake were raised by concerned residents. These issues were determined to be outside the scope of the OCP process and a recommendation was made that a formal Lake Management Plan be prepared. The Regional District has partnered with the District of Invermere for the Lake Management Plan initiative. In November 2008, Catherine Berris Associates Inc. was contracted by the Regional District to proceed with work on the plan.



## **Q? Who is advising the RDEK and the consultant?**

In order to assist in gathering input from area residents, an Advisory Group of interested local residents and property owners was established in early 2009. The membership of the Advisory Group was selected to represent a range of interests and areas of residence. In addition, Electoral Area F Director Wendy Booth and Invermere Mayor Gerry Taft sit on the Advisory Group.

## **Q? I haven't heard about the plan before now. What have I missed?**

The primary activity that has occurred in the development of the plan so far has been collection and review of background information on Lake Windermere. The advisory group has met twice to provide background information and discuss their vision for the future of the lake. The consultant and RDEK staff also met with representatives of the Akisqnuq First Nation and Shuswap Indian Band in recognition of their traditional use and interest in the Lake. Two public workshops were held on July 20, to review background information and discuss lake issues and potential management options. The individual comment form that is currently circulating (also available on the Regional District website) was distributed at and following the workshop to solicit feedback on a range of potential management tools that could be recommended within the plan.



## **Q? What is the goal of the Lake Management Plan?**

The goal is to develop a Lake Management Plan that contains policies and recommendations that are practical, enforceable and realistic. In order for the plan to be successful, we must find a balance among the social, economic and environmental values associated with Lake Windermere. This means that issues such as aging septic systems upland from the lake, future marina slips, opportunities for on-water boat storage, reasonable and safe boat access opportunities, and provision of safe swimming areas are open for discussion and debate. **No decisions have been made yet in this planning process.**



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## *Frequently Asked Questions—Continued*

### **Q? What happens next?**

In response to the interest in submitting the individual comment forms, the deadline for receiving them has been extended to September 7<sup>th</sup>. The consultant will review the comment forms and letters that have been received and will consider these when preparing the plan. An Advisory Group meeting will be held this fall, and an initial draft of the Lake Management Plan is anticipated to be available for public review in January 2010. At that time, there will be another public meeting.

### **Q? How can I find out about more opportunities for input?**

The last public meeting was advertised in the local media, on the Regional District website, posters were put up around the lake, and emails were sent to a range of interest groups, and as many property associations as the consultant could find addresses for. If you provide your email address on the comment form or separately, you will be notified of the next public meeting.

### **Q? How do I get more information?**

For more information on the Lake Management Plan, please visit the Regional District of East Kootenay website at [www.rdek.bc.ca](http://www.rdek.bc.ca) or contact Planner Karen MacLeod at 250-489-2791 or toll free 1-888-478-7335.

