

From: Joanne Malar <jmalar@rdos.bc.ca>

Sent: February 11, 2026 12:35 PM

To: Jennifer Kinneman <jkinneman@fvrd.ca>; Tina Perreault <Tina.Perreault@scrd.ca>; Mark Andison <mandison@rdkb.com>; Scott Hildebrand <shildebrand@tnrd.ca>; Stuart J. Horn <SHorn@rdck.bc.ca>; Heather Paul <HPaul@slrd.bc.ca>; Danielle Myles Wilson <Danielle.MylesWilson@cvrd.bc.ca>; James Warren <jwarren@comoxvalleyrd.ca>; Murray Daly <mdaly@cariboord.ca>; Al Radke <ARadke@qathet.ca>; Curtis Slingerland <cao@ccrd.ca>; cao <cao@ncrdbc.com>; Daniel Sailland <dsailand@acrd.bc.ca>; David Kim <dkim@rdmw.bc.ca>; David Leitch <dleitch@strathconard.ca>; David Sewell <david.sewell@rdno.ca>; Douglas Holmes <dholmes@rdn.bc.ca>; Jerry Dobrovolny <jerry.dobrovolny@metrovancouver.org>; jmaclean@csrd.bc.ca; Jim Zaffino <jzaffino@rdos.bc.ca>; 'Lina Gasser' <lgasser@rdks.bc.ca>; Shawn Dahlen <shawn.dahlen@prrd.bc.ca>; Shawn Tomlin <stomlin@rdek.bc.ca>; Ted Robbins <trobbsins@crd.bc.ca>; mschibli@rdks.bc.ca; Chris Calder <chris.calder@rdffg.bc.ca>; Curtis Helgesen <curtis.helgesen@rdbn.bc.ca>

Cc: Communications <communications@rdos.bc.ca>; Jim Zaffino <jzaffino@rdos.bc.ca>

Subject: Request for support: Orphan Dike Advocacy Letter

EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email was sent by a person from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Secured by Check Point

You don't often get email from jmalar@rdos.bc.ca. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Regional District CAOs,

The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) has received board approval to send an **Orphan Dike Advocacy Letter** to the Honourable David Eby, Premier of BC, requesting that the Province assume responsibility for orphan dikes and establish a provincial management program (see RDOS administrative report attached and RDOS motion below from February 5, 2026).

The RDOS is reaching out to all Regional Districts in British Columbia to request your support and authorization to include your name and logo as signatories on this advocacy letter (see draft letter attached).

We are kindly seeking your support to:

- Request that your board authorize your Regional District to support this advocacy letter and include your RD's name and logo as signatories
- Ask your member municipalities to seek endorsement from their councils to support this advocacy letter
- Please provide your intentions of support to communications@rdos.bc.ca

The RDOS has also sent out a letter to First Nation communities requesting the same support.

Effective management of orphan dikes is critical for Regional Districts, as unmanaged and ownerless flood protection infrastructure poses significant risks to life safety, homes, agriculture, transportation corridors, and shared critical infrastructure. Given incomplete provincial inventories and the legacy nature of flood protection works, no Regional District in British Columbia can conclusively demonstrate the absence of orphan dikes within its jurisdiction. These risks extend beyond jurisdictional boundaries: even Regional Districts without known orphan dikes may be impacted by downstream or regional failures, which can trigger widespread flooding, strain emergency response and recovery resources, and cause economic disruption that exceeds local capacity. As a result, orphan dike management represents a collective, province-wide concern requiring coordinated stewardship, governance, and long-term investment.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Your support is invaluable to address this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Joanne Malar *on behalf of RDOS CAO, Jim Zaffino*

One Region Working Together

Joanne Malar (she/her) ● Communications Coordinator

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen
101 Martin Street, Penticton, BC V2A 5J9
p. 250-490-4387 ● tf. 1-877-610-3737 ● f. 250-492-0063
www.rdos.bc.ca ● jmalar@rdos.bc.ca

The RDOS is located within the traditional and ancestral territory of the syilx Okanagan and sməłqmix peoples.

This communication is intended for the use of the recipient to which it is addressed, and may contain confidential, personal and/or privileged information. Please contact the sender immediately if you are not the intended recipient of this communication and do not copy, distribute or take action relying on it. Any communication received in error, or subsequent reply, should be deleted or destroyed.

RDOS MOTION

(Unweighted Corporate Vote - Simple Majority)

- **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the Board authorize the Chair to sign the Orphan Dike Advocacy Letter addressed to the Honorable David Eby, Premier of British Columbia, requesting that the Province assume responsibility for orphan dikes and establish a Provincial management program; and,

THAT the CAO be directed to forward the letter to First Nations and Regional Districts across British Columbia, requesting their support and authorization to include their names and logos as signatories; and,

THAT regional districts be asked to contact their member municipalities to encourage their endorsement and authorization to add their names and logos to the collective letter.