

## REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

### INFORMATION RELEASE

June 4, 2017

#### Local Lake Levels Expected to Keep Rising

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Properties along local lakes should leave all sandbags in place. Lake levels are expected to keep rising over the coming weeks. The Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations has reported that Okanagan Lake could rise as much as 27.5 cm (10.8 inches) from its present level as of Sunday June 4th.

To protect from waves, properties along local lakes should consider sandbagging to approximately 80 cm (2.5 feet) above the lake level today. Proper sand bagging techniques, to better deal with wave action, can be found at [www.rdos.bc.ca](http://www.rdos.bc.ca) under “Popular Links”.

The RDOS is asking residents and visitors to limit boat use, especially on Okanagan, Skaha and Osoyoos Lakes, that can create wakes or waves. Boat operators should also watch their speed to avoid floating or hidden debris.

Tubing on local rivers is not advised on the Penticton River Channel, Okanagan River or Similkameen River at this time. Rivers are exceptionally high, fast and more dangerous than usual. Debris may be moving through the water that can hurt people. The speed and power of these rivers can put people at risk.

The RDOS is actively helping people deal with flooding. Resources include free sand and sand bags. **If you require sandbags, please call the Emergency Operations Centre: 250-490-4225 or Toll Free at 1-877-610-3737.** For after-hours emergencies, please call the **Provincial Emergency Program at 1-800-663-3456.**

**If property damage happens due to flooding, you may be eligible for assistance through the [Disaster Financial Assistance program](#).** They can be contacted at 1-888-257-4777 or visit their website at <http://www.gov.bc.ca/disasterfinancialassistance>.

For more information, go to: [www.rdos.bc.ca](http://www.rdos.bc.ca), and  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RegionalDistrictOfOkanaganSimilkameen/>

Regional District Emergency Operations Centre