

Roadmap to Resiliency

COEDC Strategy 2025-2030

City of West Kelowna March 25, 2025



A program of the Regional District of Central Okanagan

Regional Model



Recognized Best Practice

- Highly integrated regional economy
- Economies of scale
- Impact on national and global stage



Strategic Plan to Workplan





In Action



Business Retention and Enhancement

- Site visits & 1-1 support
- Agriculture support
- Manufacturing sector programming
- Referrals

Workforce Development

- Connector program
- Okanagan Young Professionals Collective
- Workforce profile and strategy



In Action



Investment Attraction

- OKGo partnership
- Digital and in-person marketing
- Trade and Invest BC
- Global Affairs Canada, Invest in Canada

Coordination, Communication, and Facilitation

- Economic data: portal, profile, presentations
- Business resources
- Advisory committee
- Economic development partners



Deloitte.



Roadmap to Resiliency

COEDC Strategy 2025-2030

Project Overview



How did we get here?



Background Review

Background documents reviewed from all Central Okanagan communities to understand policy context and economic positioning.



Competitive Assessment

Analysis of **trends** and economic **forecasts** and **comparisons** of the Central Okanagan economy to similar regions and major cities in Canada.



Strategic Directions

The outcome of the background work is **four strategic directions** to leverage regional strengths, enhance partnerships, and anticipate future economic trends.



Community Engagement

Community engagement included a **business survey, workforce survey** and **interviews** with representatives of major industries and institutions.



Advisory Committee Workshops

Two **workshop sessions** with the COEDC Advisory Committee.

Strategic Directions



Strategic directions provide an overall framework for operational actions, potential key performance indicators (KPIs), and COEDC's recommended role.



Drive Economic Resilience



Promote Innovation



Build a Skilled Workforce



Grow Export-Focused Industries



COEDC Strategy 2025 to 2030 is in alignment with projected resources outlined in COEDC's 5-year financial plan, as well as grant and partnership funding opportunities.

The scope and breadth of the plan is adaptable to changing regional needs, available resources, and external economic conditions (such as USA trade barriers).



Drive Economic Resilience

Support businesses in adapting to a changing landscape.

ACTIONS

Focus investment initiatives on attracting innovative businesses to bolster existing sectors and address local challenges.

Develop educational resources and tailored
adaptation strategies to address challenges and promote resilience.

Establish a network of resilience champions to mentor businesses in enhancing their resilience.

by engaging with the innovation ecosystem.

Support resiliency and diversification initiatives

SUPPORT

SUPPORT

KPI'S

EVENTS (INVESTMENT ATTRACTION, WORKSHOPS ETC), site visits, resource development & analytics

LEAD

LEAD &

SUPPORT

Build a Skilled Workforce

Foster a skilled regional workforce by focusing on talent development, attraction, and retention.

ACTIONS

Conduct a labour market study to gather critical intelligence on workforce gaps.

Develop targeted talent attraction initiatives based LEAD on identified needs.

Continue to partner with post-secondary institutions to support program development that aligns with regional industry needs.

SUPPORT

COEDC ROLE

LEAD

needs.

Support regional and municipal housing initiatives by providing a link to regional workforce intelligence and associated housing needs

SUPPORT

KPI'S

Partner & grant funding, events, presentations, labour market strategy completion

Promote Innovation

Promote innovation to boost labor productivity and resource efficiency.

ACTIONS

Enhance existing business outreach programming by providing technology adoption tools and resources.

- 2 Showcase regional innovations through storytelling. LEAD
- 3 Facilitate industry and cross-industry roundtables to share innovation best practices.

LEAD & SUPPORT

SUPPORT

Support post-secondary in connecting faculties with industry to foster research and innovation addressing community needs.

KPI'S

Events, site visits, presentations, digital analytics (website, social media, newsletters)

COEDC ROLE

LEAD

Grow Export-Focused Industries

Strengthen export base by attracting highvalue companies, supporting market expansion, and building regional supply chains.

ACTIONS

Concentrate investment attraction initiatives on export-oriented sectors with growth potential that align with federal/provincial targets.

Conduct a regional supply chain study to enhance
export industry integration with the regional economy.

Maintain high level of regional business intelligence by actively engaging with export-oriented industries.

4

Support businesses with export development by connecting to Federal and Provincial resources.

SUPPORT

LEAD &



KPI'S

Export-focused events, site visits, presentations, supply chain study completion

LEAD

LEAD



CANADA/ US Irade Relations



Actions

• COEDC Tariff Resources Webpage

- Latest developments in Canada-US trade relations
- Programs and resources for business
- Events & information sessions
- <u>www.investkelowna.com/tariffs</u>
- Navigating Tariffs: Strategies for Resilience
 - Industry roundtables and panel, April 3rd, 2025
- Manufacturing Supplier Database

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Resources



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LOOKING FOR:

- General information?
- Statistics?
- Quarterly Economic Indicators?
- Industry-specific profiles?
- Export advice?

- Local government connections?
- Workforce sourcing?
- Housing prices?
- Business development assistance?



