

Drowning Prevention in Penticton

- Addressing water safety education and the need for increased resources to prevent drownings in our community.

Local Drowning Incidents

- Recent drownings in Okanagan and Skaha Lakes highlight the urgent need for proactive safety measures.

Provincial and Local Statistics

- BC data shows rising drowning rates, especially among youth and tourists. Penticton's lake access increases exposure.

Key Risk Factors

- Lack of supervision, limited swimming skills, and low lifejacket usage contribute to preventable tragedies.

Current Water Safety Programs

- Programs like Okanagan Swims provide basic education, but reach and funding are limited.

Policy Recommendations

- Expand water safety curriculum in schools, fund community swim lessons, and increase signage and lifeguard presence.

Call to Action

- We urge Penticton City Council to support increased funding and partnerships for water safety education to protect our residents and visitors.