

West Kelowna Transmission Project and Westbank Substation Upgrade Project

Virtual open house

March 5, 2026



Virtual meeting protocol



Microphones have been muted during this presentation.

- If you have a question, please place it in the chat. We're going to try to get to all the questions but if we run out of time, we will do our best to compile them and get back to you.

To save bandwidth, cameras have been turned off.

We aren't recording this session and kindly ask that others do not record.

Technical issues? Send a note in the chat.



Agenda

- Why it's important
- First Nations consultation
- Environmental footprint
- Power lingo
- Selecting a preferred transmission line route
- Schedule
- Westbank Substation Upgrade Project: what to expect



Introductions

BC Hydro

Rachelle Trent Director, Projects

Mo Khan Manager, Capital Projects

Jason Kim ***WKTP Project Manager (presenting)***

Leandro Pereira ***Westbank Project Manager (presenting)***

Kamran Akhtar Project Engineer

Bill Poirier Environment

Emily Cass Indigenous Relations

Theresa Li Business Developer

Martin Kovatchki Construction Manager

Sally MacDonald ***Stakeholder Engagement (presenting)***



Project overview

We're planning to interconnect our grid in West Kelowna with FortisBC's network in Kelowna.

The West Kelowna Transmission Project will create a secondary power supply for nearly 26,000 BC Hydro customers in Westbank First Nation, West Kelowna, Peachland, and surrounding communities.



Working with syilx Okanagan Nation

The West Kelowna Transmission Project is being developed in collaboration with the syilx Okanagan Nation as part of our shared commitment to strengthen our Enduring Relationship.

We're working with a Project Review Committee comprised of Okanagan communities and led by Westbank First Nation to better understand and address the environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic impacts of the West Kelowna Transmission Project and to make shared decisions about routing.



Environmental studies

We're working to minimize our cultural and environmental footprint

Environmental and cultural studies underway include:

- fish and aquatic
- wildlife
- archaeology
- traditional use
- socio-economic

The studies are being completed in partnership with the syilx Okanagan Nation and will be used to plan our work to avoid or minimize impacts to environmentally and culturally sensitive areas.



Potential route overview

Segment 1: Westbank

Substation to Highway 97

Segment 2: Highway 97 to

western lakeshore

Segment 3: Lake crossing

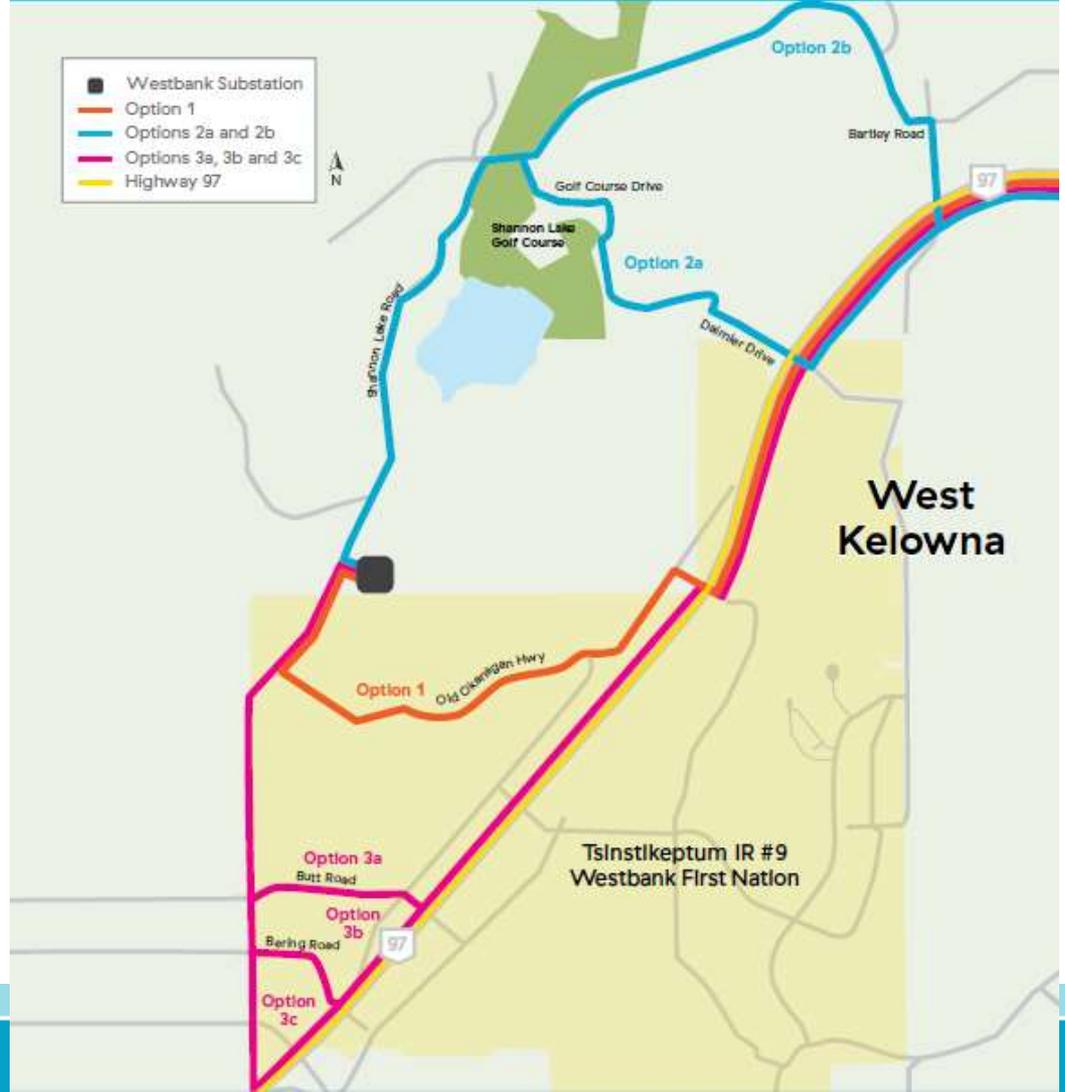
Segment 4: Eastern lakeshore

to Recreation Substation



Segment 1:

Westbank Substation to Hwy 97 – route options



Route options

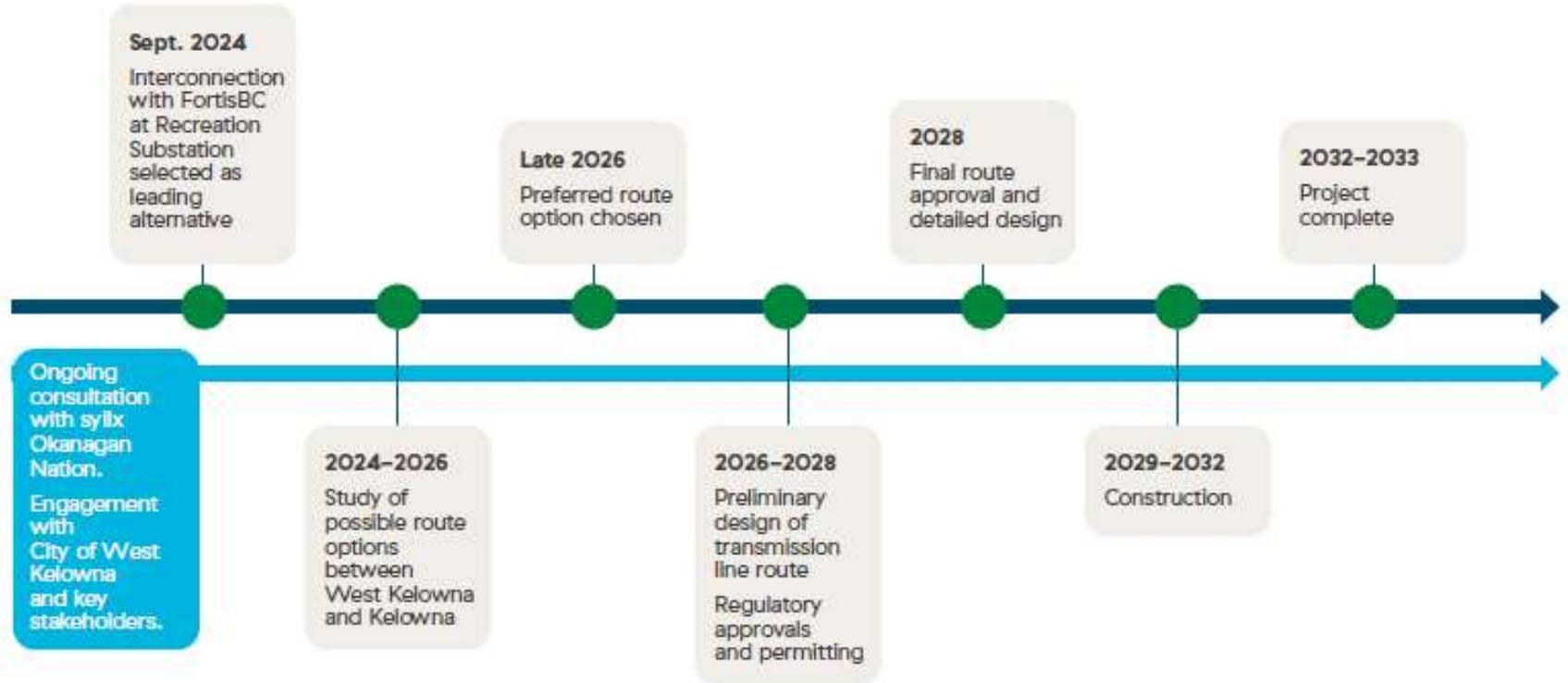
We're seeking public input on six potential route options through West Kelowna and Tsinstikeptum IR #9.

Objective	West Kelowna Route Options					
	1	2a	2b	3a	3b	3c
Minimize impacts to First Nations						
Impacts to Westbank First Nation lands	We are working in collaboration with Westbank First Nation and sylv Okanagan Nation to understand project impacts.					
Impacts to sylv Okanagan Nation territory						
Minimize impacts to stakeholders						
Impacts to property owners	We need your input! Share your thoughts on these route options to help inform our decision.					
Feedback from Public						
Impacts to the City of West Kelowna	We're working with the City of West Kelowna council and staff to determine impacts to city infrastructure and development potential					
Minimize environmental impacts						
Route segment length	4.5 km	4.4 km	4.5 km	5.9 km	6.4 km	7 km
Potential impact to ground water	●	●	●	●	●	●
Stream crossings	●	●	●	●	●	●
Minimize total costs						
Estimated costs	We'll develop cost estimates as we advance early design decisions.					

● Better ● Moderate ● Worse

All routing options provide the same system reliability and minimize safety risks.

Project schedule



What will the transmission line look like?



Westbank Substation Upgrade Project



Westbank Substation Upgrade overview

We're upgrading Westbank Substation to help ensure we can continue to meet the electricity needs of growing communities in the region.

Upgrading Westbank Substation will allow us to:

- Increase the substation's capacity
- Replace end-of-life equipment
- Connect the West Kelowna Transmission Line when it's complete



Expansion of Westbank Substation



Anticipated impacts and mitigations

We'll manage the construction of this substation to minimize impacts to neighbours



Public safety



Fire safety



Traffic



Noise



Dust



Other?



Environment

We will be monitoring environmental compliance throughout construction

We did an environmental review of wildlife, fish habitat, water quality, vegetation, air quality, noise, wildfire risk, and archaeological resources.

We're developing specific mitigation measures to reduce the potential for adverse environmental effects during construction.



Silt fencing



Westbank Substation schedule



Questions?

There are two ways to ask a question.

1. Type it in the chat and we'll read it out and answer.

2. Use the raise-hand feature and we'll unmute your microphone so you can speak your question.



If we run out of time, we'll send a follow-up email after the meeting to respond to the remaining questions.



Thank you

Share your feedback through our
online survey



Sign up for project updates by
emailing projects@bchydro.com

Visit our webpages:

bchydro.com/wktp

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