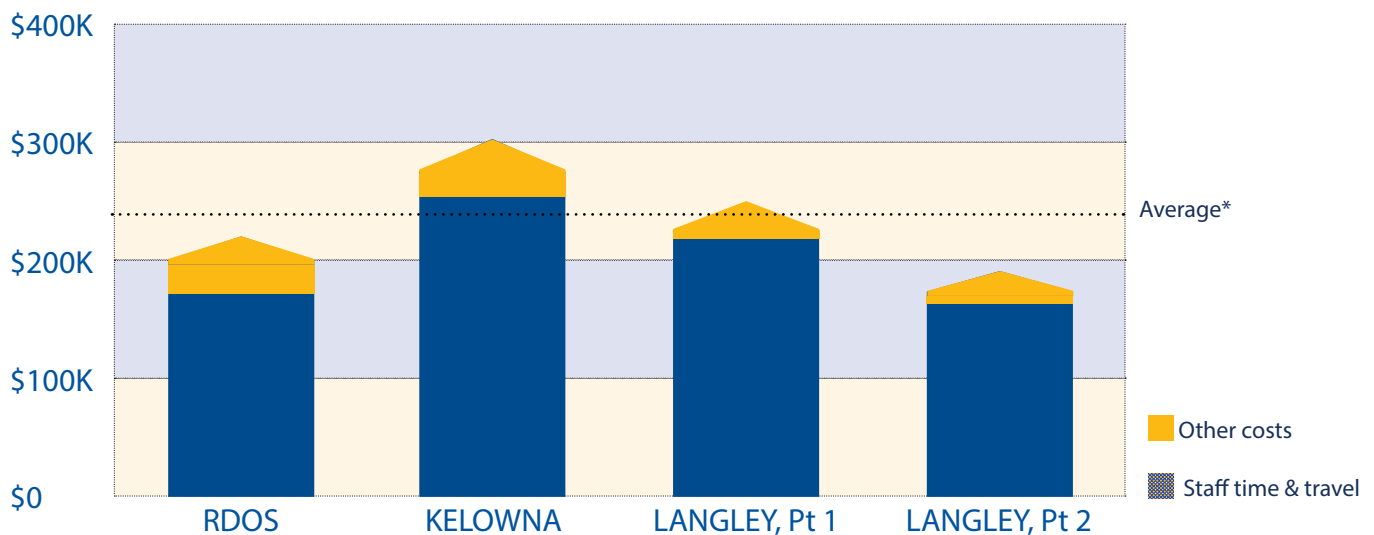




Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

LOCAL GOVERNMENT’S ROLE IN ENSURING CLEAN DRINKING WATER

COMPARISON OF DIRECT AUDIT COSTS



Final direct costs for the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen audit are \$221,316. Staff time & travel= \$173,355; Other costs = \$47,961. Other costs include contractor fees, expenses, travel and miscellaneous costs for researching the audit topic. Final direct costs for the City of Kelowna audit were \$302,410; Township of Langley, Part 1 audit costs were \$250,979; Township of Langley, Part 2 audit costs were \$189,500. *Average cost of audit reports published under this topic is \$241,051.

This audit reviewed three different drinking water systems operated by the Regional District as well as the Regional District’s overall governance and practices relating to drinking water. It explored three significant and distinct objectives, which were interconnected but each requiring detailed examination by the performance audit team.

Overall the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen was successful in meeting some of the core expectations of this audit: its governance structure supported the provision of clean drinking water, it implemented water conservation and demand management initiatives and it operated infrastructure that was adequate to ensure that drinking water could meet the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality in two of the three systems we

examined. However, the Regional District did not take a systematic, proactive approach in several key areas that would help ensure successful drinking water management into the future.

The result of our performance audit process is a [substantial report](#), which we urge you to read in full, as it identifies strong practices in some areas as well as other areas where the Regional District could strengthen its management of water services. In order to effectively address this complex audit topic, with three significant audit objectives, we spent a considerable amount of time and resources.

This audit is essentially three audits in one.