

Work to begin next week to replace aging pier on Okanagan Lake

(Penticton, BC – January 21, 2026) – Construction will begin along the Okanagan Lake waterfront on Monday to replace the aging pier, upgrade landscaping, enhance lighting and improve accessibility.

Built more than 40 years ago, the Kiwanis Pier has sustained significant water damage and is no longer structurally sound. The pier has reached the end of its lifespan and will be replaced, with a total project cost of approximately \$800,000.

"We know the pier is a cherished part of our waterfront and an important attraction for residents and tourists," says Scott Boyko, manager of Public Works. "The new design will be raised in height to be more resilient to high waters, so that Penticton residents can enjoy this landmark for years to come."

This work will require heavy machinery along the lakefront and adjacent park area. For public safety, the walkway and greenspace will be fenced off, with pedestrian detours in place. Visitors to the Hooded Merganser Restaurant or Shelter Floating Sauna should access through Penticton Lakeside Resort or the walkway east of the hotel from Okanagan Park along the water.

Landscaping improvements will involve removing small invasive trees, planting 21 new trees and more than 100 shrubs, and replacing the pathway to improve accessibility and usability.

Originally planned as a full-size replacement with upgraded park amenities, rising costs of materials, supplies and labour increased the estimated cost to \$1.8 million. To manage costs, Council approved a scaled-down design, which will see the pier replaced to roughly half its previous length. While the City invited community contributions in 2025 to restore the pier to its original length, the response was minimal.

The new pier is anticipated to be ready later this spring, ahead of the busy tourist season. More details will be released as construction gets underway. For more details about the pier, visit penticton.ca/pier-replacement.

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