



FINANCIAL & LEGAL SERVICES

There are specialized employment support services for various groups, such as newcomers, people with disabilities, youth, and people with barriers to employment. The services include but are not limited to assistance with resume development, preparation for a job interview, sharing job postings, etc. Some services, such as Work BC, offer some clothing and equipment (e.g. safety shoes) to eligible clients.

Banks & Credit Unions

There are five big banks (the Big Five) that operate across the country: Scotiabank, TD Canada Trust, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC), Royal Bank of Canada (RBC), and Bank of Montreal (BMO). All of these banks have presence in the South Okanagan-Similkameen region but only CIBC has branches in smaller communities, such as Keremeos and Princeton. Banks offer checking and savings accounts, lines of credit, credit cards, mortgages, local and international transfers and more. One particular service that may be of interest to parents is a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) for children, which federal government contributes to. Many banks offer incentives (e.g. i-pad, TV, cash, free services for a certain period of time, etc.) for first time customers.

Credit Unions are financial cooperatives controlled by customers. They use a non-profit model of governance – democratically elected volunteer board of directors. Credit Unions offer same services as banks but have fewer products and do not have a network across the country, so if you travel or move to another region in Canada you may not have the same credit union there. Most Canadians use online banking to manage their finances – you can pay rent, utilities, credit card balances, insurances and more through an online banking platform. Ask about this option when you open your account.

Penticton

- HSBC, 201 Main St; 1-888-310-4722
- BMO, Bank of Montreal, 195 Main St.; 250-492-4240
- RBC Royal Bank, 302 Main St; 250-490-4400
- CIBC, 295 Main St, Penticton; 250-770-3333
- TD Canada Trust, 390 Main St, Penticton; 250-770-2300
- Scotiabank, 401 Main St., Penticton; 250-770-7450
- Valley First Credit Union, 184 Main St; 1-888-597-8083
- Prospera Credit Union, 402 Main St.; 1-888-440-4480
- Valley First Credit Union, 2111 Main St; 1-888-597-8083

Summerland

- RBC Royal Bank, 7519 Prairie Valley Rd; 250-494-6036
- CIBC Branch with ATM, 9920 Main St.; 250-404-4000
- Summerland & District Credit Union, 13601 Victoria Rd N, 250-494-7181

Keremeos

- Valley First, 704 7th Ave; 888-597-8083

Oliver

- RBC Royal Bank, 6305 Main St; 250-498-3437
- CIBC Branch with ATM, 6286 Main St.; 250-498-3454
- Interior Savings Credit Union, 6287 Main St; 250-498-3457
- Valley First Credit Union, Place Mall, 5955 Main St #1280; 1-888-597-8083

Osoyoos

- CIBC Branch with ATM, 8516 Main St; 250-495-6502
- BMO, Bank of Montreal, 8502 Main St.; 250-495-6511
- Osoyoos Credit Union, 8312 Main St; 250-495-6522
- Interior Savings Credit Union, 9145 Main St; 250-495-8027
- Credit Union Central of British Columbia, 9 Magnolia Pl

Princeton

- CIBC Branch with ATM, 226 Bridge St.; 250-295-3225
- Valley First, 114 Tapton Ave; 1-888-597-8083

“captikwł are a collection of teachings about Syilx/Okanagan laws, customs, values, governance structures and principles that, together, define and inform Syilx/Okanagan rights and responsibilities to the land and to our culture. These stories provide instruction on how to relate to and live on the land... In our histories we are told that Kwulencútn (Creator) sent sen’k’lip (Coyote) to help our people survive on this land. sen’k’lip’s travels are a record of the natural laws necessary for our Syilx/Okanagan people to survive and carry on. We weren’t born with the instincts to know how to live in nature’s laws. Instead, we were given memory to remind us of what we can and cannot be doing.” (<https://www.syilx.org/about-us/syilx-nation/captikwl>)

Legal Services

Besides private law firms that you can easily find online, there are a few organizations that offer free legal advice to people who cannot afford lawyers’ fees. We are listing them below along with some legal information resources that you may find useful.

Free (pro bono) Legal Services for Low-income Individuals

- Access Pro Bono: 1-877-762-6664, www.accessprobono.ca
- Penticton Access Centre Society (Legal Advocacy): #209- 304 Martin Street, 250-493-6822, www.accesscentre.org
- Community Legal Assistance Society (CLAS)-Vancouver: 1-888-685-6222, www.clasbc.net

Civil Liberties and Human Rights

- BC Civil Liberties Association, 1-855.556.3566, www.bccla.org
- BC Rights Clinic, 1-855-685-6222, www.bchrc.net

Online Legal Information

- Clicklaw (available in several languages): www.clicklaw.bc.ca

For People with Disabilities

- Community Living BC: 444 Ellis Street, Penticton
- 250-487-4436, www.communitylivingbc.ca

Cases of Abuse/Neglect

- Community Response Network (CRN): 250-770-3404, www.bccrns.ca

Did You Know?

Osoyoos is home to the warmest average temperatures and the warmest fresh-water lake in Canada – Osoyoos Lake.