



# Okanagan College

## Transforming Lives and Communities

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Presentation to Kelowna City Council: March 20, 2023  
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# Objectives

- 1) Learn something new about Okanagan College
- 2) Better understand the economic and social value of a strong, thriving community College in Kelowna
- 3) Be inspired by the opportunities for us to work together to eliminate barriers to post-secondary education for thousands of people in our region



# Okanagan College – *Over the years*

**1950s** – Groups in Penticton, Kelowna, Vernon, Salmon Arm and Revelstoke active in bringing post-secondary services to the region

**1963** – B.C. Vocational School opens in Kelowna

**1968-74** – Salmon Arm, Vernon, Penticton join what is now Okanagan College

**1980** – College expands programming to include university transfer programs, in addition to vocational/trades programs

**2005** – UBC Okanagan opens; Okanagan College continues and experiences growth in programming and student population





# OC Fast Facts

**Largest college**  
in B.C. outside  
Lower Mainland  
(number of sites,  
students)

Second largest  
**Trades** training,  
after BCIT

**17,000**  
**students**  
annually

Over **68%**  
full-time/  
part-time  
students are  
**local**

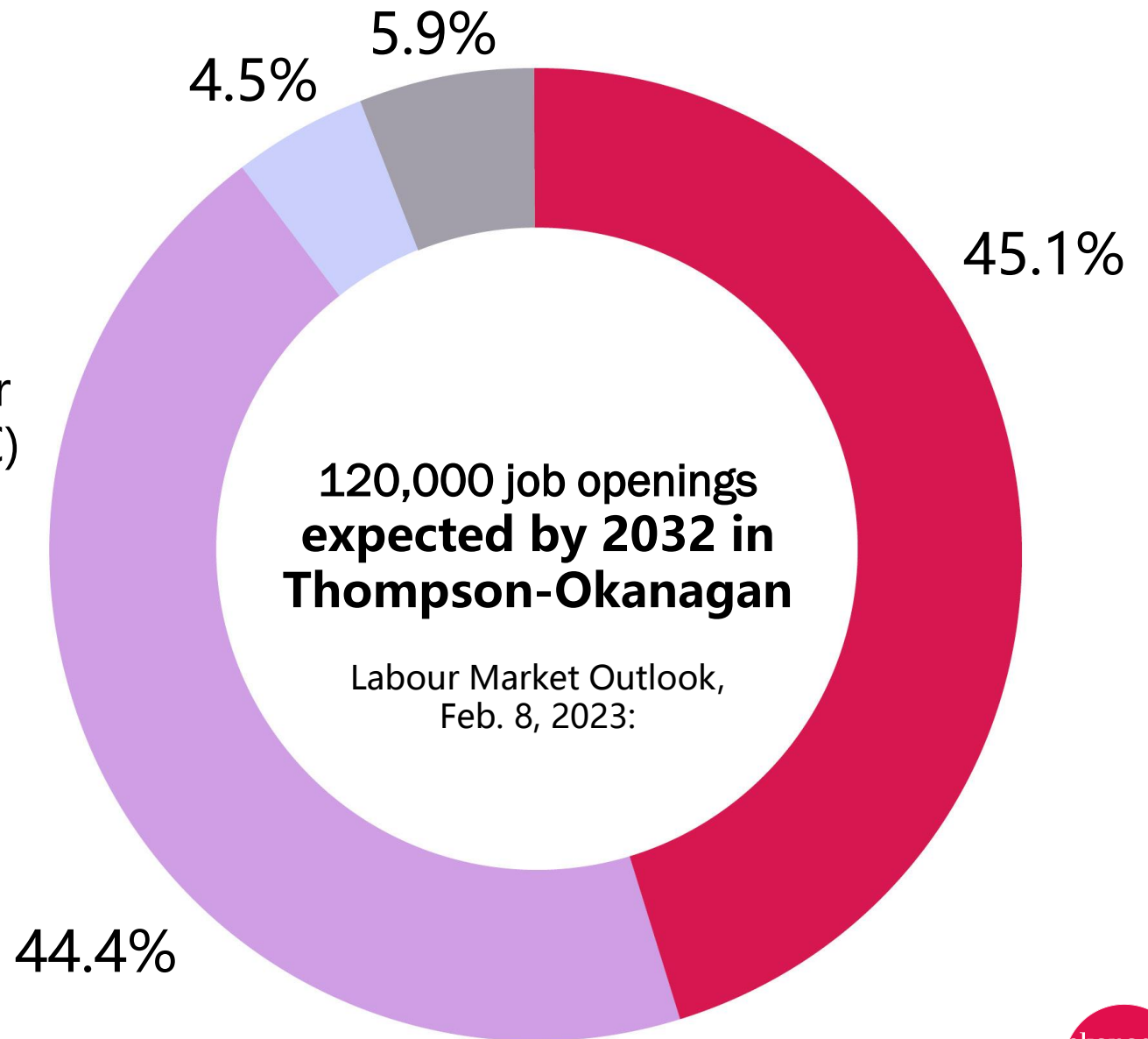
Significantly  
**higher % local**  
including  
students in  
short-courses

More than **20**  
**communities**  
are within  
**50km** of an  
OC campus

54.8% or 65,760 job openings requiring College post-secondary education

1 in 2 students in post-secondary in our region should be attending college (OC) for local workforce needs to be met

- Degree
- Diploma /Certificate
- Apprenticeship
- High school /Occupation-specific training



## Examples - Jobs requiring Diploma / Certificate / Apprenticeship

- Health care assistants, nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associates
- Retail and wholesale trade managers
- Administrative officers
- Accounting technicians and bookkeepers
- Early childhood educators and assistants
- Sales and account representatives - wholesale trade (non-technical)
- Construction managers
- Home building and renovation managers
- Managers in agriculture
- Licensed practical nurses
- Facility operation and maintenance managers
- Real estate agents and salespersons
- Manufacturing managers
- User support technicians
- Electronic service technicians (household and business equipment)
- Property administrators
- Computer network technicians
- Managers in transportation
- Other assisting occupations in support of health services
- Managers in customer and personal services
- Graphic designers and illustrators
- Medical administrative assistants
- Retail and wholesale buyers
- Police officers (except commissioned)
- Firefighters
- Medical laboratory technologists
- Other medical technologists and technicians (except dental health)
- Supervisors, mining and quarrying
- Medical laboratory technicians and pathologists' assistants
- Court reporters, medical transcriptionists and related occupations
- Medical radiation technologists
- Supervisors, general office and administrative support workers
- Respiratory therapists, clinical perfusionists and cardiopulmonary technologists
- Air traffic controllers and related occupations
- Fire chiefs and senior firefighting officers
- Deck officers, water transport
- Cardiology technologists and electrophysiological diagnostic technologists
- Automotive service technicians, truck and bus mechanics and mechanical repairers
- Contractors and supervisors, heavy equipment operator crews
- Heavy-duty equipment mechanics
- Motor vehicle body repairers
- Contractors and supervisors, mechanic trades

# Student population – by the numbers

Okanagan College, Kelowna Campus – Student Enrollment  
as of Sept. 2022

Arts and Foundational: **1231**

School of Business: **1455**

Science and Technology: **837**

Health and Social Development: **322**

Trades and Apprenticeship: **598**

Kelowna (K.L.O.) campus:

**4,381 students** (Degree/ Diploma/  
Certificate/ Apprenticeship)

OC overall:

**6,847 students** (Degree/ Diploma/  
Certificate/ Apprenticeship)

**9,278 students** (Continuing Studies)



# International students – Growing our community







# *Inspire:* Our priorities and strategic plan

- **Inclusive and equitable access:** including - individualized learning, sustainable rural/remote program delivery, development of market-aligned micro-credentials and short-duration learning options
- **Lifelong learning:** Review & modernize our approach to Student Recruitment, reflecting learners at all stages of life, and strengthening partnerships in communities to support workforce needs
- **Student experience:** Embed strategies aligned to student health, wellness and success, including Indigenization; Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Social Justice; mental and physical wellness; affordability; housing.



inspire



# Final thoughts

- Okanagan College is a **strong partner in Kelowna** and across the region: **60 years of providing post-secondary education** and training locally, supporting workforce and community goals
- City of Kelowna and Okanagan College have **shared commitments** that include creating **welcoming, inclusive and safe spaces**, and supporting **community health & wellness**
- We have an opportunity to **reframe what it means to go to College** – Okanagan College is open to learners of all ages and in all stages of life
- Identify opportunities where we can **partner in innovation, program development and delivery**