



PIID Water Trustee's Annual Report 2019 / 2020

A little thing like a pandemic can't slow the Water Team down! Every year when the CRD performs their inspection of our water system they remark favourably about the condition of our infrastructure, its cleanliness, and the professional conduct of our staff. I marvel that the team earns that praise as a direct result of the efforts of a dedicated group of unpaid but passionate volunteers. My thanks, as well, to the previous Water Trustees and Operators who laid the groundwork for our present success.

This year our success is down to the efforts of: Bob and Maureen Crooks, Bill and Mary Jordan, Phil Macoun, Ming Pawlik, Lloyd Phillips, Colin Robertson, Cam Russell, Katie Steenman, Conrad van der Kamp, Velvet Warrior, Philippa White, and Ander Wynne-Edwards.

Mary and Bill Jordan are leaving Piers Island this year. They will always be remembered for their selfless contributions to the Piers Island. I acknowledge them especially, on your behalf, for their contribution to the Pier Island water system. They will be missed!

The Water Tank Project

This is the year our new water tank will be installed. The culmination of a concerted effort by a dedicated group of volunteers supporting the professional efforts of our consultant, Stantec Consulting. My thanks to Julien Bahain, Bob and Maureen Crooks, John Hall, Bill Jordan, Colin Robertson, and Ander Wynne-Edwards for the benefit of their personal and Piers Island knowledge in ensuring that we are installing the best possible solution for Piers Island. Our new 50,000-gallon, bolted steel tank will be operational around the mid-November time frame. The tank will arrive at the end of August and the actual installation time frame is six to eight weeks.

There has been endless communication regarding the details of the project but a reminder, the project is costing approximately \$450,000 and we have received a \$50,000 grant from the CRD to help offset costs. The remaining funds are being sourced from the Water Reserve funds. The details of the final solution were further clarified in our *April 2020 Water Tank Project Summary Report* available to anyone upon request.

A visit to the water tank site or even a casual glance at the access road will illustrate that the Water Tank Installation Team has been busy preparing for the new tank. We are almost ready now for the Greatario installers to arrive and begin the installation of the tank.

Honourable Mentions

There were a number of other upgrades, activities and changes that affected our infrastructure in 2019 / 2020. They included:

- Completion of renovations to our lower reservoir storage area. We now have ample room to store all our Water Team supplies centrally and safely in a single location.
- Installation of a new standby generator and transfer panel at pump house 2.
- Replacement of 20 rusted/missing valve box covers (thanks to Bob Crooks for organizing the fabrication).
- Line flushing of the undersea lines and our on-island distribution system including the air valves (critical to maintaining water quality and valve operation).
- Minor maintenance of Water Team golf cart.

Water Quality

Water quality in 2019 / 2020 remained high. We are fortunate to receive world class quality water from the CRD and to have a team of experts that maintain it to that level. I recently completed the *BCWWA Small Water System Operators* course and it became even clearer to me how the mishandling of systems such as ours has resulted in tragic outcomes in other jurisdictions. *Thank you to the Water Team for your dedication and expertise.*

Training

Katie Steenman has now completed the Small Water System Operators Course this year, passed the EOCIP certification exam and is now one of our regular testers. Thank you, Katie!

Next Steps

Currently, our service entrance hardware is well below acceptable standards for a potable water system in BC. In 2021 we would like to be in a position to embark on a proposed three-year project to bring this hardware up to standard with a view to making it safer for landowners and easier to manage for the Water Team. This includes replacing the curb stop valve, backflow preventer, water meter and customer shut off valve.

With our growing number of permanent residents and increasing water usage, I remain confident that the upgrade to the water system will meet all future water requirements well.

Thank you for your continued support.

Submitted by:
Charles Troger
PIID Water Trustee