

WATER TRUSTEE REPORT – December 2022

Thank you once again to all the Water Operators and Water Team members. They do a tremendous job of ensuring our water quality remains high.

Water Meter Reading

As you can see from the totals listed below, we reduced our water use significantly. Over a million gallons was saved and this is attributed primarily to 13 property owners repairing their water system leaks and the new water tank not needing to be emptied three times. Well done everyone. (Thank you to Velvet for completing the spreadsheet and Philippa for leading the team in the annual water meter reading program)

Owner Name	20/21 IG	21/22 IG	Total Change (from previous)
Total Property Usage (IG)	4,054,385	3,007,581	-1,046,803
Total Property Usage (M3)	18,432	13,673	
PIID Usage (IG)	338,137	57,448	-280,689
PIID Usage (M3)	1,537	261	
North Saanich Usage (IG)	4,392,522	3,065,030	-1,327,492
North Saanich Usage (M3)	19,969	13,934	
North Saanich Meter	00278.8	14212.7	

Thank you to Barry Tate for installing the LED ceiling light and electrical outlet in the Lean To at PH#2.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with the insulation and drywall which is stored inside the Lean To.

Installation of chain link fence around water tank area

There has been an increased use in the land near the water tower. PIA have advised approved residents may dump clean fill in the area which will increase

vehicle access. When the old tower was dismantled the area was levelled and is considerably flatter and is easily accessible. Residents assigned firewood allocations were also using the area with trucks and trailers.

Water Tanks and other critical infrastructure is always considered to be restricted areas. We currently have chain link fencing around both reservoirs.

Julien was on the Water Tank committee and advised that there had been discussions about installing a chain link fence however they were conscious of keeping costs down and that it could be installed later.

Greatario Inspector wrote, "determined that the site is not secure to prevent vandalism or trespassing. Site does not have chain link fencing with barbed wire. However, the tank is located on a private island not accessible by the public so threat of trespassing is minimal". Trespassing by the public is not the main concern.

The Trustees have discussed the matter and unanimously agreed that a chain link fence should be installed around the water tank, PH#2 and the Generator building.

Water Mixer

The Trustees reviewed all the material and agreed that the water mixer would be a more effective solution to mixing the water in the tank.

Greatario recommended that the volume of water in the tank should be reduced by 30% daily. This occurs in the summer months however in the winter months there are days when usage is less than 4000 gallons. The Water Operators advised they could not find any information that supported the need for a water mixer.

Greatario suggested that if we wanted to keep the volume of water high over the winter that a mixer would assist in keeping the water fresher and ensure all the chlorine was properly mixed.

Several Water Operators completed a summary document and concluded that the mixer is not required. They believe there is sufficient mixing in the tank provided by two duck bill valves and the chlorine samples taken are within the required limit. Several Water Operators are conducting further testing.

Therefore, a mixer will not be installed in 2021/22 until further review. Greatario have provided us with a questionnaire which they will have their engineer's review.

Annual Service of Chlorination System

We were recently introduced to a new Service Provider by the CRD to complete our annual service of the chlorination system and to review our current practices. Its always good to get another view of how things are running.

Katie and Cara made the arrangements and managed this task. The experience with Island Flow Controls was excellent. Joe Woolls our new contractor took several hours to review our system, service the chlorination system and worked with both to provide advice and tips. Katie and Cara were very impressed with his professionalism and how quickly he understood how our system worked. Katie sent a note out to all team members outlining his opinion and some small suggestions to improve our system.

Mr. Woolls was very complimentary about our high standards of maintaining the water system, our qualified Operators and other team members.

Mr. Woolls comes highly recommended by the Water Operator Supervisor Scott Hawthorne at CRD. Mr. Woolls has lots of experience working with other Improvement Districts and previously worked for the CRD.

Island Volunteer Co-ordinator position

Christina van der Kamp, PIA president Phil Macoun and I recently met to discuss developing a framework for a potential Pier Island Volunteer Coordinator position and how the Island would benefit from having a structured volunteer program.

As you all know Christina is a high energy, intelligent woman with great ideas. She had discussed introducing the position in phases starting with developing a position description, scope and duties. This would be followed by an outreach to islanders to develop an inventory of current/future volunteer opportunities. Christina also suggested developing materials, i.e. website/handbook for islanders us.

Stay tuned as Christina is just getting started. PIA and PIID are working jointly on this program as we will all benefit from a volunteer coordinated program. We will keep you posted as the program develops.

Our Fire Department, Buildings and land and Water Program rely solely on volunteers to operate. Piers Island depends on Volunteers to ensure it maintains low operating costs.

New Water Chief Position, (Team Lead, Co-Ordinator)

Due to the numerous tasks required to maintain the Water Program and the number of volunteers required to complete these tasks (40+), the Trustees have agreed that a new position to manage this portfolio is required.

The new Water Chief position, Team Lead, Co-ordinator (or name as selected by Water Team Members) will be similar to the Fire Chief designation. The Fire Chief has numerous volunteers that he oversees and ensures that they have adequate training and resources to complete their tasks.

It is anticipated that this position will also be paid an honorarium and report to the Water Trustee or their designate.

The successful candidate will not be required to complete all the duties, but more importantly to oversee and coordinate volunteers to ensure that the Piers Island Water system complies with all current Acts & Regulations.

In addition, the candidate will also ensure there is succession planning program developed amongst the water team members. This will ensure that team members develop expertise in all aspects of the water system including infrastructure replacement, repair and maintenance. It is important for all team members to contribute to ensure the success of the water program.

This is not a full-time paid position. We must remain conscious that it is essentially an appointed volunteer position that is paid an honorarium.

A draft job description has been completed and is currently under review by the Trustees. Once reviewed it will be distributed to the Water Team members for their input. It is anticipated the job will be posted in January 2023.

Maureen Crooks provided a written document, requested and was granted 5 minutes to provide advice and information on the position.

We are always looking for extra hands so if you are interested in learning about our water system and want to help, please contact us.

Thank you again to the Water Team and all those on the island that pitch in to help when needed.

Monique Joubarne, Water Trustee