

Water Trustee Report

February 2, 2021

Once again, all the hard work from the Water Tank Project volunteers has paid off.

The new state of the art Water Tank is online and supplying our island with world class water. My last update recognized how all the volunteers worked together with Greatario and Stantec to achieve the final milestone. Once the COVID-19 restrictions allow, we will have a celebration to acknowledge all the volunteers that made this possible.

We overcame unexpected challenges including, needing a larger pump for the chlorination process, modifying the float switches, re-routing sirens/ paging systems and trouble shooting generator issues during power outage. Ander, Bob, Maureen, Colin, Brent and many other volunteers persevered. The result is proof of their dedication and hard work.

Stantec and Emery Electric will return to tidy up a few issues prior to the final commissioning. We expect all tasks to be completed by the end of February 2021.

Decommissioning of Old Water Tank

We now turn to the responsibility of decommissioning the old water tank. This is a large undertaking that needs a solid plan from internal and external professionals to ensure it is carried out safely.

I would like to form a small working group (1-3) Islanders to pursue the best and safest method to dismantle the tank. Our group will need individuals with some Historical background information on the tank itself, construction background and/or demolition experience, and the ability to contribute to completing RFP's.

Please contact me directly if you are interested in helping out.

I have made some preliminary inquiries with an external demolition company. There may be some value in the wood (yellow cedar, creosote pilings) used to build the tank.

Options could include the tank being disassembled by professionals and then the materials left on site for future island projects or sold to Islanders. There are many possibilities, but the main goal is to disassemble it safely.

Both companies I contacted needed measurements, type of materials used to build tank, any hazardous materials or waste and photographs prior to supplying a quote.

Backflow Preventer Installations

It is time to continue with a previous Water project started by PIID in 2016 related to the installation of backflow preventers.

In 2008 the CRD passed Bylaw Capital Regional District Cross Connection Control Bylaw 1, in 2008. The purpose is to "Protect the Public Drinking Water System from Cross Connections and Provide Continuing Cross Connection Control".

To date 28 properties have been completed by volunteers on the island.

2016 -10 2017 -0 2018 -16 2019 -0 2020 -2

Again, I would like to form a small working group (2-3) Islanders to work on this important project. The group would be responsible for detailing which properties have been completed, type of backflow preventer installed, testing of existing backflow preventer, backflow preventer currently required by code and other tasks.

As installation and testing of the backflow preventers are a CRD bylaw, a *licenced plumber and permit* are required to complete each property. Volunteers involved in the previous installation of backflow preventers advised that the prep and post work on some properties took a considerable amount of time and equipment.

The working group may consider putting out two RFP's. One internal, to prep each site for the plumber and cover the equipment once installed. Where possible property owners would be encouraged to prepare their site for the plumber.

An additional RFP would be issued for a licenced plumber to obtain all necessary permits, provide approved backflow preventers and complete installation.

Once Installation and costs per property are known, further review and discussion will be introduced between PIID and property owners.

Please contact me directly if you are interested in helping out.

COVID 19 protocols remain in place for all water team members.

Training

Congratulations to Ming for challenging and passing the BCWWA Operators exam. Ming completed the course online and was the first Islander that did not have the benefit of classroom participation.

Piers is fortunate to have such dedicated volunteers. If anyone else is interested in becoming a Water Operator contact any member of the Water team for information.

Water Quality

Continues to be excellent.

Routine Maintenance Procedures

- Weekly Water Tests
- Underwater line testing
- Visual Inspection of new tank and pumphouses
- Generator maintenance
- Golf Cart maintenance

Monique Joubarne, PIID Water Trustee