



PIID Water Trustee's Report

March 2020

My continued appreciation, as always, for the volunteer efforts of the water team. Who are they you ask: Bob Crooks, Maureen Crooks, Ming Huey Chang, Mary Jordan, Phil Macoun, Lloyd Phillips, Cam Russell, Colin Robertson, Katie Steenman, Conrad van der Kamp, Velvet Warrior, Philippa White and Ander Wynne-Edwards.

Water quality

It is a pleasure to be able to report that in these unprecedented times with the threat of COVID-19 infection everywhere, one thing we don't have to worry about is our water. Untouched by human hands, it leaves the Sooke Watershed and arrives at our taps in an uninterrupted flow.

Water Quality and Testing Update

We recently had a water test returned from MB Labs, our testing agency, that did not meet required parameters. We interacted with Island Health to inform them. Fast action on behalf of the water team, new samples and a second lab test resulted in a clean bill of health for our water. An occurrence such as this reinforces for everyone how important every step in the sampling, storing, transporting and testing of water samples is. A post-mortem by team members was unable to uncover any flaw in our procedures. Our water quality remains world class!

Recent Activities

- Flushed undersea lines in cooperation with North Saanich public works department. Piers Island, Ring Road lines will be flushed when COVID-19 crisis has passed.

Upcoming/ongoing Projects

- I still haven't installed the no anchoring signs and can now no longer blame this on nesting purple martens! Maybe I can blame it on COVID-19!!
- Editing water system documentation including system descriptions, governance, operational procedures and emergency procedures is underway.
- Upgrading of individual landowner service entrance facilities will be tackled after the water tank installation is complete.
- Water team golf cart maintenance.
- Flush water lines.
- Service air valves.

Got a few spare hours? Feel free to call the Water Trustee who will assign you a project.

Routine Maintenance Procedures

- Weekly water tests.
- Underwater line testing.
- Visual inspection of tank and pumphouses.
- Emergency generator maintenance.

Water tank replacement project

We have disbanded the Water Select Committee, its work being complete, and replaced it with a Water Tank Installation Support Select Committee that will assist the trustees, Stantec Consulting and the successful water tank installer. My thanks to Bob Crooks, John Hall, Bill Jordan, Colin Robertson and Ander Wynne-Edwards for remaining involved to assist Piers Islanders in the efficient, cost-effective installation of our new water tank.

A number of activities have been completed to aid in the installation of the new tank. A geo-technical survey has been completed and a scan of the construction area identifying the locations of underground cables has been completed. A permit has been received from Island Health for a change to a new tank and a building permit received from the CRD for our construction activities.



If you tour the water tank site you will notice some changes. A number of trees have been removed, the site has been graded and the power and telephone cables have been moved out of the planned construction area.



Mini projects still to be completed include re-burying the hydro and telephone lines, remediate the road up to the tank, build a lean-to shelter to house the valving for the new tank and place some valves to assist in transitioning from old tank to new.

All of the work I have described above will reduce the overall cost of the water tank project as it utilizes either local, island-based contractors or volunteer resources.

We are now focussing on analyzing the responses to our water tank tender. Two companies were able to meet our specifications for a bolted-steel, glass lined tank. These companies are H2flow and Greatario. Over the next few weeks, we will analyze their responses, clarify the specifications and recommend to the trustees which vendor to contract with.

As soon as information is available concerning the tender responses and pricing, we will pass it on to landowners.

Submitted by:
 Charlie Troger
 PIID Water Trustee