



# PIID Water Trustee's Report

## September 2017

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I am just starting to get my feet wet (pun intended) with the water portfolio. With the able assistance of Bob and Maureen Crooks, I am gaining a better understanding of the physical architecture of our water system. Maureen Crooks, our previous Water Trustee, has also kindly shared with me her substantial knowledge of the administrative and regulatory requirements of the water team. Previously, my understanding was limited to the fact that when I turned the tap, the water came out. I can share with you the fact that it takes the hard work of a number of dedicated volunteers to ensure a steady supply of fresh, clean water to Piers Island. We are fortunate that we start with an amazing supply of world class water from the Sooke Watershed; however, distributing this water to all residents, assuring its quality and maintaining the infrastructure is a time consuming and exacting task. The objective of my reports will be to keep all you informed of what your water team is doing to deliver this excellent quality of water to Piers Island and to protect the substantial investment the water system represents.

### **Water Team Meeting**

On August 9<sup>th</sup> the Water Team (Philippa, Velvet, Bob, Maureen, Cam, John, Joel, Lloyd, Mary J. Ander) to re-organize job functions, introduce some new volunteers, and establish an organization structure going forward. We have the following teams and members:

#### **Water Operator Team**

*Mary Jordan, Philippa White, Velvet Warrior, Cam Russell and Lloyd Phillips.*

This group is responsible for measuring and reporting on water quality, arranging and undertaking system flushing and component maintenance, assisting with documentation, and updating personal training.

#### **Water Maintenance Crew**

*Bob Crooks, Ander Wynne-Edwards, Joel Sparks, John Hall, Colin Robertson and Kelly Stevenson.*

This group is responsible for defining and implementing preventative maintenance programs, planning and implementing annual projects, and identifying, planning and budgeting future infrastructure projects.

#### **Administrative Support**

*Maureen Crooks*

Design and implement latest versions of required water system documentation including sampling logs, procedure manuals, emergency plans. Maintain and update web page. Prepare and distribute annual water reports.

### **Water Quality**

Currently our water quality is excellent. Chlorine levels are acceptable and no coliforms are present. You may notice slightly higher levels of chlorine which is accounted for by the fact that additional chlorine is being added by Sooke Watershed staff at this time.

### **Maintenance Activities**

Repaired failed patch on underwater line from Lands End Road to Piers Island boat ramp. This project featured some excellent engineering work by Bob Crooks and we now also have a repair kit to facilitate future repairs to the water line. Thank you Bob Crooks and Colin Robertson!

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Located and marked position of underwater lines at Piers Island end relative to docks and boat ramp. Thank you Bob Crooks, Kelly Stevenson and his boat, Pauline Olesen and commercial diver, Sue Bender.

Sandbagged exposed water lines at Lands End Road termination. This summer we have organized two work parties to place a total of 120 burlap wrapped concrete bags over exposed sections of the water line. The work involved picking up material from Sleggs Buildings Supplies, delivering to the compound, packaging the concrete in sacks, loading the material onto Steve Barnes' barge, delivering to Lands End Road, and finally offloading and placing the material on the water line. My thanks to the many volunteers who helped make this happen: Bob Crooks Kelly Stevenson, Cam Russell, Lloyd Phillips, Ander Wynne-Edwards, Gloria Morson, Phillipa White, John Hall and Steve Barnes.

Work is underway to refresh painted surfaces on water system infrastructure to protect surfaces from corrosion and increase visibility.

### **Select Committee**

We will soon be forming a committee of Islanders to analyze an appropriate course of action in addressing two possible major infrastructure requirements for the water system.

1. A replacement for our water tank.
2. A possible architectural change to our system whereby incoming water would bypass the 'ring' line and instead go directly to the water tank for treatment prior to distribution. The committee will look at alternative courses of action and recommend the ones that best meet our need to continue providing high quality water to residents.

### **Upcoming projects**

- Perform annual preventative maintenance checks on Pump House 2 chlorination system.
- Undertake maintenance checks on the seven air valves strategically positioned throughout our 'ring' distribution line.
- Place protective tarp on sunny surface of water tank to moderate temperature of wood surface and limit warping.
- Clean interior of water tank.
- Place ten backflow preventers and owner shut-off valves as part of a long-term project to renew all shut-off valves and install backflow preventers.

You can appreciate from the above missive the significant demand for volunteers necessary to meet the objectives of the Water Works Team.

*Do **you** have some spare hours?*

*Give me a call!*

**Charlie at 250.213.1459**

Submitted by Charlie Troger, PIID Water Trustee