

Okanagan Basin Water Board Meeting Agenda



Okanagan Basin
WATER BOARD

DATE: Tuesday, July 7, 2020

TIME: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

PLACE: *Online (see notation below)

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

1.1 Acknowledgement of First Nations Traditional Territory

We acknowledge that we are holding this meeting on the unceded territory of the Syilx Okanagan Nation.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of June 2, 2020 held online (page 1)

5. DELEGATION

5.1 Ozero – Top place AquaHacking team, presenting on their ballast washing system to prevent invasive mussels

6. STAFF REPORTS

6.1 Executive Director Report (page 6)

6.2 Water Stewardship Director Report (page 9)

6.3 Operations and Grants Manager Report (page 11) (resolution required)

6.4 Communications Director Report (page 16)

6.5 Policy and Planning Specialist Report (page 21)

7. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7.1 Review & approval of 2020 Audited Financial Statements Markus Schrott/BDO presenting (page 23) (resolution required)

7.1.1 OBWB Draft 2020 Financial Statements

7.1.2 BDO Management Letter to OBWB

7.1.3 BDO Audit Letter to Board of Directors

7.2 Contract for hydrometric network support services (page 48) (resolution required)

7.3 Request for OBWB to comment on ALR exclusion proposal on Vaseux Lake (page 49)

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Minister Heyman Letter regarding Invasive Mussels – June 11, 2020 (page 58)

9. NEXT MEETING

9.1 The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board will be Friday, July 7, 2020 at 10 a.m. at location TBD.

10. ADJOURNMENT

*** NOTE:** Meetings of the Okanagan Basin Water Board are open to the public, and only closed for in-camera sessions as set out in the B.C. Community Charter. Given the current situation with COVID-19, the board will be holding its meeting online. If you are interested in attending this online meeting, please contact our Communications Director Corinne Jackson at corinne.jackson@obwb.ca for further details. Thank you for your patience and understanding.



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OKANAGAN BASIN WATER BOARD
HELD JUNE 2, 2020, ONLINE
OKANAGAN, B.C.**

PRESENT

Chair Sue McKortoff	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Vice-Chair Cindy Fortin	Regional District Central Okanagan
Director Victor Cumming	Regional District North Okanagan
Director Rick Fairbairn	Regional District North Okanagan
Director Bob Fleming	Regional District North Okanagan
Director Colin Basran	Regional District Central Okanagan
Director Toni Boot	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Rick Knodel	Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Director Bob Hrasko	Water Supply Association of BC
Director Denise Neilsen	Okanagan Water Stewardship Council

REGRETS

Director James Baker	Regional District Central Okanagan
Director Christopher Derickson	Okanagan Nation Alliance

STAFF

Anna Warwick Sears	Executive Director
Nelson Jatel	Water Stewardship Director
Corinne Jackson	Communications Director
James Littley	Operations and Grants Manager
Kellie Garcia	Policy and Planning Specialist

TECHNICAL OBSERVER

Tessa Terbasket	Okanagan Nation Alliance
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GUESTS

Don Dobson	Dobson Engineering, hydrologist
Brian Guy	Hydrogeologist (formerly Associated Environmental Consultants)

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair McKortoff called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Chair McKortoff respectfully acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the traditional and unceded territory of the Syilx Okanagan Nation.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

8.2 Letter from Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans Canada Minister Bernadette Jordan to OBWB and Shuswap Watershed Council re: invasive mussels

8.3 Letter from Vernon Chamber to Province of B.C. re: OBWB request for action on invasive mussels

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

“THAT the agenda of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of June 22, 2020 be approved as amended.”

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of May 55, 2020 held online.

“THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board on May 5, 2020 held online be approved.”

CARRIED

5. STAFF REPORT

5.1 Executive Director Report

Dr. Sears updated the board on COVID-19 work plans, noting that staff are working primarily from home but in the office periodically as required.

The final OBWB Strategic Plan 2020-2024 was provided to the board.

Directors were told of a gap analysis project OBWB is undertaking with UBCO, reviewing flood policy in the Okanagan.

A weather update was provided. There is still a lot of snow within the Mission Creek snow pillow and near Silver Star. Dr. Sears noted that there has been some concern regarding high water levels on Kalamalka Lake and wakes caused by watercraft. In discussions with the provincial staff there is little that can be done for Kal Lake. Dirs. Fleming and Cumming, and Dr. Guy also noted concerns about wakes and high water levels in the North Okanagan. Chair McKortoff added that Osoyoos Lake is also high and the province has said it is being drained as best as possible without causing harm downstream. Dr. Sears added that a warm than normal summer is still expected.

Dr. Guy added that his report to the province, following the 2017 floods, recommended systemic changes to ensure resilience and capacity within the ministry responsible, B.C. Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development. Although there has been flood mapping, there hasn't been a lot of evidence of improved organizational capacity, hiring and succession planning.

“THAT the Executive Director's Report, dated May 2727, 2020, be received.”

CARRIED

5.2 Water Stewardship Director Report

Mr. Jatel noted that the upcoming council meeting will be online on June 11, 1 - 3 p.m. and will include discussion about the recent flood modeling work. The board was also reminded about the website www.OkanaganFloodStory.ca where people can put in an address to determine flood risk and find information on how to reduce risk.

A workshop was held May 21 to look at potential improvements to Okanagan hydrology modeling and included speakers from Environment Canada, BC Hydro and NHC, which completed the OBWB's recent flood mapping project. A video is posted on the OBWB-OkWaterWise YouTube channel at

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b6RnE_gxDKs&t=185s.

“THAT the Water Stewardship Director’s Report, dated May 27, 2020, be received.”

CARRIED

5.3 Operations and Grants Manager Report

Mr. Littley told the board that milfoil staff are preparing for harvesting on public beaches. An asset management review is also underway with a view to purchasing some replacement equipment. One of the three milfoil operators is on leave and staff are looking to hire a temporary position for the summer.

The B.C. AquaHacking Challenge final is set for June 25 and will be held as a Facebook Live on the OBWB’s Okanagan WaterWise Facebook page. In the lead up to the final, the documentary “Brave Blue World” will also be screened, which profiles tech solutions to water issues.

“THAT the Operations and Grants Manager Report, dated May 27, 2020, be received.”

CARRIED

5.4 Communications Director Report

Ms. Jackson updated the board on the launch of the valley-wide “Make Water Work” campaign with a video compilation of Okanagan mayors pledging to conserve water outdoors this summer. This was sent out to media along with a news release. Feedback from local government partners has been very positive. The campaign includes an expanded MWW Plant Collection and two new garden centre partners.

Work is continuing on the relaunch of the OBWB-OkWaterWise’s invasive mussel outreach campaign with updates to the DontMoveAMussel.ca website, updated creative for billboards, buses, radio and more. Additional downloadable items are also being discussed to meet demand for virtual outreach materials.

The board was provided an update on an online news conference for the launch of updated flood maps and the OkanaganFloodStory.ca website, as well as communications support to the AquaHacking Challenge and more.

“THAT the Communications Director’s Report, dated May 27, 2020, be received.”

CARRIED

5.5 Policy and Planning Specialist

Ms. Garcia updated the board on the Source Water Protection Toolkit project, noting a technical advisory committee meeting was held online May 27 which included federal, provincial and local government staff, First Nations water suppliers and planners. As part of the project, a toolkit will be created to help water suppliers develop source protection plans.

As part of the Agricultural Water Supply Communication Project, an annual interim report was provided to funders for Year 2 (May 1, 2019 to April 31, 2020). Highlights included increasing the number of water supply partners from eight to 10, key messages and graphics being developed for partners to provide water supply updates to ag customers. Approximately 985 ag customers are now receiving e-alerts.

Dir. Boot noted a report on a proposed B.C. agricultural industrial zone and the potential impact on ag water use. Dir. Neilsen added that the proposal suggests industrial plant food production. The report will be provided to the board.

“THAT the Policy and Planning Specialist’s Report, dated May 27, 2020, be received.”

CARRIED

6. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 OWSC memo on Water Sustainability Act implementation

Dir. Neilsen provided an overview of the memo and the issues the groundwater licencing efforts are facing, including that there is no Chair leading the effort, a lack of communication – including benefits of applying, and procedural barriers. It was recommended that the board provide a follow-up letter to the province with recommendations and urging action to improve licencing.

“THAT OBWB staff draft a letter to the Province of B.C., based on the memo, and send it on behalf of the OBWB.”

CARRIED

There was further discussion around the licencing process, with Dir. Knodel noting that he has heard farmers suggest that it’s an onerous process. Ms. Jackson added that the province held information sessions to help groundwater customers apply which perhaps should be acknowledged and similar public engagement efforts encouraged. Rural areas especially need attention, added Dirs. Knodel and Fairbairn.

6.2 Report on UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) and Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls for Action, relating to water

Ms. Garcia provided an overview of her memo, showing how UNDRIP relates to OBWB and water, and how the agency can proceed in its efforts towards reconciliation.

Ms. Terbasket noted that the report is a good starting point and acknowledged how it was connected to the OBWB’s recently adopted Strategic Plan which helps tie it to responsibility. There is a need for awareness and education at the OBWB and beyond, she added, suggesting this could be done in stages, starting with a broad level introduction (e.g. the history of residential schools and the Indian Act) and then deeper introduction to the local Syilx nation (e.g. learning about territory you live in, Syilx governance, Syilx Traditional Ecological Knowledge and our collective responsibility to care for the water). This deeper understanding is important for First Nation and local governments, Ms. Terbasket said.

Chair McKortoff thanked staff for the report and Ms. Terbasket for her insights.

“THAT the memo on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) and Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls for Action, relating to water, be received.”

CARRIED

7. IN-CAMERA

Move to include Brian Guy and Don Dobson in the in-camera meeting.

“THAT the OBWB include Brian Guy and Don Dobson in the in-camera meeting. “

CARRIED

Move to go in-camera at 11:25 a.m. under section 90(1)(k) of the Community Charter.

“THAT the OBWB move to in-camera under section 90(1)(k) of the Community Charter”

CARRIED

Come out of in camera at 11:59 a.m.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

“THAT the correspondence from MP Richard Cannings to Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) Minister Bernadette Jordan, the letter from Min. Jordan to OBWB, and Vernon Chamber to the Province of B.C., all related to invasive mussels, be received.”

CARRIED

9. NEXT MEETING

9.1 The next meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board will be held on Tues. July 7, 2020 at 10 a.m. at location TBD.

10. ADJOURNMENT

“THAT there being no further business, the regular meeting of the Okanagan Basin Water Board of June 22, 2020 be adjourned at 12:09 p.m.”

CARRIED

Certified Correct:		
Chair		Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
July 7, 2020
Agenda No: 6.1

File No. 0550.04

To: OBWB Directors
From: Anna Warwick Sears
Date: June 30, 2020
Subject: **Executive Director Report**

Covid-19 Considerations:

OBWB office-based staff continue to work mainly from home, staggering time spent in the office to keep infection risks low for themselves and others in the building. We have a new mask-wearing protocol, where everyone is asked to wear masks when sharing space in an enclosed room. Milfoil staff are now working in the field, which is a low-risk activity for virus transmission.

Audit 2020

The OBWB's audited 2020 financial statements, for the year ending March 31, 2020, have been provided for review and adoption by the board at this meeting. The auditors will present the results of the audit and answer any questions. The financial statements will then be posted on the OBWB's website, and included in our Annual Report.

Plan for Annual Meeting

When we set out the plan for the 2020 Annual Meeting, we scheduled it for Friday, September 4th. We often have the annual meeting on a Friday, to encourage public attendance. With the unpredictable pandemic conditions this year, it doesn't seem practical to plan an in-person event. I recommend that we hold our regular September meeting from 10am – 12pm with a “soft release” of our annual report. I recommend we hold a separate public event to celebrate the OBWB's 50th anniversary when there is likely to be a stronger attendance. For the public event, we would like to have celebratory remarks for the occasion of the OBWB's birthday, and possibly a keynote speaker. I welcome the board's ideas for making this a special (online) celebration.

Flood Resilience Planning Projects

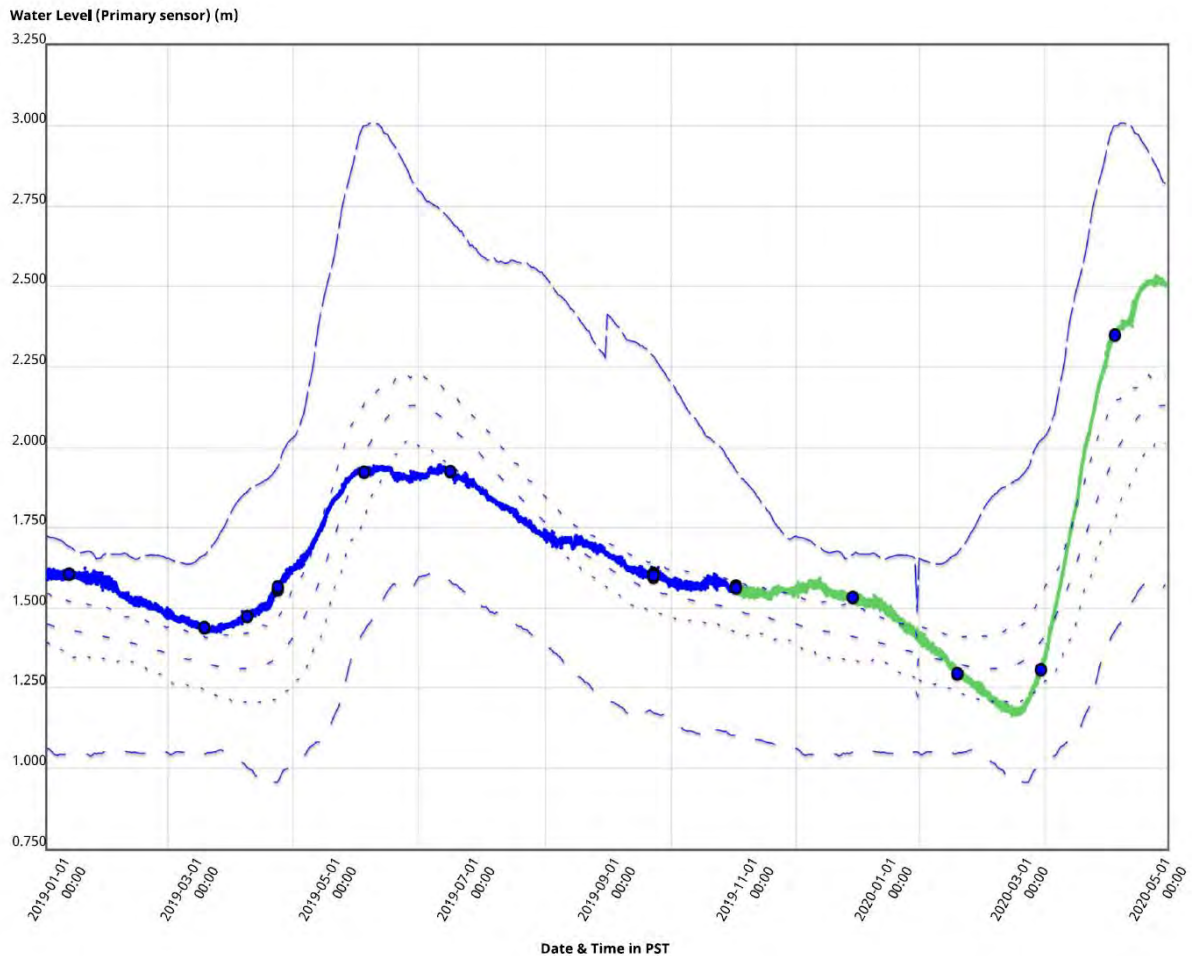
We were pleased to learn that the RDCO was successful with their grant application for Phase 3 of their Regional Floodplain Management Plan. We are meeting with RDCO staff in early July to determine how we can support this effort. The project will include an extensive outreach component to member local governments. OBWB staff will work to link the ongoing flood-related work in the other regional districts, as well as the research underway at UBCO.

Weather Report

All of the snow pillow measurement stations show that the snowpack has now melted, and the freshet should now begin to subside. It will take some time for the high water levels to clear the system.

Real-time hydrometric data for Okanagan Lake at Kelowna – June 29, 2020

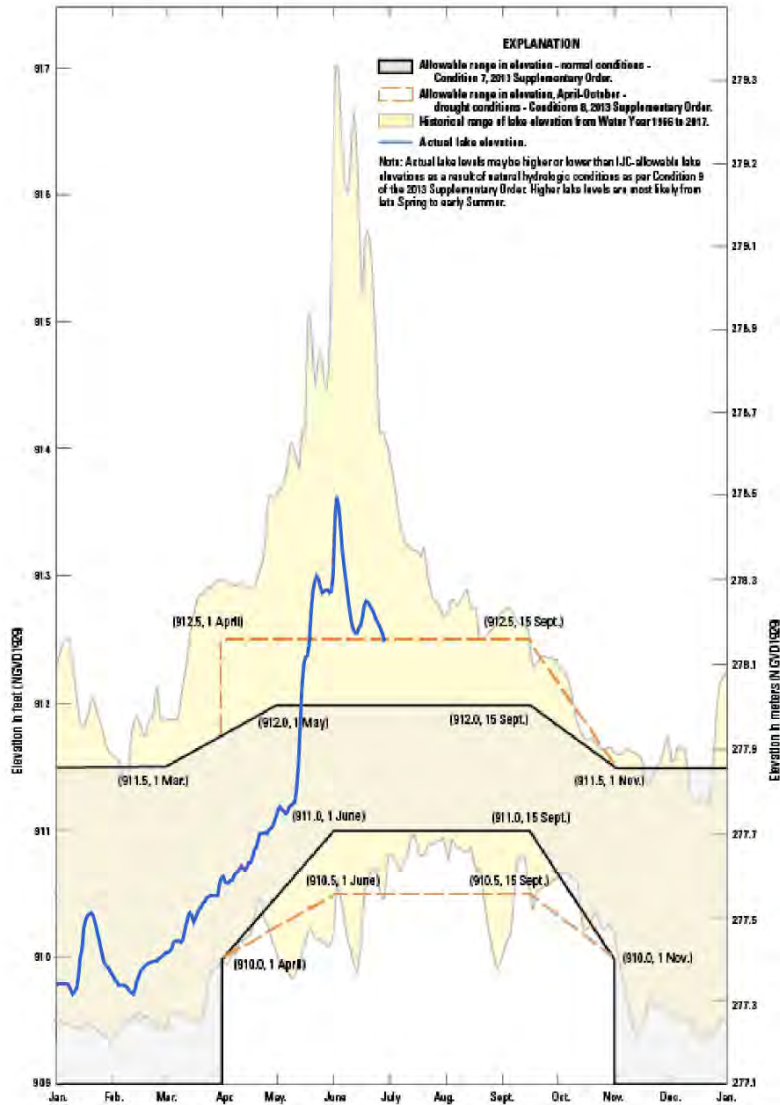
The province continues to draw down Okanagan Lake with releases into the Okanagan River channel.



Osoyoos Lake Levels – June 29, 2020

Osoyoos Lake levels are also beginning to fall. This is primarily due to the reduction in flow from the Similkameen, allowing water to flow more easily out of Zosel Dam in Oroville.

Actual and Allowable Lake Elevations per IJC Orders of Approval, Osoyoos Lake near Oroville, Washington, USGS Station 12439000



2020

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
July 7, 2020
Agenda No: 6.2

File No. 0550.04

To: Board of Directors
From: Nelson R. Jatel
Date: June 27, 2020
Subject: **Water Stewardship Director's Report**

Okanagan Water Stewardship Council

The Council met virtually on June 11th and was well-attended with 32 water professionals present. The Council received three presentations highlighting projects initiated by the Council and have recently come to fruition. These projects were:

- Okanagan Environmental Flow Needs (EFN) Projects www.obwb.ca/EFN
- Okanagan Flood Mapping www.okanaganfloodstory.ca
- Okanagan Hydrology Raven Model Project www.obwb.ca/projects

Elinor McGrath (ONA) presented on the phase 2 of the EFN project involving the calculation of new, scientifically grounded EFN values for 18 priority Okanagan streams.

Piotr Kuras and **Joel Trubilowicz** (NHC) presented on the flood mapping website and recently completed flood model. Given the wet June in the Okanagan this year, the launch of this website provides useful information for Okanagan residents and governments.

Lawrence Bird (AE) presented on the recently completed Okanagan Hydrology model framework. This project builds on previous hydrology modelling initiatives (MikeShe Model) and integrates recently completed naturalized flow calculations for Okanagan streams that include climate corrected data sets.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for September 10th from 1pm – 3pm and will be held virtually. All Board members are encouraged to participate and meeting details will be circulated in early June.

Project updates

Okanagan Hydrometric Monitoring Network – operational plan

At the Board's request (June) an operational plan for a new Okanagan Hydrometric Network program is under development and will be presented to the Board for consideration at our September Board meeting.

Okanagan Wetland Strategy

Work continues on developing collaborative opportunities to support the Okanagan Wetland Strategy (www.obwb.ca/wetlands) and projects to map, protect, and enhance wetlands throughout the Okanagan. A new collaborative project working with the North Okanagan to map and protect valley-bottom wetlands is underway. The UBCO wetland mapping project (2 years) has started and the graduate student leading the project under the supervision of Dr. Mathieu Bourbonnais has started developing background materials for this initiative.

Okanagan Water Governance – international benchmarking project

I have been asked to participate, with **Deborah Curran**, Environmental Law Centre – University of Victoria on an international water governance project benchmarking watersheds throughout North America and Europe that will include the Okanagan basin. This project is being led by Dr. **Claudia Pahl Wostl**, Professor for Resource Management, University of Osnabruck (Germany). This project involves four one-hour virtual meetings over the next 6 months and is anticipated to be completed by spring 2021. This study will provide the OBWB with practical information about water governance at the watershed scale and may strengthen our water governance manual and future strategic plans.

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
July 7, 2020
Agenda No: 6.3

File No. 0550.04

To: OBWB Directors
From: James Littley
Date: July 2, 2020
Subject: **Operations and Grants Manager Report**

AquaHacking Update

On June 25th, we hosted the virtual final of the AquaHacking Challenge and awarded \$50,000 (provided by external funders) in start-up funding to the final five teams. AquaHacking Coordinator, Carolina Restrepo and I will present some final statistics and lessons learned at the board meeting. The final event can be reviewed on the OBWB's Okanagan WaterWise Facebook page at <https://bit.ly/2NSZZgC>.

Milfoil Control Program

Our operators have now completed the maintenance and preparations for summer harvesting season, and are planning the launches of the machines starting in Osoyoos Lake and the Vernon arm of Okanagan Lake. We have hired a temporary operator as a backfill for one of our permanent operators who is on leave until the end of the summer. The new operator will receive safety and operators training and will primarily be working on Osoyoos Lake throughout the summer.

As reported in June, I have reviewed the milfoil Asset Management Plan, and consulted with our Milfoil Field Supervisor to determine that we need a new (or newer used) transport truck with crane, and a replacement trailer. I anticipate putting out a request for quotes in the next few weeks and bringing a recommendation to the board at the next meeting in September.

Invasive Mussels Policy Update

We have recently received replies to our correspondence regarding invasive mussels from both the provincial and federal governments. I have included a summary below of our latest calls to action and the response from each level of government. I have made further recommendations at the end of each section.

OBWB Calls for Provincial Action and Provincial Response:

Provincial Call to Action 1. Prioritize legislation to require all watercraft owners to remove the drain plug of their watercraft prior to transporting it.

Response: The provincial response indicates that the province will continue to consider this option as part of the annual review of the mussel defence program in the fall.

Provincial Call to Action 2. Increase inspection station funding back to at least 2017 levels of \$4.45 million per year.

Response: The response does not directly address this call to action, however broadly addresses program funding in response to action item 3 below.

Provincial Call to Action 3. Renew the public-private funding partnerships which help to fund the inspection system and are set to expire in 2021.

Response: The response indicates that “discussions are being initiated with the program funding partners and we will be looking at long-term funding strategies for the program.

Provincial Call to Action 4. Establish a working group to explore options and partnerships to enable legislation which would require all watercraft entering B.C. to report for an inspection station prior to entering provincial waters.

Response: Again, while the letter does not address the specific call to action, Minister Heyman says, “I appreciate your offer to work with provincial staff to inform future program refinements and they look forward to connecting with your team in the fall, as part of the annual program evaluation process.”

Discussion about provincial calls to action

The response from Minister Heyman indicates that the province is maintaining a status quo for inspection program funding and a wait-and-see approach for provincial policy changes. Since the inspection stations are in place and funded for the current year, it is good that the province is engaging with their funding partners and looking at long-term funding strategies for the program. However, the delay in initiating legislative changes around “pull-the-plug” legislation until after another annual review is incomprehensible. There should be no reason for a delay to initiate this legislative change, yet the province continues to drag its feet, using the fall annual review as a reason.

Recommendation: *THAT OBWB requests support from Okanagan MLAs, Okanagan Local Governments and other partners to call on the province to initiate the legislative process for introducing a “pull-the-plug” law as soon as possible. AND THAT the call to action for pull the plug legislation be made public through a news release and on social media. AND THAT the OBWB support a “Contact your MLA” or “Contact the Minister” campaign to call for immediate pull the plug legislation.*

OBWB Calls for Federal Action and Federal Response:

In response to the co-authored letter by the OBWB and Shuswap Watershed Council, Minister Jordan sent a detailed letter, including relevant links to specific departmental plans. This section outlines specific parts of the letter, as well as information from the linked sources.

Federal Call to Action 1. Parks Canada to provide inspection and decontamination stations at Banff and Jasper National Parks, both protecting the National Parks, and preventing infested watercraft from entering B.C. through those routes.

Response: “With regard to the expansion of AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) programs in Banff and Jasper national parks, Parks Canada works in collaboration with provincial governments and DFO to deliver numerous active management and monitoring programs. Examples include: restrictions and closures for boats and recreational equipment in key waterbodies and watercourses; enforcement of standardized equipment decontamination protocols for researchers and permitted users; expansion of the mandatory self-

inspection and registration of watercraft in mountain parks; and water quality monitoring to detect invasive species in flowing waters.”

Federal Call to Action 2. Expansion of early detection monitoring programs to enable more water bodies to be regularly tested for invasive mussels.

Response: While there was no specific response to this point in the letter, the linked document [Aquatic Invasive Species: Management action plan](#) addresses a recommendation in the report on management of invasive species by the Commissioner of Environment and Sustainable Development calling for “a national database or platform that would allow (DFO) and stakeholders to track and share information about species introductions and spread.” The AIS Management Action Plan states “Fisheries and Oceans Canada will prepare and assess options for the creation of a data platform by March 31, 2022. Actions may include:

- Intra-departmental discussions to determine data needs, review best practices and examine feasibility and costs; and
- Intergovernmental and inter-departmental discussions to determine stakeholder needs and capacity to contribute.”

Federal Call to Action 3. Expansion of education and outreach programs, complimenting efforts that are already underway and the inclusion of AIS prevention education in the Canadian Boating Licence program

Response: “Many provinces and territories already administer effective education and outreach programs within their jurisdictions to increase public awareness of AIS. The Department supports the development of research and outreach materials, such as “Clean, Drain, Dry,” which are nationally beneficial. Moreover, AIS prevention education is included in Transport Canada’s Boating Safety Course and Test Syllabus. This information is also listed in the [Safe Boating Guide: Safety Tips and Requirements for Pleasure Craft](#). For further information, I encourage you to contact Transport Canada, which administers this program.”

Federal Call to Action 4. That watercraft leaving invasive mussel-infested jurisdictions be inspected and decontaminated to prevent new invasions.

Response: The response indicated that “DFO has recently increased the number of fishery officers enforcing the *Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations* in the Central and Arctic Region, which includes the prairie provinces where a number of watercrafts cross to gain access to British Columbia.”

More specifically, one of the linked documents, [Aquatic Invasive Species: Management action plan](#) is a response to the report on management of invasive species by the Commissioner of Environment and Sustainable Development. In response to the Commissioner’s recommendation 1.73 – to fill gaps in enforcement of the Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations – DFO indicates that “Budget 2017 allocated \$43.8 million over five years to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species. Under this initiative, enforcement capacity will be increased by a total of seven new fishery officers (four in 2019/2020 and three in 2020/2021), who will be deployed to Central & Arctic and to the Quebec region in a manner that reflects alignment with the priority in our Minister’s mandate letter to increase the protection of freshwater resources in the Great Lakes, St. Lawrence River, and Lake Winnipeg basins. To ensure the efficient use of these limited resources, Fisheries and Oceans Canada will develop a strategy for verifying compliance and enforcing the Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada will continue to work with the Canada Border Services Agency and through the National Aquatic Invasive Species Committee.”

DFO set a deadline of September 30, 2019 to draft a national enforcement strategy, but I could not find this strategy posted online.

Federal Call to Action 5. Development of new robust measures to prevent floatplanes and amphibious aircraft from transporting aquatic invasive species;

Response: “Additionally, DFO is working closely with the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) to delineate roles and responsibilities when responding to AIS issues, such as mussel-infested watercraft, including floatplanes, at the international border.”

Discussion about federal calls to action

While the federal response contains some specific information regarding our calls to action, it is ambiguous in the actions that will be taken in the future. The response to call to action 1, regarding inspection stations in National Park only outlines that “key” waterbodies may be restricted or closed to boats. However, as most of the waterbodies are connected to broader river systems, this is not an effective way to prevent further contamination. This response also outlines that DFO and Parks Canada are standardizing equipment decontaminations, but goes on to say that they are expanding mandatory **self-inspection**. These two points – standard decontamination and self-inspection – seem to be oppositional. A more effective way to deal with this would be as we suggested, by implementing inspection stations at the national park boundaries for all watercraft.

In Federal Call to Action 2, we called for expanded early detection programs, which was not addressed in the response. However, the coordination of a national AIS database will assist with this call to action, and is outlined in the linked documents as outlined above. The concern is around the timing to introduce a national AIS database, with DFO only committing to assess options for a data platform by March 31, 2022. This seems like a long delay to essentially mimic a database which already exists in other jurisdictions, like the U.S., run by the US Geological Survey.

Federal Call to Action 3, to increase outreach and education and include an AIS component on the boater exam seems to be sufficiently addressed by the federal response. AIS information is now included in the boater exam. The board may wish to consider more ways that DFO can contribute to outreach and education which meet their criteria of being “nationally beneficial.”

Federal Call to Action 4, containing existing infestation in contaminated lakes is addressed in the Minister’s response by pointing to increased staffing around the Great Lakes, St. Lawrence and Lake Winnipeg. This response shows that there is an ongoing effort to enhance enforcement of the AIS regulations, and to allocate more resources to areas outside the Great Lakes. This is an advancement from previous federal actions, but the progress must be monitored over time to assess remaining gaps.

Federal Call to Action 5 regarding float planes and other aquatic aircraft is not sufficiently addressed in the Minister’s response.

Recommendation: THAT staff contact the National Manager for Aquatic Invasive Species, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, as suggested by the Minister, and inquire about outstanding items from the response letter, and report back to the board with further information.

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
July 7 2020
Agenda No: 6.4

File No. 0550.04

To: OBWB Directors
From: Corinne Jackson
Date: July 2, 2020
Subject: Communications Director Report

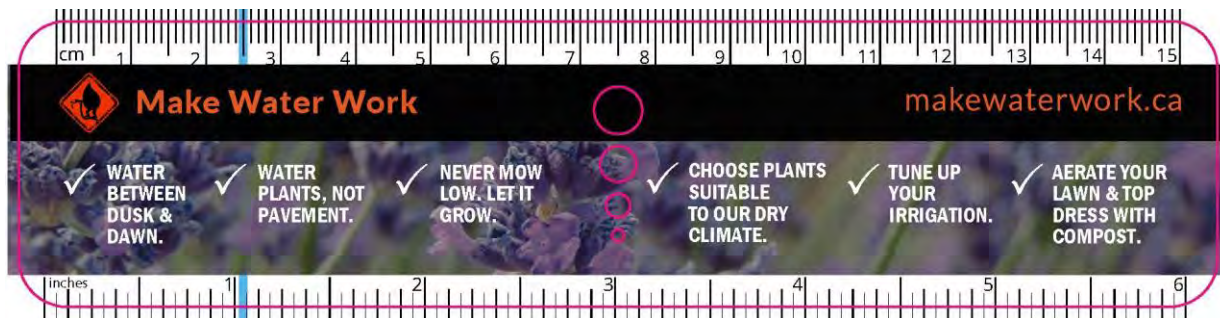
Make Water Work 2020

Work on Make Water Work for the last month has focused on updating the Make Water Work website, including the Plant Collection page (www.MakeWaterWork.ca/plants) to make it more interactive. As well, I

have been managing the creation of new outreach materials to be distributed to our garden centre and local government partners, including a web badge for their websites, social media graphics, new radio ads for our new pledges (e.g. I pledge to... tune up my irrigation). As well, in response to feedback from our MWW local government partners we have created rulers to message the significance of water leaks to customers. These are in production and should be delivered within the next couple of weeks.



Image above: Web badge to be hyperlinked to the MWW website; Image below: MWW ruler



Help Reduce Water Waste

The 2nd largest use of water in the Okanagan is used on our household lawns & gardens.

- A healthy lawn needs only 2.5 cm (one inch) of water per week.
- Step on your grass, if blades spring back, wait to water.
- Water deeply and less often to promote deep, healthy roots.
- Inspect your irrigation and make necessary fixes.
- Install water-saving irrigation and save money on your water bill.
- Go with a pro! Hire a certified irrigation contractor.

Learn more at MakeWaterWork.ca

WaterWaste at 60 PSI Water Pressure			
Diameter of Stream	Gallons	Litres	Filled Bathtub (302 Litres)
6mm stream	1,181,500	4,472,464	14,809 (~ 165 baths/day)
4.7mm stream	666,000	2,521,084	8,348 (~ 93 baths/day)
3mm trickle	296,000	1,120,481	3,710 (~ 41 baths/day)
1.5mm drip	74,000	280,120	927 (~ 10 baths/day)

A continuous leak from a hole this size would, over a three month period, waste water in the amounts shown above.

A reminder to directors, if you have not pledged yet, we encourage you to do so at www.MakeWaterWork.ca.

Don't Move a Mussel 2020

Work is continuing to update some of the creative for “Don't Move a Mussel,” with updates to the DontMoveAMussel.ca website. New radio ads have been developed, including one about transporting watercraft into B.C., in response to concerns about mussel-infested watercraft coming from Eastern provinces and the U.S. Additional downloadable items are also being developed (e.g. posters, FAQ sheets, web badge, Facebook profile filter, and more) to meet demand for virtual outreach materials.



Image left: New updated DMM poster design. Above: Updated web badge for partners to post on website and link to DMM website. Below: Mock-up draft of Facebook profile filter to encourage people to help ‘Spread the message. Not the mussel.’



Profile Photo



Profile Photo - Large

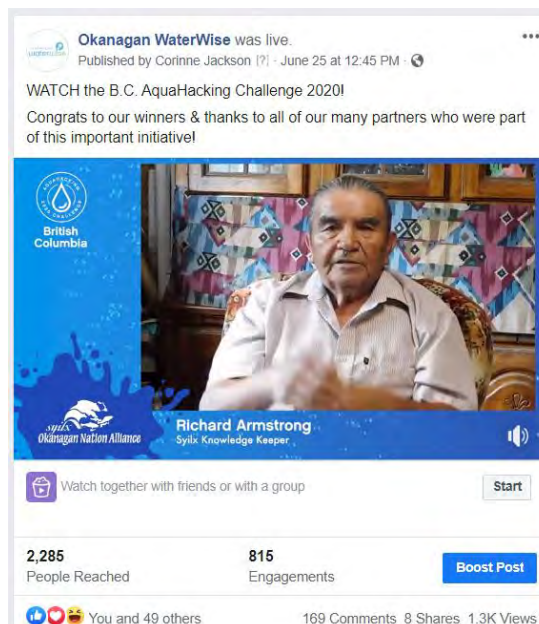
Other communication initiatives

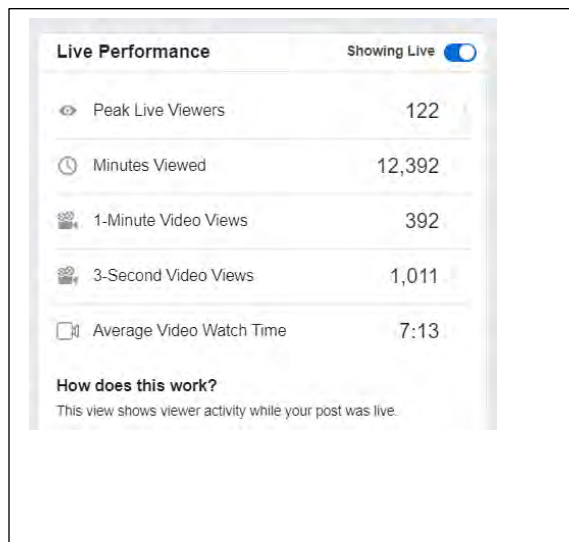
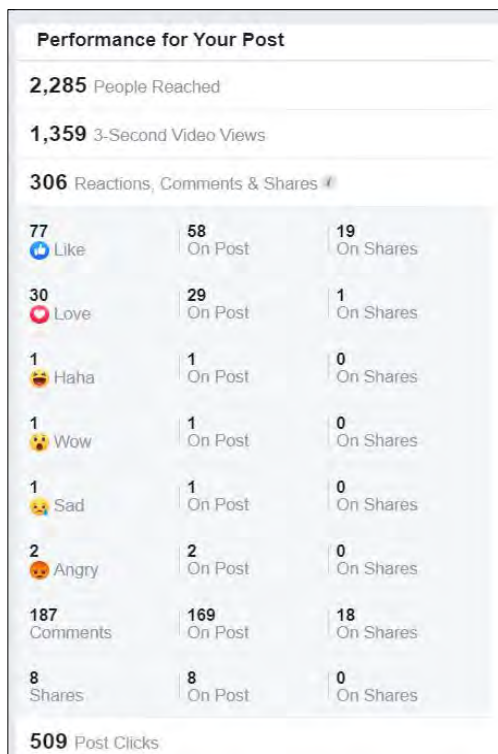
Several projects, and partners, have requested communications support for water-related projects.

This past month, a good portion of my time was spent providing communications support to the **AquaHacking Challenge** with news releases (before and after the Finals), providing editorial and photo

contributions and proofreading the AH final booklet, updating the OBWB and OkWaterWise websites, moderating the Facebook Live discussion, providing ongoing social media support on our various channels, and more.

Attached are some stats from the Facebook Live final indicating number of people reached, number who watched, commented, shared, etc.





In addition, in response to a resolution from the board and recommendation from the Water Stewardship Council, a letter was sent to the province with suggestions to improve groundwater licencing.

As well, staff have been supporting the development of some new Okanagan WaterWise curriculum materials.

Summary of OBWB-Related Media

- May 27 “UBCO and Okanagan water board team up to address flood mitigation ideas,” *UBC Okanagan News*
- May 27 “[Can Peachland be Make Water Work champs two years in a row?](#),” *Peachland View*
- May 29 “Mel Arnold weighs in on the invasive mussels fight during COVID,” *Castanet.net*
- May 30 “[UBCO and Okanagan water board address flood mitigation ideas](#),” *Castanet.net*

- June 2 “Connecting the Okanagan through a 'one water approach',” *UBC Okanagan News*
- June 2 “New partnership aims to address flooding in Okanagan valley,” *Water Canada*
- June 3 “RDCO recognized for flood management project,” *Kelowna Capital News*
- June 4 “[Valley's one water approach](#),” *Castanet.net*
- June 4 “RDCO receives award for managing the 2017 flooding,” *Castanet.net*
- June 5 “Okanagan Mayors lend support to virtual water conservation challenge,” *Oliver Chronicle*
- June 5 “Connecting the Okanagan through a ‘One water approach,’” *Water Canada*
- June 7 “Fires, flooding, droughts: New research studies Okanagan collectively,” *iNFOnews.ca*
- June 7 “New tools to predict flooding,” *Penticton Herald*
- June 10 “Column: Straight From DeHart - RDCO award, OBWB flood project,” *AM1150, Kelowna Capital News*

June 11 "Invasive species group launches educational video series on the dangers of **zebra**, quagga," *Castanet.net*

June 12 "Mussel threat highlighted in new video," *Penticton Herald*

June 14 "[Okanagan society uses video to raise awareness about invasive mussels](#)," *Kelowna Capital News, Salmon Arm Observer, Penticton Western News*

June 17 "Westside and beyond calendar of events – Brave Blue World," *Kelowna Daily Courier*

June 17 "[New two-year plan to guide Mission Creek restoration efforts](#)," *Castanet.net*

June 24 "Challenge produces new solutions for water issues," *Beach Radio, VernonMatters.ca*

June 22 "Armstrong returns to main water source after spring season," *Castanet.net*

June 24 "Calendar of events – Aquahacking final," *Kelowna Daily Courier*

June 29 "2020 B.C. AquaHacking Challenge winners announced," *Water Canada*

July 1 "[Quebec students try to keep invasive mussels out of B.C. lakes](#)," *InfoNews.ca*

July 1 "Column: Straight From DeHart – AquaHacking – Kelowna finalists," *KelownaNow.com*

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
July 7, 2020
Agenda No: 6.5

File No. 0550.04

To: OBWB Directors
From: Kellie Garcia
Date: June 29, 2020
Subject: Policy and Planning Specialist Report

Source Water Protection Toolkit Project

It was a very busy month for the Source Water Protection Toolkit project. We had our first technical advisory committee (TAC) meeting on May 27 and our second on June 29. The TAC has about 45 representatives from local and provincial governments and Indigenous organizations. At the May meeting, the consultants presented a draft outline for the toolkit and we discussed threats to drinking water and constraints to source protection in the Okanagan. We focused on solutions at the June meeting. Committee members and guest speakers talked about what their organizations are doing to advance source protection, including the tools and approaches being using, factors critical to success, specific challenges, central actions, and tools they are lacking. The consulting team and I also met with the Water Stewardship Council's source protection committee on June 10 to gather more input on the preliminary materials we had developed and advice on the engagement process moving forward.

We will be working hard over the summer to get the toolkit drafted for early September. The TAC will meet again at the end of September and the toolkit will be complete about a month later. In addition to a PDF document, we will be creating a website version of the toolkit.

Other Source Water Protection Initiatives

This month, I also participated in a meeting of the technical advisory committee for the source protection plan that is being prepared for the Naramata drinking water intake. We reviewed the first draft of the source water assessment completed by Larratt Aquatic Consulting and discussed the recommended actions provided in the report. It was another great learning opportunity for me and a chance to further build relationships with the local water suppliers and provincial regulators who were at the meeting.

On June 23, I attended a webinar on the Forest Practices Board's recent investigation of forest and range practices and impacts to fish habitat in B.C. Five watersheds across the province were investigated, including the Pennask watershed northwest of Peachland. The investigation found that the deposition of sediment from roads into streams is resulting in a moderate or high risk of harm to fish habitat in four of the five watersheds. The Board recommends the amendment of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* to ensure there is a clear and enforceable requirement to minimize sediment entering streams during road construction, maintenance and deactivation and the updating of government standards for road construction and

maintenance to clearly identify practices needed to minimize sediment entering streams from resource road. They also call on the government, professional associations, and industry to take steps to raise awareness of the importance of good sediment management on resource roads in B.C. Of course, sediment from resource roads can also impact drinking water quality so these recommendations, if implemented, would be beneficial to source protection as well as to fish habitat.

Analysis of Flood Policy and Planning Tools Project

The first deliverable of the Analysis of Flood Policy and Planning Tools project is almost complete. The UBC Okanagan research team submitted a draft of their report, which provides an inventory of current Okanagan flood policies, plans and regulatory tools, in mid-June. To collect the information for the report, the research team completed a systematic online search for relevant documents and then followed up with specific organizations as needed. I provided contact information, introductions, follow-ups, and other support to the research team and Dr. Sears and I did an extensive review of the draft report.

The next step for the research team is to examine the gaps, challenges, successes and opportunities related to the current tools. They will also review flood policy and planning tools being used in other regions of Canada and identify options that could be applied here. The final report will be available early next year.

Okanagan Lake Responsibility Planning Initiative

On June 17, I participated in a meeting with the Foreshore Technical Committee for the Okanagan Lake Responsibility Planning Initiative. The initiative is a partnership between the Okanagan Nation Alliance, the Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program, and the South Okanagan Conservation Program. The vision of the initiative is to identify ways to improve and coordinate policy and planning processes to protect and restore the environmental, cultural and economic values of Okanagan Lake.

At the meeting, we discussed the results of surveys and interviews held with staff from provincial government and Okanagan local government and Indigenous organizations to collect data on current perspectives, knowledge and opinions regarding shoreline policies, environmental issues, and potential solutions for enhancing protection. We spent some time working to build a collective understanding of root causes of the environmental issues and brainstorm possible solutions to move forward.

Thompson Okanagan Regional Drought Response Team

The provincial drought response team for our region held its first meeting on June 24. We will meet every two weeks via conference call until October with an increase to weekly if needed. The biweekly calls focus on reporting out on the conditions and concerns of high priority streams and making recommendations regarding drought levels.

During last week's call, we reviewed the 2019 action plan and heard about successes and areas for improvement related to communication and data management. Provincial staff gave a demonstration of the new Okanagan Drought Tab, which will provide stream-specific information to help the team recommend drought levels on a sub-basin scale rather than for the entire region. The tab will be available soon on the British Columbia Drought Information Portal. (I will provide the link when it is ready.) No concerns were raised about water shortages; streamflows and groundwater levels are average or high around the Thompson Okanagan region.



Okanagan Basin Water Board
Financial Statements
For the year ended March 31, 2020

DRAFT

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Management's Responsibility for Financial Reporting

The accompanying financial statements of the Okanagan Basin Water Board are the responsibility of management and have been approved by the Chairperson on behalf of the Board.

The financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. Certain amounts used in the preparation of the financial statements are based on management's best estimates and judgements. Actual results could differ as additional information becomes available in the future. When alternative accounting methods exist, management has chosen those it deems most appropriate in the circumstances, in order to ensure that the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects.

The Okanagan Basin Water Board maintains systems of internal accounting and administrative controls of high quality, consistent with reasonable cost. Such systems are designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial information is relevant, reliable and accurate and the Board's assets are appropriately accounted for and adequately safeguarded.

The Board is responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and is ultimately responsible for reviewing and approving the financial statements.

The Board meets periodically with management, as well as the external auditors, to discuss internal controls over the financial reporting process, auditing matters and financial reporting issues, to satisfy themselves that each party is properly discharging their responsibilities, and to review the annual report, the financial statements and the external auditor's report.

The financial statements have been audited by BDO Canada LLP Chartered Professional Accountants in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards on behalf of the Board. The independent auditor's report expresses their opinion on these financial statements. The auditors have full and free access to the accounting records and to the Board of the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Board of Directors Chairperson

Executive Director
July 7, 2020

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Directors of Okanagan Basin Water Board

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Okanagan Basin Water Board (the "Board"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2020, and the statements of financial operations, change in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Okanagan Basin Water Board as at March 31, 2020, and its financial operations, change in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with public sector accounting standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Board in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Unaudited Information

We have not audited, reviewed or otherwise attempted to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information included elsewhere in the annual report.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Board's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Board or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Board's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Board's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Board to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Chartered Professional Accountants

Vernon, British Columbia
July 7, 2020

Okanagan Basin Water Board Statement of Financial Position

March 31	2020	2019
Financial assets		
Cash (Note 1)	\$ 3,389,778	\$ 269,260
Portfolio investments (Note 2)	-	2,915,874
Accounts receivable	435,580	793,396
	3,825,358	3,978,530
Financial liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	211,211	411,337
Grants payable (Note 3)	421,972	405,104
Holdback payable	146,363	139,480
	779,546	955,921
Net financial assets	3,045,812	3,022,609
Non-financial assets		
Tangible capital assets (Note 4)	387,553	462,412
Accumulated Surplus (Note 5)	\$ 3,433,365	\$ 3,485,021

Approved on behalf of the Board:

Chairperson

Okanagan Basin Water Board Statement of Financial Operations

For the year ended March 31	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2019 Actual
Revenue (Note 12)			
Levies from member Regional Districts (Note 6)	\$ 3,449,170	\$ 3,449,170	\$ 3,450,733
Grants	1,254,950	-	2,068,075
Interest and other income	72,107	29,000	82,762
	4,776,227	3,478,170	5,601,570
Expenses (Note 12)			
Aquatic weed control	664,949	829,900	696,848
Sewerage facilities assistance	1,270,368	1,481,320	1,600,375
Water management	2,892,566	1,266,950	2,445,731
	4,827,883	3,578,170	4,742,954
Annual (Deficit) Surplus (Note 12)	(51,656)	(100,000)	858,616
Accumulated Surplus, beginning of year	3,485,021	3,485,021	2,626,405
Accumulated Surplus, end of year	\$ 3,433,365	\$ 3,385,021	\$ 3,485,021

Okanagan Basin Water Board Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets

For the year ended March 31	2020	2020	2019
	Actual	Budget	Actual
Annual (deficit) surplus	\$ (51,656)	\$ (100,000)	\$ 858,616
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(3,993)	-	(232,833)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	78,852	-	79,909
Net change in net financial assets	23,203	(100,000)	705,692
Net financial assets, beginning of year	3,022,609	3,022,609	2,316,917
Net financial assets, end of year	\$ 3,045,812	\$ 2,922,609	\$ 3,022,609

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Okanagan Basin Water Board Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended March 31	2020	2019
Operating activities		
Annual (deficit) surplus	\$ (51,656)	\$ 858,616
Items not involving cash:		
Amortization	78,852	79,909
Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	(800)
	<u>27,196</u>	<u>937,725</u>
Changes in working capital:		
Accounts receivable	357,816	(766,858)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(200,126)	145,601
Grants payable	16,868	118,256
Holdback payable	6,883	139,480
	<u>181,441</u>	<u>(363,521)</u>
Cash from operations	<u>208,637</u>	<u>574,204</u>
Investing Activities		
Net change in investments	2,915,874	(2,900,000)
Accrued interest	-	(15,874)
	<u>2,915,874</u>	<u>(2,915,874)</u>
Capital Activities		
Purchase of tangible capital assets	(3,993)	(232,833)
Proceeds from disposal of tangible capital asset	-	800
	<u>(3,993)</u>	<u>(232,033)</u>
Change in cash during the year	<u>3,120,518</u>	<u>(2,573,703)</u>
Cash, beginning of year	<u>269,260</u>	<u>2,842,963</u>
Cash, end of year	<u>\$ 3,389,778</u>	<u>\$ 269,260</u>

Okanagan Basin Water Board

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

March 31, 2020

Nature of Business

The Okanagan Basin Water Board ("The Board") is established under Section 138 of the Municipalities Enabling and Validating Act (Province of British Columbia) and administers and operates the aquatic weed control program, the sewerage facilities assistance fund, and a water management program as an agent of the three participating regional districts. The participating regional districts are: Regional District of Central Okanagan (R.D.C.O.); Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (R.D.O.S.); and Regional District of North Okanagan (R.D.N.O.).

Basis of Presentation

It is the Board's policy to follow accounting principles generally accepted for municipalities in the Province of British Columbia and to apply such principles consistently. The financial statements include the account of all funds for the Board. All inter-fund transfers have been eliminated. They have been prepared using guidelines issued by the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles for British Columbia Regional Districts require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Portfolio Investments

Portfolio investments are recorded at the lower of cost and market value.

Financial Instruments

The Board's financial instruments consist of cash, portfolio investments, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Board is not exposed to significant interest, currency, or credit risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair values of these financial instruments approximate their carrying values, unless otherwise noted.

Okanagan Basin Water Board

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

March 31, 2020

Tangible Capital Assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization. Cost includes all costs directly attributable to acquisition or construction of the tangible capital asset including transportation costs, installation costs, design and engineering fees, legal fees, and site preparation costs. Contributed tangible capital assets are recorded at fair value at the time of the donation, with a corresponding amount recorded as revenue. Amortization is recorded on a straight-line basis over the estimated life of the tangible capital asset commencing once the asset is available for productive use as follows:

Buildings	25 years
Equipment	4-10 years
Vehicles	5-7 years
Office Furniture & Equipment	10 years
Computers	4 years

Revenue Recognition

The levies from member Regional Districts are recognized when the levies for the fiscal year are approved by the Board and requisitioned.

Grants, interest and other income are recognized in the period in which they are earned.

Government Transfers

Government transfers, which include grants and funding agreements are recognized in the financial statements in the period in which events giving rise to the transfers occur, providing the transfers are authorized, any eligibility criteria have been met, and reasonable estimate of the amount can be made.

Okanagan Basin Water Board

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2020

1. Cash

The Board's bank account is held at one financial institution. The bank account earns interest at bank prime minus 2.25%.

2. Temporary Investments

	2020	2019
Bank of Montreal GIC, matured during the year	\$ -	\$ 2,900,000
Accrued Interest	-	\$ 15,874
	\$ -	\$ 2,915,874

3. Grants Payable

The sewerage facilities grants program provides funds for municipalities to upgrade their waste water treatment system, the Board's grants provide partial funding for debt repayment on 20 - 25 year MFA notes. The process for the sewerage facilities grants program involves municipalities requesting an approximate grant amount early in their funding process, then verifying the final grant amount once municipalities have secured MFA notes and begin making payments. Once the grants are awarded, the Board will only issue the grants based on the proper documentation submitted by individual municipalities, such as formal invoice to the Board.

The Water Conservation and Quality Improvement grant program provides funds to Okanagan local governments, improvement districts, and non-government organizations to support innovative, tangible, on the ground, water initiatives. The program takes a collaborative approach to water management issues and promotes more uniform standards and best practices throughout the valley. Up to \$319,000 per year is made available for Okanagan projects. Grants will be expensed in the year of approval as per the budget.

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2020

4. Tangible Capital Assets

	Buildings	Equipment	Vehicles	Office Furniture & Equipment	Computers	Work In Progress	2020 Total
Cost							
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 118,352	\$ 1,233,201	\$ 166,022	\$ 3,773	\$ 27,181	\$ -	\$ 1,548,529
Additions	-	-	-	-	3,993	-	3,993
Reallocation of assets	-	-	-	-	(5,632)	-	(5,632)
Balance, end of year	118,352	1,233,201	166,022	3,773	25,542	-	1,546,890
Accumulated amortization							
Balance, beginning of year	56,697	883,258	121,028	2,707	22,427	-	1,086,117
Amortization	4,742	51,519	18,236	152	4,203	-	78,852
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(5,632)	-	(5,632)
Balance, end of year	61,439	934,777	139,264	2,859	20,998	-	1,159,337
Net book value	\$ 56,913	\$ 298,424	\$ 26,758	\$ 914	\$ 4,544	\$ -	\$ 387,553

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2019

4. Tangible Capital Assets (continued)

Prior year comparative information:

	Buildings	Equipment	Vehicles	Office Furniture & Equipment	Computers	Work In Progress	2019 Total
Cost							
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 118,352	\$ 893,792	\$ 166,022	\$ 3,773	\$ 25,467	\$ 108,290	\$ 1,315,696
Additions	-	231,119	-	-	1,714	-	232,833
Disposals	-	108,290	-	-	-	(108,290)	-
Balance, end of year	118,352	1,233,201	166,022	3,773	27,181	-	1,548,529
Accumulated amortization							
Balance, beginning of year	51,954	830,223	102,793	2,554	18,684	-	1,006,208
Amortization	4,743	53,035	18,235	153	3,743	-	79,909
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance, end of year	56,697	883,258	121,028	2,707	22,427	-	1,086,117
Net book value	\$ 61,655	\$ 349,943	\$ 44,994	\$ 1,066	\$ 4,754	\$ -	\$ 462,412

Okanagan Basin Water Board

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2020

5. Accumulated Surplus

The Board maintains a reserve for future expenditures. Canadian public sector accounting standards require that non-statutory reserves be included with operating surplus. The reserve and changes therein are included in the operating surplus as follows:

	2020	2019
Aquatic Weed Control Equipment Reserve		
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 417,468	\$ 357,364
Proceeds from sale of tangible capital assets	-	800
Net surplus	174,740	218,262
Transfer of amortization	70,647	72,162
Transfer for acquisition of tangible capital assets	-	(231,120)
Balance, end of year	<u>662,855</u>	<u>417,468</u>
Invested in Tangible Capital Assets		
Balance, beginning of year	462,412	309,488
Transfer for acquisition of tangible capital assets	3,993	232,833
Transfer of amortization	(78,852)	(79,909)
Balance, end of year	<u>387,553</u>	<u>462,412</u>
Sewerage Facilities Assistance Reserve Fund		
Balance, beginning of year	1,264,966	1,445,581
Net deficit	120,894	(180,615)
Balance, end of year	<u>1,385,860</u>	<u>1,264,966</u>
Water Management Accumulated Surplus		
Balance, beginning of year	1,340,175	513,972
Net surplus	(347,290)	820,169
Transfer of amortization	8,205	7,747
Transfer for acquisition of tangible capital assets	(3,993)	(1,713)
Balance, end of year	<u>997,097</u>	<u>1,340,175</u>
	<u>\$ 3,433,365</u>	<u>\$ 3,485,021</u>

Okanagan Basin Water Board Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2020

6. Levies from Member Regional Districts

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2019 Actual
North Okanagan	\$ 602,570	\$ 602,570	\$ 622,503
Central Okanagan	2,153,662	2,153,662	2,133,036
Okanagan Similkameen	692,938	692,938	695,194
	\$ 3,449,170	\$ 3,449,170	\$ 3,450,733

7. Sewerage Facility Grants to Member Local Governments

Included in Sewerage Facilities Assistance are the following grants to member local governments:

	2020	2019
City of Kelowna	\$ 182,882	\$ 186,597
City of Penticton	170,336	215,822
City of Vernon	87,748	93,784
City of West Kelowna	43,317	42,788
District of Coldstream	11,340	12,008
District of Lake Country	153,850	287,269
District of Peachland	130,889	174,089
District of Summerland	269,880	367,080
Town of Osoyoos	11,278	11,278
Regional District of North Okanagan	4,679	4,679
Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen	119,665	119,665
Westbank First Nation	44,503	45,316
	\$ 1,230,367	\$ 1,560,375

Okanagan Basin Water Board

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2020

8. Budget Information

The budget adopted by the Board was not prepared on a basis consistent with that used to report actual results based on current Canadian public sector accounting standards ("PSAB"). The budget was prepared on a modified accrual basis while PSAB now require a full accrual basis. The following reconciles the difference.

	<u>2020</u>
Budget surplus (deficit) for the year as per board budget	\$ -
Less:	
Transfer from previous years surplus in revenues	<u>(100,000)</u>
Budget deficit per statement of financial operations	<u>\$ (100,000)</u>

9. Commitments

The Board has exercised its right to renew their lease with the Regional District of North Okanagan for another five year term, which will end March 31, 2024 for the lease of land, on which the Board's machine shop building resides. The original agreement provided for an annual lease payment of \$14,560, with increases in 2014 and 2019 indexed to the annual CPA for British Columbia. At the conclusion of the lease term, ownership of the Board's building will be transferred to the Regional District of North Okanagan.

The Board is also currently in a five year lease agreement, which expires December 31, 2023, with the option to renew for one additional term of five years, with the Regional District of Central Okanagan for office rent and operating and overhead costs as well as financial, administrative and technology services. The agreement provides for a monthly payment of \$9,303.

10. Subsequent Event

In March 2020, the COVID-19 outbreak has caused governments worldwide to enact emergency measures to combat the spread of the coronavirus. These measures, which include the implementation of facility closures, travel restrictions, self-isolation periods, and social and physical distancing, will have a significant impact on local and global economies.

At this time it is not possible to reliably estimate the length and severity of the COVID-19 outbreak and how it may impact the Board's financial results .

Okanagan Basin Water Board

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2020

11. Employee Benefits

Retirement Benefits

The Board and its employees contribute to the Municipal Pension Plan (a jointly trustee pension plan). The board of trustees, representing plan members and employers, is responsible for administering the plan, including investment of assets and administration of benefits. The plan is a multi-employer defined benefit pension plan. Basic pension benefits are based on a formula. As at December 31, 2018, the plan has about 205,000 active members and approximately 101,000 retired members. Active members include approximately 40,000 contributors from local governments.

Every three years, an actuarial valuation is performed to assess the financial position of the plan and adequacy of plan funding. The actuary determines an appropriate combined employer and member contribution rate to fund the plan. The actuary's calculated contribution rate is based on the entry-age normal cost method, which produces the long-term rate of member and employer contributions sufficient to provide benefits for average future entrants to the plan. This rate may be adjusted for the amortization of any actuarial funding surplus and will be adjusted for the amortization of any unfunded actuarial liability.

The most recent valuation for the Municipal Pension Plan as at December 31, 2018, indicated a \$2,866 million funding surplus for basic pension benefits on a going concern basis.

The Board paid \$62,541 (2019 - \$59,626) for employer contributions to the plan in fiscal 2020.

The next valuation will be as at December 31, 2021, with results available in 2022.

Employers participating in the plan record their pension expense as the amount of employer contributions made during the fiscal year (defined contribution pension plan accounting). This is because the plan records accrued liabilities and accrued assets for the plan in aggregate, resulting in no consistent and reliable basis for allocating the obligation, assets and cost to individual employers participating in the plan.

Okanagan Basin Water Board

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2020

12. Segment Disclosures

Aquatic Weed Control

This program controls the growth of Eurasian watermilfoil in the shallow waters around Okanagan beaches and boating areas. This is a year-round program managing weed growth with rototillers in the winter and harvesters in the summer. The goal of the program is to keep public areas clear of weed, but when time allows operators and equipment will also contract work on a cost-recovery basis.

Sewerage Facilities Assistance

This program reduces the discharge of polluted water to Okanagan lakes and streams by supporting upgrades of sewage treatment plants and community sewers. Grants go to Okanagan municipalities as a local match for senior government infrastructure funding. It is one of the Board's longest-running programs, and has led to great improvements in water quality.

Water Management

This initiative undertakes projects and programs that support water sustainability in the Okanagan. It supports the original mandate of the board, providing leadership and coordinating water management activities in the interests of Okanagan citizens. The initiative includes the Water Conservation and Quality Improvement grant program, water education and outreach, advocacy to senior government for Okanagan water concerns, and establishing the science and monitoring systems required for informed decision making. Many of the projects are conducted as multi-year partnerships with other funding agencies, and operating surplus balances are specifically designated for project commitments through funding agreements with senior government, or targeted to planned projects in development. The Water Management Accumulated Surplus includes \$879,743 (2019 - \$1,254,856) for previously committed projects.

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended March 31, 2020

12. Segment Disclosures and Expense by Object (continued)

	Aquatic Weed Control	Sewerage Facilities Assistance	Water Management	2020 Total
Revenues				
Levies	\$ 824,900	\$ 1,363,320	\$ 1,260,950	\$ 3,449,170
Grant income	-	-	1,254,950	1,254,950
Interest income	14,789	27,942	29,376	72,107
Gain on disposal of assets	-	-	-	-
	<u>839,689</u>	<u>1,391,262</u>	<u>2,545,276</u>	<u>4,776,227</u>
Expenses				
Assistance grants	-	1,230,368	318,746	1,549,114
Amortization	70,647	-	8,205	78,852
Contract services	12,689	-	1,774,789	1,787,478
Director's remuneration and expenses	12,872	-	12,872	25,744
Equipment costs	82,208	-	2,825	85,033
Insurance	32,484	-	1,556	34,040
Interest charge	25	-	641	666
Office	13,028	-	29,144	42,172
Outreach and publicity	19	-	151,110	151,129
Overhead allocation	(20,000)	40,000	(20,000)	-
Professional fees	37,873	-	37,873	75,746
Rental costs	23,462	-	8,903	32,365
Safety	3,410	-	200	3,610
Stewardship council expenses	-	-	4,731	4,731
Travel, conferences and meetings	2,181	-	52,789	54,970
Utilities, yard supplies and maintenance	18,236	-	954	19,190
Wages and benefits	375,815	-	507,228	883,043
	<u>664,949</u>	<u>1,270,368</u>	<u>2,892,566</u>	<u>4,827,883</u>
Annual surplus (deficit)	\$ 174,740	\$ 120,894	\$ (347,290)	\$ (51,656)

Okanagan Basin Water Board Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended March 31, 2020 (Prior year comparative information)

12. Segment Disclosures and Expense by Object (continued)

	Aquatic Weed Control	Sewerage Facilities Assistance	Water Management	2019 Total
Revenues				
Levies	\$ 889,757	\$ 1,372,726	\$ 1,188,250	\$ 3,450,733
Grant income	7,148	-	2,060,927	2,068,075
Interest income	18,205	47,034	16,723	81,962
Gain on disposal of assets	800	-	-	800
	<u>915,910</u>	<u>1,419,760</u>	<u>3,265,900</u>	<u>5,601,570</u>
Expenses				
Assistance grants	-	1,560,375	294,965	1,855,340
Amortization	72,162	-	7,747	79,909
Contract services	7,824	-	1,343,695	1,351,519
Director's remuneration and expenses	11,105	-	11,105	22,210
Equipment costs	88,028	-	1,469	89,497
Insurance	29,671	-	1,563	31,234
Interest charge	15	-	59	74
Office	12,744	-	32,247	44,991
Outreach and publicity	46	-	143,632	143,678
Overhead allocation	(20,000)	40,000	(20,000)	-
Professional fees	39,365	-	36,757	76,122
Rental costs	36,520	-	10,843	47,363
Safety	8,570	-	-	8,570
Stewardship council expenses	-	-	8,194	8,194
Travel, conferences and meetings	4,017	-	82,802	86,819
Utilities, yard supplies and maintenance	16,208	-	-	16,208
Wages and benefits	390,573	-	490,653	881,226
	<u>696,848</u>	<u>1,600,375</u>	<u>2,445,731</u>	<u>4,742,954</u>
Annual surplus (deficit)	<u>\$ 219,062</u>	<u>\$ (180,615)</u>	<u>\$ 820,169</u>	<u>\$ 858,616</u>



Tel: (250) 545 2136
Fax: (250) 545 3364
www.bdo.ca

BDO Canada LLP
202 - 2706 30th Avenue
Vernon, BC
V1T 2B6

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
July 7, 2020
Agenda No: 7.1.2

July 7, 2020

Okanagan Basin Water Board
1450 KLO Road
Kelowna, BC
V1W 3Z4

Dear Dr. Sears, Executive Director

The objective of an audit is to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of any material misstatement and it is not designed to identify matters that may be of interest to management in discharging its responsibilities. Accordingly an audit would not usually identify all such matters.

During the course of our audit of the financial statements of Okanagan Basin Water Board for the year ended March 31, 2020, we did not encounter any significant matters which we believe should be brought to your attention.

This communication is prepared solely for the information of management and is not intended for any other purposes. We accept no responsibility to a third party who uses this communication.

We shall be pleased to discuss with you further any matters mentioned in this report at your convenience.

Yours truly,

Markus Schrott, BBA, CPA, CA
Partner through a corporation
BDO Canada LLP
Chartered Professional Accountants

/MS/alk



Tel: 250 545 2136
Fax: 250 545 3364
www.bdo.ca

BDO Canada LLP
2706 - 30th Avenue, Suite 202
Vernon BC V1T 2B6 Canada

Okanagan Basin Water Board Regular meeting July 7, 2020 Agenda No: 7.1.3

Private & Confidential

July 7, 2020

Members of the Board of Directors
Okanagan Basin Water Board
1450 KLO Road
Kelowna BC V1W 3Z4

Dear Sirs/Mesdames:

Re: Audit of the Financial Statements of Okanagan Basin Water Board
For the ended March 31, 2020

The purpose of our report is to summarize certain aspects of the audit that we believe would be of interest to the Board of Directors and should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and our report thereon.

Our audit and therefore this report will not necessarily identify all matters that may be of interest to the Board of Directors in fulfilling its responsibilities.

This report has been prepared solely for the use of the Board of Directors and should not be distributed without our prior consent. Consequently, we accept no responsibility to a third party that uses this communication.

Independence

At the core of the provision of external audit services is the concept of independence. We are communicating all relationships between BDO Canada LLP and its related entities and Okanagan Basin Water Board and its related entities that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to have influenced our independence during the audit engagement.



In determining which relationships to report, we have considered the applicable legislation and relevant rules of professional conduct and related interpretations prescribed by the appropriate provincial institute/ordre covering such matters as the following:

- holding of a financial interest, either directly or indirectly in a client;
- holding a position, either directly or indirectly, that gives the right or responsibility to exert significant influence over the financial or accounting policies of a client;
- personal or business relationships of immediate family, close relatives, partners or retired partners, either directly or indirectly, with a client;
- economic dependence on a client; and
- provision of services in addition to the external audit engagement.

We are not aware of any relationships between the Okanagan Basin Water Board and us that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence to date.

Materiality

Misstatements, including omitted financial statement disclosures, are considered to be material if they, individually or in aggregate, could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As communicated to you in our Planning Report to the Board of Directors, preliminary materiality was \$133,000. Final materiality remained unchanged from preliminary materiality.

Likely Aggregate Misstatements

During the audit, we detected no uncorrected misstatements by management.

Auditor's considerations of possible fraud and illegal activities

We are responsible for planning and performing the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatements, whether caused by error or fraud.

The likelihood of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than the likelihood of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from error because fraud may involve collusion as well as sophisticated and carefully organized schemes designed to conceal it.



During our audit, we noted no instances of fraud to report to the Board of Directors and the scope of the work we performed was substantially the same as that described in our Planning report to the Board of Directors.

Management Representations

During the course of the audit, management made certain representations to us. These representations were verbal or written and therefore explicit, or they were implied through the financial statements. Management provided representations in response to specific queries from us, as well as unsolicited representations. Such representations were part of the evidence gathered by us to be able to draw reasonable conclusions on which to base the audit opinion. These representations were documented by including in the audit working papers memoranda of discussions with management and written representations received from management.

Management Letter

We wish to express our appreciation for the co-operation we received during the audit from the organization's management and staff who have assisted us in carrying out our work. We would be pleased to discuss with you the contents of this report and any other matters that you consider appropriate.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Markus Schrott', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Markus Schrott, CPA, CA
Partner through a corporation
BDO Canada LLP
Chartered Professional Accountants

MS/as

MEMORANDUM

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
July 7, 2020
Agenda No: 7.2

File No. 0550.04

To: Board of Directors
From: Nelson R. Jatel
Date: June 27, 2020
Subject: **Contract for hydrometric network support services**

2020 Okanagan Hydrometric Monitoring Network: monitoring station maintenance and data collection: As part of this year's OBWB hydrometric activities, staff are working closely with the Okanagan Nation Alliance and other partners to support on-going hydrometric monitoring priority Okanagan river systems. This collaborative initiative supports two key aspects of the OBWB strategic plan: supporting the Okanagan hydrometric network and enhancing partnerships with Okanagan Indigenous communities.

Staff recommend the award of a single source contract to the ONA with the following deliverables:

- a. Maintenance
- b. Data collection
- c. Hydrometric monitoring servicing as required

Deliverables include all hydrometric monitoring tasks for the following Okanagan streams:

- Shorts Creek
- McDougall Creek
- Whiteman Creek
- Mission Creek
- Upper Vernon Creek
- Equis Creek
- Nashwito Creek
- Coldstream Creek
- Darke Creek

Recommendation: ***THAT the OBWB award a single source contract to the Okanagan Nation Alliance in the amount of \$50,115 to provide hydrometric monitoring station maintenance and data collection for 2020.***

NB: This is an expected expenditure within the 2020 OBWB budget.

Okanagan Basin Water Board
Regular meeting
July 7, 2020
Agenda No: 7.3

MEMORANDUM

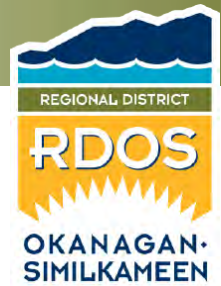
To: OBWB Directors
From: Anna Warwick Sears
Date: June 30, 2020
Subject: Request to comment on ALR exclusion proposal for Vaseux Lake

Director Ron Obirek, RDOS Area D (Okanagan Falls/Skaha East), has requested that the OBWB write a letter to the ALC, asking the commission not to allow the creation of a camping/RV park on Vaseux Lake. Information about the proposal is given here: <https://www.rdos.bc.ca/development-services/planning/current-applications-decisions/electoral-area-d/d2020-003-alc/>. I have also attached the RDOS staff report, which includes maps and drawings.

While OBWB does not typically comment on these types of applications, there are some factors related to our mandate – specifically, the risk of flooding, the risk of water pollution, and the risk that nutrients from a campground would stimulate aquatic weeds and algae growth in the lake.

Director Rick Knodel will be speaking to this agenda item.

BACKGROUND MEMORANDUM



TO: Advisory Planning Commission
FROM: JoAnn Peachey, Planner I
DATE: May 5, 2020
RE: Agricultural Land Commission Referral — ALR Exclusion Application

Purpose: To exclude a 1.2 ha area of a parcel from the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR)

Owner: C21R Projects Ltd. **Applicant:** Donna Butler, Ecora Engineering Ltd. **Folio:** D-08023.000

Civic: 3500 Highway 97 **Legal:** Lot 1, Plan 1340, Sections 16 & 21, Township 85, SDYD

OCP: part Agriculture (AG); and **Zoning:** part Agriculture One (AG1); and
part Commercial Tourist (CT) part Campground Commercial (CT2)

Proposed Development:

An application to the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) under Section 30 (1) of the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* (the Act) in order to have land excluded from the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR).

Specifically, the applicant is seeking the Commission’s approval to exclude approximately 1.2 ha of land along the southwestern portion of the property at 3500 Highway 97 from the reserve.

The applicant has indicated that the purpose of the proposal is “to develop a 35 unit campground on the waterfront portion of the parcel, in a location historically occupied by a campground. The 1.2 ha proposed for exclusion includes the campsite area at 0.9 ha and Vaseux waterfront riparian and wetland area and 0.3 ha”.

In support of the proposal, the applicant has stated “when the property was purchased in 2006 there was an area of 1.7 ha zoned for campground use. It was intended to develop the farmland and use the waterfront area for a non-farm use, such as residential or tourist commercial.”

Statutory Requirements:

Under Section 34 of the *Agricultural Land Commission Act*, the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) must “review the application, and ... forward to the commission the application together with [its] comments and recommendations”, unless Section 30 (4) applies wherein the Board has the ability to refuse to “authorise” an application.

Under Section 30 (4) of the Act, formal “authorization” by the Regional District Board is only required for applications that apply to land that is zoned by bylaw to permit farm use, or requires an amendment to an official settlement plan, an official community plan, and official development plan or a zoning bylaw. Accordingly, the proposed Exclusion must proceed to the Commission along with any “comments or recommendations” that the Regional District may wish to include.

In accordance with Schedule 8, Section 2.5 of the Regional District’s Development Procedures Bylaw No. 2500, 2011, this proposal can be dealt with administratively by the Chief Administrative Officer and forwarded to the ALC with comments.

Site Context:

The subject property is approximately 4.3 ha in area, situated between Vaseux Lake to the west and Highway 97 to the east. The subject parcel contains vineyards and has recently converted a dwelling to a wine retail shop.

The surrounding pattern of development is generally characterised by conservation areas, with residential enclaves to the north and south, along the lakeshore.

Of note, this property is designated as a nationally significant important bird and biodiversity area (IBA Vaseux Lake) and supports nationally significant populations and known nesting areas of red and blue listed bird species. There are also designated fish and wildlife habitat conservations areas east and south of the property, including the Vaseux-Bighorn National Wildlife area (NWA).

Background:Property background

The current boundaries of the subject property were created on November 12, 1913, while available Regional District records indicate building permits for a single family dwelling alterations (2017) and commercial conversion of a dwelling to wine retail shop (2019).

It is understood that a 36-unit rustic campsite was established on the subject parcel as well the adjoining property to the south in 1965. It is unknown when the campground ceased to operate but is thought to have occurred 20 to 30+ years ago.

The subject parcel was subsequently designated as Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) in 1974 and is currently classified by BC Assessment as Residential (01), and Farm (09).

Official Community Plan Bylaw

In January 1997, the Regional District adopted the East Skaha, Vaseux Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1708, 1996, which designated a portion of the subject property as CT-Tourist Commercial. The property to the south was sold to an environmental society and was designated as CA-Conservation Area.

Under the Electoral Area “D” Official Community Plan (OCP) Bylaw No. 2603, 2013, the subject property is currently designated Agriculture (AG) and Commercial Tourist (CT).

There is supportive policy for CT designated properties to support campground uses (Section 13.4.1).

However, there is also policy to avoid impacting important ecosystems when considering applications (Section 17.3.2.6) and the area subject to the ALR exclusion application is entirely designated as Environmentally Sensitive Development Permit Area. It also includes Watercourse Development Permit Area within 30 metres of the lakeshore.

With respect to ALR exclusion applications, Section 9.2.13 of the Electoral Area “D” OCP Bylaw considers that any application that proposes to exclude land from the ALR shall be accompanied by an assessment from a qualified Professional Agrologist (P.Ag) stating that the property is incorrectly designated and that exclusion would not adversely affect the long-term agricultural value of adjoining lands”.

Section 9.2.3 of the Electoral Area “D” OCP Bylaw states that the Regional Board “continues to support the Agricultural Land Commission in maintaining the integrity of land suitable for agriculture”.

Zoning Bylaw

In February 1999, the Electoral Area D, East Skaha Vaseux Zoning Bylaw No. 180, 1998 was adopted and the campground area rezoned to CT3, which permitted campgrounds and eating and drinking establishments as principal uses.

Under the Electoral Area “D” Zoning Bylaw No. 2455, 2008, the property is partially zoned Agriculture One (AG1) and Campground Commercial (CT2).

The area subject to the ALR exclusion application is entirely within the CT2 zone, which only allows campgrounds as a principal use. As a general provision in the CT2 zone, the minimum area which a campground use may be undertaken is 2.0 ha.

Campgrounds under the CT2 zone must also comply with Campground Regulations Bylaw No. 2779, which includes requirements for amenity areas (5% of campground area), minimum roadways to/from campground and to camping spaces, and vehicle parking at campground entrance (18 m² for each 10 camping spaces, up to maximum of 140 m²).

Agricultural Land Commission Consideration:

In 1978, an application to expand the existing campsite and establish a 9-hole golf course on the subject property was refused by the ALC. The ALC did, however, permit the upgrading of the campsite to include electrical and sewage hook-ups (Resolution #10764/79).

In 2006, the ALC refused the Exclusion of an approximately 1.7 ha portion of the property to develop a 64-unit campground.

In 2007, the applicant requested the ALC reconsider its 2006 decision and the Commission subsequently resolved to approve in principal a non-farm use for a 1.2 ha area to be developed to 12 residential lots, subject to the planting of vineyard.

A revised proposal for 12 lakeshore residential lots, one agricultural lot, and one winery with 10 accommodation units was refused, as proposed (2007). However, the ALC approved a portion of the proposal: 12 residential lots on 1.2 ha, a winery one caretaker unit, subject to conditions.

In 2010, the ALC reconsidered its previous decisions regarding residential lots. It refused the proposed 39 RV lots and allowed exclusion and subdivision of the foreshore area for 29 RV lots, subject to conditions.

As a condition of approval, the subdivision and winery development was to be completed within three years from date of decision.

Regional District Board Consideration:

At its meeting of July 24, 1980, the RDOS Board denied an exclusion application to facilitate 10 condominium units.

At its meeting of April 16, 2009, the RDOS Board denied an OCP Amendment and rezoning application to facilitate a 12 lot subdivision.

At its meeting July 4, 2013, the RDOS Board denied OCP Amendment and rezoning application to facilitate a 12 lot subdivision.

Public Process:

Under Section 36 of the *Agricultural Land Commission Act*, a person who makes an application to excluded lands from the ALR is required to give notice of the application in accordance with Agricultural Land Reserve General Regulation 171/2002, including newspaper publications, a notification sign on the property, and notification to adjacent owners of agricultural land.

All comments submitted to the Regional District in relation to these notification requirements are included as a separate item.

Analysis:

In considering this proposal, Administration is aware that the lands under application have previously been designated and zoned for commercial tourist purposes under the Electoral Area “D” OCP and Zoning bylaws to reflect their previous use as a campground and that the applicant’s proposal is consistent with these designations.

Administration further acknowledges that it is the purview of the ALC to determine ALR boundaries. It is for these reasons, and in accordance with the requirements of the ALC Act, that this application is being forwarded to the Commission.

Administration notes, however, that the OCP Bylaw also speaks to “support[ing] the Agricultural Land Commission in maintaining the integrity of land suitable for agriculture.”

Administration is also aware that a local government bylaw that is inconsistent with the ALC Act, the regulations or an order of the commission has, to the extent of the inconsistency, no force or effect.

In this instance, it has not been demonstrated through a capability study that the lands to be excluded are either unsuitable for agricultural use or that Exclusion would not adversely affect the long-term agricultural value of adjoining lands has not been prepared.

Yet, immediately abutting parcels have previously been used for vineyards and tree fruit production, indicating this area – including the area proposed for exclusion – appears to have agricultural potential and suitability for agricultural use.

A commercial campground use will bring additional visitors to the property and for prolonged stays (i.e. overnight guests) in close proximity to an active vineyard operation, thereby creating the potential for conflict.

In the event that the commercial use of this area becomes un-viable at some future point, Administration notes that exclusion of the area from the ALR will preclude the Commission from having regulatory control on what alternate non-farm uses may occur on this part of the property.

Administration notes concerns that the proposal does not identify all areas that may be required to support the campground use, such as required amenity, access and parking areas. Moreover, the site plan identifies land within the ALR that would be utilized to support the septic field associated with the commercial use.

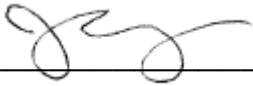
Although outside the purpose of the Commission, Administration further notes that the subject parcel also contains unique lands abutting nationally significant bird, biodiversity and conservation areas.

Permitting a campground use on a portion of an agricultural parcel, in an area entirely within an environmentally sensitive development permit area, is not directly aligned with environmental protection and agricultural protection policies contained within the OCP Bylaw.

The entire 1.2 ha exclusion area is also designated as an Environmentally Sensitive Development Permit (ESDP) Area and a report from a qualified environmental professional (QEP) has not been provided.

Should the ALC decide to exclude the lands, there would no longer be a conflict between uses permitted under zoning and the ALR, however, as stated above, the proposed campground has not been supported by reports from an agrologist nor a QEP to ensure protection of agricultural or environmentally sensitive lands.

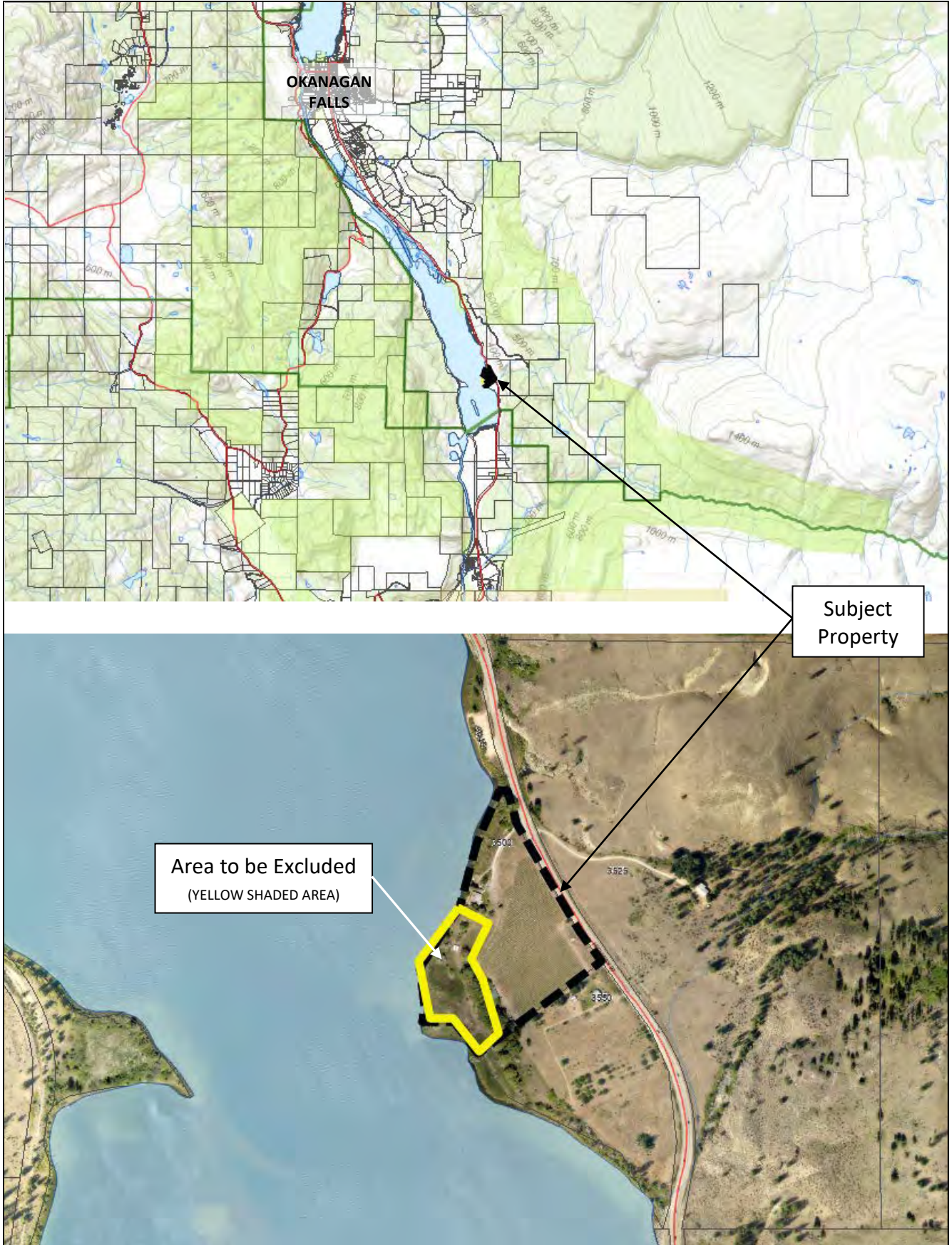
Respectfully submitted



JoAnn Peachey, Planner I

- Attachments: No. 1 – Context Map
No. 2 – Applicant’s Site Plan
No. 3 – Aerial Photo (2007)

Attachment No. 1 — Context Maps



Attachment No. 2 — Applicant's Site Plan



Attachment No. 3 – Aerial Photo (2007)



Proposed Exclusion Area
(YELLOW DASHED LINE – APPROXIMATE)

Reference: 357759

June 11, 2020

Sue McKortoff, Chair
Okanagan Basin Water Board
c/o Corinne Jackson, Communications Director
Email: corinne.jackson@obwb.ca

Dear Sue McKortoff:

Thank you for your letter of May 5, 2020, regarding invasive mussel prevention amid COVID-19. I appreciate the continued support provided by the Okanagan Basin Water Board for the work my ministry is undertaking to protect our water resources from invasive zebra and quagga mussels.

As you may know, watercraft inspection stations opened across the province in advance of the May long weekend to mark the start of the 2020 season. Stations will be operational until late October. While the risk for invasive mussels entering B.C. is expected to be lower under the current travel restrictions to address COVID-19, provincial inspectors are also checking boats for other aquatic invasive species and educating boaters about the importance of practicing “Clean, Drain, Dry.”

The Province is focused on implementing an effective, multi-pronged, risk-based approach when it comes to preventing the spread of invasive mussels. The Invasive Mussel Defence Program has been operating since 2015 and its operations undergo thorough annual reviews, benefitting from ongoing feedback from staff, partners and the public, as well as adapting operations based on lessons learned from other jurisdictions across western Canada and the United States. The recommendations that you have suggested are taken into consideration as part of this annual review process.

The legislative changes suggested in your letter are options we will continue to consider as improvements are made to the mussel defence program. We recognize that plug legislation has been implemented in several jurisdictions across the northwest. This will be considered as part of our annual program evaluation for how we can further strengthen our prevention efforts through legislative requirements. I appreciate your offer to work with provincial staff to inform future program refinements and they look forward to connecting with your team in the fall, as part of the annual program evaluation process.

With regard to the renewal of the public-private funding partnerships, discussions are being initiated with the program funding partners and we will be looking at long-term funding strategies for the program.

Last year, more than 52,000 inspections were conducted that resulted in identification of 22 mussel-fouled boats. During the 2019 season the program saw a slight increase in compliance to

83 percent, compared to 81 percent in the 2018 season. In addition, a total of 116 violation tickets and 114 warnings were issued to motorists for failing to stop at inspection stations.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

George Heyman
Minister