



**INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**Thursday, July 18, 2019**  
**SCRD Boardroom, 1975 Field Road, Sechelt, B.C.**

**AGENDA**

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**CALL TO ORDER      9:30 a.m.**

**AGENDA**

1. Adoption of Agenda

**PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

2. Ian Winn and Ruth Simons, Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society  
Regarding UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Designation for Howe Sound  
Annex A  
pp 1 - 10

**REPORTS**

3. General Manager, Infrastructure Services  
Water Supply Update  
(Voting – All)      VERBAL
4. General Manager, Infrastructure Services  
Drought Management 2019 Debrief Process  
(Voting – A, B, D E, F, Sechelt)      Annex B  
pp 11 - 14
5. Solid Waste Programs Coordinator  
Waste Reduction Initiatives Program 2019 Recipients  
(Voting – All)      Annex C  
pp 15 - 17
6. General Manager, Infrastructure Services  
Infrastructure Services Department - 2019 Q2 Report  
(Voting – All)      Annex D  
pp 18 - 30

**COMMUNICATIONS**

7. Ed Pednaud, Interim Executive Director, Sechelt & District Chamber of Commerce dated June 26, 2019  
Regarding water supply on the Sunshine Coast  
(Voting – A, B, D, E, F, Sechelt)      Annex E  
pp 31 - 32

8. Alun Woolliams, President, Transportation Choices Sunshine Coast dated July 10, 2019  
Regarding letter of support for improved road infrastructure  
**(Voting – All)**

Annex F  
pp 33 - 36

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **IN CAMERA**

That the public be excluded from attendance at the meeting in accordance with Section 90 (1) (a) of the *Community Charter* – “personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality”.

## **ADJOURNMENT**



July 11, 2019

Sunshine Coast Regional District

Dear Chair and Directors:

Re: Endorsement of the nomination for Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Reserve Nomination to UNESCO for Biosphere Reserve designation

We are excited to be nearing completion of our nomination document for the Alt'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Reserve and expect to submit to the Canadian Commission for UNESCO for their review and support by the end of September. It has been a two-year process to complete the document which will be approximately 230 pages and we are on the home stretch.

We have relied to date on the strong support from all our local governments for the Biosphere nomination. We are now asking representatives of each local government to endorse the nomination. The endorsement does not legally or financially bind the regional district but is an indication that the Regional District supports the objectives of the Alt'ka7tsem /Howe Sound Biosphere Reserve.

Quotation from Mayor Josie Osborne, Tofino – UNESCO Clayoquot Sound Biosphere Reserve  
*"Being declared an UNESCO Biosphere Reserve brings a greater sense of responsibility to living within our means in this world."*

On January 26, 2017, The SCRD passed a resolution of support:

Whereas the Sunshine Coast Regional District is a signatory to the Howe Sound Community Forum Principles for Cooperation, and

Whereas the following values stated in the Principles for Cooperation align with the objectives of a United Nations Educational Scientific Cultural Organization Biosphere Region:

- Value...Efforts towards Sustainability Objective - The Howe Sound Community Forum members recognize the need to effectively manage and maintain a balanced relationship between community development and the protection of unique biophysical and cultural qualities of the region."
- Value.. The need for Cooperation Objective –Governments, First Nations and organizations will be encouraged to work together.
- Value...Stewardship Objective – Voluntary action of individuals and organizations as a powerful and effective tool for achieving positive results is an objective of the Forum.
- Value... Transcending Jurisdictions Objective – The Forum will encourage communities to work together for the greater good because territorial lines on a map mean nothing in terms of sustainability.

- Value... Respect for Diversity Objective – It is recognized that while every member of the Howe Sound Community Forum may have a different focus or interest, they are encouraged to acknowledge a shared interest in the sustainability of Howe Sound.”

Whereas, UNESCO Biosphere Regions are effective tools for implementing United Nations Conventions including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, contribute to the conservation of landscapes, ecosystems, species and genetic variation; provide a development function - to foster economic and human development which is socio culturally and ecologically sustainable; and a logistic function - to provide support for research, monitoring, education and information exchange related to local, national and global issues of conservation and development.

Therefore be it resolved that the SCRD Board support the ongoing initiative to nominate Howe Sound as a UNESCO Biosphere Region. Carried.

We are asking the Chair or representative to be a signatory from the SCRD for section 5 of the document:

5.4 Signed by the authority/authorities, elected local government recognized authority or spokesperson representative of the communities located in the transition area(s).

Full name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, email, phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

A support letter in addition to the signature of endorsement is also welcome.

We are always seeking opportunities to inform more people about the intentions and aspirations of the designation and welcome any opportunities to further inform board members and residents.

Thank you and I look forward to your questions and response.

Sincerely,

Ruth Simons,  
Lead,  
Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society  
[www.howesoundbri.org](http://www.howesoundbri.org)  
c/o Box 465  
Lions Bay, B.C.  
V0N 2E0 604 921-6564

## Summer 2019 Update

**Vision:** The Community of the Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region lives sustainably within a healthy ecosystem, with a diversified economy, and vibrant cultures that respect the values of the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw.

**Mission:** To work collaboratively towards the Vision by providing logistical support for research, education and training that promotes biodiversity conservation, Reconciliation and sustainable development.

AHSBR will create ethical space for dialogue and facilitate the sharing and exchange of knowledge and experience both locally and globally.

AHSBR will accomplish the objectives by working creatively and proactively within the framework of the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere program

### Objectives:

1. Enable the Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region to be a model of ecosystem-based management and sustainable development by advancing conservation in the marine and terrestrial eco-systems through programs related to ecosystems, biodiversity, Reconciliation, and sustainable development.
2. Advance education by supporting research, gathering information, organizing knowledge and achieving wisdom necessary for conservation and sustainable development, for the demonstrable benefit of the Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region.
3. Build the capacity of the Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region to work within the framework of the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere program and to contribute to the success of the World Network of UNESCO Biosphere Reserves.

### UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Nomination

Draft 2 of the 200+ page nomination document is in circulation for review. Bill Henwood, formerly with Parks Canada is contracted as the editor/producer. Submission to Canadian Commission for UNESCO is intended for 2019. Intakes to UNESCO in Paris occur prior to September each year, successful applicants are announced in June.

### Proposed Governance

Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society will be a registered charitable organization committed to creating and operating in a culture of "Ethical Space" as defined by the Canadian Biosphere Reserves Association (CBRA):

*"It is the natural confluence of Indigenous and non-Indigenous worldviews and cultures. It is created through relationship building and shared governance. At a societal level, it is a vision of a future where these worldviews come together, and where both are valued equally."*

Board of Directors: 8-10 member Board is accountable to UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Program and Canadian Biosphere Reserve Network and for strategic planning and direction of AHSBR. The board will be Co-Chaired by one being elected by members, the other reserved for a Squamish Nation member. Board members have a deep understanding and commitment to the MAB program and UNESCO. Members represent First Nations, academia, industry, academia, science, NGO's, civil society, business. Board members are spokespersons for the Society, contributing time and resources.

Roundtable Group: 10-15 participants from the Region representing local government, Squamish Nation, Provincial government, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, industries, Social services, Science, Conservation organizations, Tourism association. Meeting a minimum of twice a year, the Roundtable group act as advisors and build consensus in the region towards the objectives and will be guided by the Terms of Reference.

Staff and Volunteers: The Executive Director (ED) reports to the Board of Directors. The ED holds the strategic and operational responsibilities required to achieve AHSBR's mission. Additional staff will be hired as projects and funding allows. Volunteers will be a critical part of the AHSBR's day-to-day functioning and overall success.

## Activities

Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society will provide logistic support as a strategic communications and engagement hub working towards the stated objectives by:

- Participating in an advisory capacity on working groups with non-profits and registered charities with a shared purpose of advancing conservation in the Howe Sound Biosphere Region.
- Serving as a clearinghouse of information and knowledge by gathering information, maintaining a database of ongoing research, make the information publicly available and actively promote its use for informed decision-making by maintaining and promoting the content via website and social media pages.
- Planning, coordinating and hosting public events and multi-stakeholder forums with First Nations to advance objectives and bridge conflicts.
- Securing the support and involvement of the people of the Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region in the pursuit of ecosystem- based management and sustainable development.
- Promoting ecosystem-based approaches to management and conservation. Working with organizations in the region to enhance opportunities for co-ordination and efficiency.
- Creating and making public an annual report on the health of Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Reserve and advancement of strategic goals.
- Advancing education by disseminating conservation information and research results with science organizations and educational institutions.
- Supporting and advancing understanding of the Skwxwú7mesh snichim language, cultural and history.
- Enabling volunteers to engage in research, events, and the development of educational materials.
- Developing institutional capacity of the Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region to meet its goals and objectives.
- Building awareness about UNESCO Biosphere Reserves

## Funding

Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society will establish sustainable sources of funding through partnerships with Academic organizations, grants from various sources and primarily long terms funding through the establishment of the Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Biosphere Region Foundation.

For more information contact: Ruth Simons, Lead, Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society  
[howesoundbri@gmail.com](mailto:howesoundbri@gmail.com) [www.howesoundbri.org](http://www.howesoundbri.org)



# **Working Together** to Inspire a Positive Future: Best practices from Canada's UNESCO biosphere reserves



[biospherecanada.ca](http://biospherecanada.ca)



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture



Canadian  
Biosphere  
Reserves Association

Association  
canadienne des  
réserves de la  
biosphère

# Biosphere reserves are sites designated by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

## Canada's UNESCO biosphere reserves...

- are proof that a sustainable way of living is not only possible but already happening
- work in partnership with all orders of government, Indigenous Peoples, the private sector, civil society organizations, academic institutions, youth, and residents
- facilitate dialogue, showcase models of co-governance, and coordinate projects that bridge environmental, economic, social, and cultural divides
- foster reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples through land-based programs and stewardship
- provide local and scalable solutions to balance long-term conservation and sustainable use of natural resources
- find effective ways for people and nature to thrive together
- inspire Canadians and all global citizens to replicate the practices modeled in biosphere reserves

Behind each biosphere reserve site, there is a convener organization that develops, implements, manages, and coordinates the initiatives that catalyze the above-stated mandate. The financial and governance structures of biosphere reserves vary, and include not-for-profit societies, charities, university institutes, and social enterprises.

In Canada, biosphere reserves are represented by the Canadian Biosphere Reserves Association and the Canadian Commission for UNESCO.



170 million people live in biosphere reserves worldwide



2.3 million people live in biosphere reserves in Canada



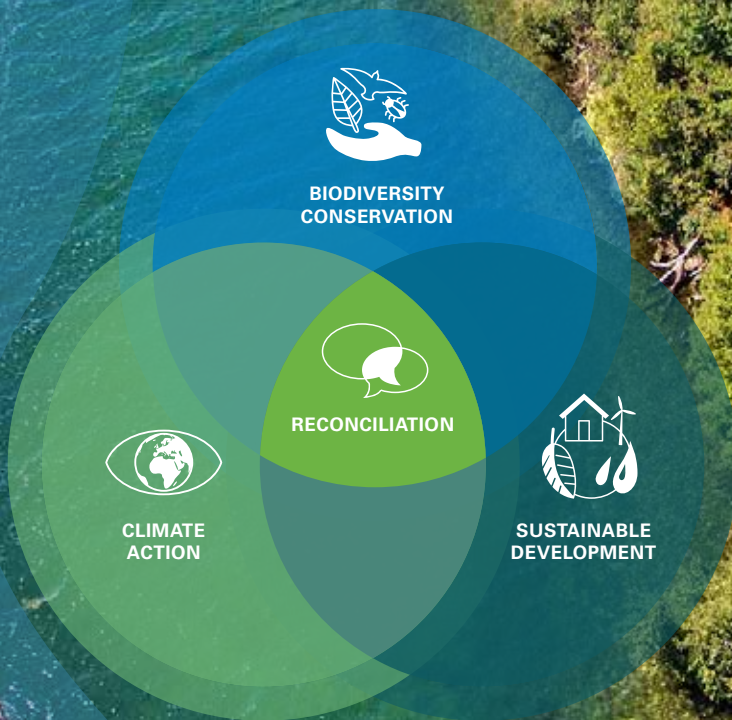
## Watch TVO's Striking Balance documentary series!

Each episode features one Canadian biosphere reserve.

[tvo.org/programs/striking-balance](http://tvo.org/programs/striking-balance)



# THEMES THAT CANADA'S BIOSPHERE RESERVES COLLECTIVELY ADDRESS



## 1. Sustainable Development

Canada's biosphere reserves establish collaborative initiatives and support policies that facilitate the development of sustainable livelihoods, allowing humans to meet their needs without compromising the needs of future generations.

### *Sustainable Development in Action*

#### **Building Sustainable Communities and Model Regions**

Biosphere reserves across Canada are leading conversations, research, and collaborative initiatives around plastics pollution, renewable energy, waste management, sustainable land-use planning, green building practices, food security, and local procurement. Using social economy principles, biosphere reserves invest in community projects that address the UN Sustainable Development Goals. They are recognized for their work in Canada's Federal Sustainable Development Strategy.

#### **Developing the Conservation Economy**



'Amazing Places' is a sustainable tourism brand developed by and for Canada's UNESCO biosphere reserves. An Amazing Place is a unique, beautiful, and natural area (e.g. trail, waterfall, park, breathtaking vista) that is considered a regional gem. The Amazing Places program brings stakeholders together in a collective effort to enhance ecological and cultural education through sustainable tourism. The brand is leveraged locally and nationally with social, economic, environmental and cultural benefits for all.  
[biospherecanada.ca/amazingplaces](http://biospherecanada.ca/amazingplaces)

#### PARTNERS

- Municipalities Provinces
- Indigenous Peoples and Nations
- Universities Residents
- Civil Society Organizations
- Private Landowners
- Agricultural Stakeholders

#### PARTNERS

- Tourism industry and operators
- Local Business Communities
- Indigenous Peoples
- Parks Agencies Residents
- Municipal and Regional Governments
- Schools and Universities



## 2. Biodiversity Conservation

Canada's biosphere reserves are grounded in the UN Convention on Biological Diversity and support the achievement of domestic and international biodiversity targets. They work with partners to test and apply interdisciplinary approaches that help us understand and manage changes and interactions in social and ecological systems. Biosphere reserves acknowledge the interconnection between cultural and biological diversity.

### *Biodiversity Conservation in Action*

#### **Establishing and Expanding Conserved and Protected Areas**

Canada's biosphere reserves contribute to the achievement of Canada Biodiversity Target 1 by supporting the establishment of Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) and Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs). Biosphere reserves use their skills in creating safe spaces for dialogue to advance the types of discussions needed for conserving biodiversity in ways that respect cultural and organizational diversity. [biospherecanada.ca/target1](http://biospherecanada.ca/target1)

#### **Protecting Species and Habitats**

Canada's biosphere reserves monitor and restore wetlands, identify and protect species at risk and associated habitats, create stewardship incentives programs for landowners, acquire land for conservation purposes, restore native species, and help revitalize Indigenous languages and knowledge systems that contain within them ancestral wisdom about local lands and waters. The collaborative work that biosphere reserves accomplish can be replicated across Canada.

## 3. Climate Action

Canada's biosphere reserves empower people to mitigate and adapt to climate change and carry out climate action projects in partnership with all sectors of society. Biosphere reserves take into account the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and its protocols.

### *Climate Mitigation and Adaptation in Action*

#### **Offsetting Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

The TREE Project began in 2018 as part of a contract with the Government of Canada to make the G7 Summit an environmentally responsible event. As part of this agreement, Canada's biosphere reserves planted 100,000 trees with local partners to help offset some of the greenhouse gases caused by the summit. The TREE Project will become an annual initiative, ensuring that at least one national or international event generates opportunities for climate action across Canada's biosphere reserves. [www.projettarbre-treeproject.ca](http://www.projettarbre-treeproject.ca)

#### **Monitoring and Adapting to Climate Change**

As part of a world network of nearly 700 biosphere reserves, the opportunities to share data and make a global impact are bountiful. Several of Canada's biosphere reserves are involved in climate monitoring initiatives and have established the partnerships required to build and install weather stations connected to international databases. By developing projects in partnership with others, biosphere reserves contribute to an open, transparent and democratic society where knowledge is shared in order to create a positive future for all.

#### *PARTNERS*

- Local Communities
- Municipalities
- Indigenous Peoples
- Civil Society Organizations
- Provinces and Territories
- Environment & Climate Change Canada

#### *PARTNERS*

- Indigenous Peoples
- Residents
- Civil Society Organizations
- Universities
- Governments
- Forestry Companies
- Private Landowners
- Agricultural Practitioners

#### *PARTNERS*

- Government of Canada
- Municipalities & Schools in biosphere reserves
- Media
- Forestry Companies
- Youth
- Residents

#### *PARTNERS*

- Provincial, Regional & Municipal Governments
- Universities
- Indigenous Governments
- Private Landholders
- Civil Society Organizations
- UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves



## 4. Reconciliation

In Canada, biosphere reserves and Indigenous Peoples see humans and the environment as interconnected, and both acknowledge that sustainable livelihoods can be practiced in a way that respects natural law. Canada's biosphere reserves implement projects in collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, build ethical space into their work, and uphold the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

### *Reconciliation in Action*



#### **Building Relationships and Sharing Knowledge**







CBRA's Indigenous Circle provides guidance to Canada's biosphere reserves on how to build strong and lasting relationships with Indigenous Peoples. Biosphere reserves also work with Indigenous Circle members to develop and implement projects that value Indigenous and Western knowledge systems in equal measure. The relationship building between CBRA's board of directors and Indigenous Circle is a strong example of the Ethical Spaces framework in action.

#### **Telling Stories of Reconciliation**

The Reconciliation Stories Project is a series of reflection papers and short films that share moving examples of reconciliation in Canada's biosphere reserves. Stories speak to the development of a relationship or initiative that has created reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples in each region, told by those who live and work in the biosphere reserve. In each case, a small gesture and some humility go a long way. [biospherecanada.ca/reconciliation](https://biospherecanada.ca/reconciliation)

#### *PARTNERS*

 Indigenous Peoples whose territories host biosphere reserves  
 Canadian biosphere reserves

 Canadian Commission for UNESCO  
 Communities Conservation Research Network  Lock3 Media  
 Indigenous Peoples  
 Residents  Local Authors



## More Facts

- Biosphere reserves implement global agreements at the local level, including the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets
- Canada hosts the only 100% Indigenous-led biosphere reserve in the world: Tsá Tué
- The International Journal for UNESCO Biosphere Reserves ([biospherejournal.org](https://biospherejournal.org)) is published by a Canadian biosphere reserve
- Find out more at [biospherecanada.ca](https://biospherecanada.ca)



Canadian  
Biosphere  
Reserves Association

Association  
canadienne des  
réserves de la  
biosphère



Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture

United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



COMMISSION  
CANADIENNE  
POUR L'UNESCO

CANADIAN  
COMMISSION  
FOR UNESCO

**Work with Canada's UNESCO biosphere reserves  
to create collaborative opportunities that inspire a  
positive future for people and nature**

**Monica Shore**

*National Coordinator*  
Canadian Biosphere  
Reserves Association

✉ [info@biospherecanada.ca](mailto:info@biospherecanada.ca)

☎ (250) 802-7193

[biospherecanada.ca](http://biospherecanada.ca)

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## SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT STAFF REPORT

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**TO:** Infrastructure Services Committee – July 18, 2019

**AUTHOR:** Remko Rosenboom, General Manager, Infrastructure Services

**SUBJECT:** DROUGHT MANAGEMENT 2019 DEBRIEF PROCESS

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### RECOMMENDATION(S)

**THAT the report titled Drought Management 2019 Debrief Process be received;**

**AND THAT the Drought Management 2019 debrief public consultation process to be organized for the fall of 2019.**

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### BACKGROUND:

The following recommendation was adopted at the July 11, 2019 Board meeting

196/19      **Recommendation No. 13**      *Water Dialogues 2019*

THAT the report titled Water Dialogues 2019 be received;

AND THAT staff report to the July 2019 Infrastructure Services Committee meeting with a proposal and the resource implications of providing 2019 drought management debriefs to Community Associations in the fall of 2019.

The purpose of this report is to provide an outline of the Drought Management 2019 debrief public consultation process to be held this fall.

### DISCUSSION:

#### *Objectives*

The feedback received from the Water Dialogues held in early June 2019 indicated that the community appreciated the active, open and transparent manner in which the Directors and staff directly interacted with the audience during these events. Building on this feedback and given the impacts of drought management on the community this summer, it is anticipated that any public consultation on the SCRD's drought management approach would be appreciated by the community and also provide valuable input.

The objectives of the public consultation would be:

- To present facts about the drought management approach implemented in 2019;
- To receive input from the community on how to enhance this approach for 2020; and
- To receive input on other water conservation initiatives the SCRD could develop.



The input received during this consultation would be analyzed by staff and reported to a Committee meeting in late 2019 or early 2020. This would allow any changes to the Drought Management Plan to be considered by the Board early 2020 and any financial implications to be included in the 2020 budget process. It would also allow the community to align their plans for the summer of 2020 in a timely manner.

Water supply expansion initiatives are not proposed to be part of the scope of this consultation process, since doing so would result in a less in-depth consultation on the drought management approach and limited new information would be available. It is therefore suggested that communication about these projects begin in early 2020. At that time the results of the current water supply expansion projects will be available, as well as information on the funding for the actual construction of these projects and in advance of the organization of the Water Summit .

Given the completely different character of the water supply situation on the Eastbourne water system, this system is excluded from the scope of the 2019 Drought Management Plan. The March 2019 report on the Drought Management Plan indicated that the development of a stand-alone plan for the Eastbourne Water System that includes an analysis of options to increase the water supply for this specific system will be initiated.

#### *Outline of public consultation process*

Public consultation on the evaluation of the 2019 drought management approach is suggested to:

- Be open and transparent;
- Allow for several means of receiving input from the community, sharing information with the community and having an active dialogue with the community;
- Be constructive;
- Be organized shortly after the end of the implementation of the 2019 drought management approach;
- Allow for engagement from the community with staff and Directors;
- Be organized without requiring significant financial resources or significantly impacting the progress on the water supply expansion projects.

Based on these elements, the proposal is to organize this public consultation process with two primary elements:

#### 1. Information sharing and collection phase (online and in-person)

Several weeks prior to the Drought Management 2019 Dialogue Events, the community will be invited to provide feedback on the 2019 drought management approach and suggestions for the 2020 one. The primary tool used will be an online and paper-based survey. Technical staff at the Field Road office would be available to engage with community members in person or by phone. An online discussion platform will also be explored to foster dialogue between community members and between the community and staff.

Stakeholder groups, including agricultural and business and community associations, will be included in the invitation to provide comments.

The input received during this phase will be analyzed and will be included in a report to the Board. This input will be crucial for the scoping and development of the format of the Drought Management 2019 Dialogue Events.

## **2. Drought Management 2019 Dialogue Events**

Similar to the Water Dialogues, the suggestion is to organize public consultation events in both the District of Sechelt and Town of Gibsons. The number of Water Dialogue events seemed to align with community demand for these events. Therefore, it is suggested that two events in Sechelt and one in Gibsons be organized initially and these numbers be adjusted based on the feedback received during the first consultation phase.

It is suggested that during these events a limited number of staff and Directors be present to provide information, and engage in and report the actual dialogues with the community.

During and after the Water Dialogues staff received feedback from the audience that they appreciated seeing SCRD staff taking an active role during such public consultation events. Since the SCRD has several staff with significant training and experience in facilitating public consultation sessions, it is suggested that staff take on the facilitation and recording roles during these sessions

Organizing and attending a few consultation events is, in this particular case, considered to be more effective and efficient than attending a multitude of smaller events, for example one event per community association or one event per area.

### *Timelines for next steps*

Staff recommend starting this public consultation process shortly after all water conservation regulations are lifted, therefore late October/early November would be the preferred time for scheduling.

This would allow for a report on outcomes to be brought to a Committee meeting in December 2019 or January 2020 with any financial implications to be incorporated in the 2020 budget process.

### *Organizational implications*

The organization and execution of this consultation process could be completed without significantly impacting the progress of the water supply expansion projects by limiting the number of staff involved primarily to the staff currently actively involved in public engagement on water conservation. Existing internal resources could be supplemented by using funds available as a result of staffing vacancies to provide essential assistance with the development, organization and execution of both consultation elements and the recording and analysis of the community input received.

*Financial implications*

The public consultation process as outlined in this report can be funded within the existing budget.

**STRATEGIC PLAN AND RELATED POLICIES**

N/A

**CONCLUSION**

This report provides an outline of a public consultation process focused on the evaluation of the 2019 drought management approach and the collection of suggestions for the future.

It is recommended that a combination of surveys and in-person dialogue as well as public consultation events be organized over the span of several weeks in the fall of 2019.

The public consultation process as outlined in this report could be completed internally within the existing budget.

Reviewed by:			
Manager		CFO/Finance	
GM		Legislative	
Interim CAO	X – A. Legault	Other	

## SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT STAFF REPORT

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**TO:** Infrastructure Services Committee – July 18, 2019

**AUTHOR:** Andrea Patrao, Solid Waste Programs Coordinator

**SUBJECT:** WASTE REDUCTION INITIATIVES PROGRAM (WRIP) 2019 RECIPIENTS

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### RECOMMENDATION(S)

**THAT the report titled Waste Reduction Initiatives Program (WRIP) 2019 Recipients be received for information.**

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### BACKGROUND

The Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) launched the Waste Reduction Initiatives Program (WRIP) in the fall of 2015.

The aim of the program is to provide funding to community groups, non-profit societies, charitable organizations and school groups to implement projects that contribute to waste reduction or diversion in the region. The WRIP is open to eligible organizations within the SCRD, including District of Sechelt, Sechelt Indian Government District and Town of Gibsons.

The WRIP has been funded since 2015 from the Eco-Fee Reserve in the amount up to \$5,000 annually. The Eco-Fee Reserve was established in 2011 to support the implementation of the SWMP. Eco-Fee Reserve funds have been used for the 2014 and 2015 waste composition studies and funds 50% of the Solid Waste Programs Coordinator position annually. The Eco-Fee Reserve is funded from \$5 per tonne of the tipping fees from municipal solid waste.

The following table summarizes how many applications received, the number of projects funded and the amount funded each year. The actual funding amount distributed each year is directly related to the project requests.

Table 1 – Summary of WRIP 2015 to 2018

Year	Number of Applications Received	Number of Projects Funded	Total Amount funded
2015	5	5	\$5,000.00
2016	5	3	\$3,770.00
2017	7	6	\$4,997.50
2018	2	1	\$522.16

The program is administered by staff who put out the call for applications, form a committee to evaluate the applications based on the program's criteria and determine recipients based on the criteria. The outcomes for the evaluation are reported to the Board via the Infrastructure Services Committee.

The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the 2019 recipients.

## **DISCUSSION**

In 2019, a call for WRIP applications opened on Friday, April 15, 2019 and closed on Friday, May 24, 2019. Four applications were received prior to the deadline and all four projects will receive funding. The recipients will have until December 31, 2019 to complete their projects.

The total funding requested for the four projects totaled \$7,357.75 out of the \$5,000 available in 2019. Since the funding requests were more than funding available, eligible expenses that were essential to the function of the project were funded in preference to non-essential requests. In addition, funding preference was given to first-time applicants who met the funding criteria outlined in the WRIP Criteria and Guidelines. This is consistent with prior years.

The WRIP requires that eligible projects continue to demonstrate and track the amount of waste that was reduced and diverted from the landfill. A project that was limited in reach to residents, had risk to long term viability or was a returning applicant who received funding in the past was given a lower score during the evaluation process.

A summary of projects awarded is included as Table 2.

Table 2 – 2019 WRIP Recipients

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Area Served</b>	<b>First time Receiving WRIP</b>	<b>Funds Received</b>
Elphinstone Secondary School	Composting Project with School Garden Club & Culinary Arts Program	Town of Gibsons	✓	\$671.42
Gibsons Community Building Society (Gibsons Public Market)	Launch facility recycling infrastructure	All	✓	\$1,000.00
North Thormanby Community Association	North Thormanby community composting project	North Thormanby, Area B	x	\$1,714.00
Sunshine Coast Association of Community Living	Recycling project for residents that receive SCACL assistance	All	✓	\$1,614.58
Total				\$5,000.00

### *Financial Implications*

The WRIP is funded annually from the Eco-Fee reserve up to \$5,000.

### *Timeline for next steps*

The call for 2020 WRIP applications is anticipated for Q1 2020.



*Communications Strategy*

The WRIP call for applications was shared broadly through advertising in the Coast Reporter, social media and the SCRD website. The WRIP has a dedicated webpage on the SCRD website: [www.scrd.ca/wrip](http://www.scrd.ca/wrip)

**STRATEGIC PLAN AND RELATED POLICIES**

The 2019 recipients and their projects will support four of the twenty-four Solid Waste Management Plan initiatives: residential waste reduction education, backyard composting, business waste diversion and yard waste composting.

**CONCLUSION**

The SCRD launched the WRIP in 2015 to assist community organizations in implementing projects that contribute to waste reduction or diversion in the region, supporting the Solid Waste Management Plan.

For the 2019 WRIP, four applications were received prior to the deadline and four projects were funded. The project completion date is December 31, 2019.

This report is provided to the Committee for information.

Reviewed by:			
Manager	X – R. Cooper	Finance	
GM	X – R. Rosenboom	Legislative	
Interim CAO	X – A. Legault	Other	

**SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT STAFF REPORT**

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**TO:** Infrastructure Services Committee – July 18, 2019

**AUTHOR:** Remko Rosenboom, General Manager, Infrastructure Services

**SUBJECT:** INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT – 2019 Q2 REPORT

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**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**THAT the report titled Infrastructure Services Department – 2019 Q2 Report be received.**

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**BACKGROUND**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on activities in the Infrastructures Services Department for the Second Quarter (Q1) of 2019: April 1 – June 30.

The report provides information from the following divisions: Water, Wastewater, Transit and Fleet, Solid Waste Programs and Solid Waste Landfill Operations.

***Utilities Division [365, 366, 370]***

The Utilities Division serves three water service areas, the North Pender Water Service Area [365], the South Pender Water Service Area [366], and the Regional Water Service Area [370]. The Regional Water Service Area includes the Chapman water system as well as the smaller systems of Egmont, Cove Cay, Granthams, Soames Point, Langdale, and Eastbourne. The Utilities Division is also responsible for 18 wastewater facilities in Areas A, B, D, E, and F.

The SCRD water systems supply potable water to approximately 23,000 residents between Egmont and Langdale. This includes operations and maintenance of the Langdale, Soames Point, Granthams Landing, Eastbourne (Keats Island), Chapman/Gray Creek including the Chapman Creek Water Treatment Plant, the South Pender Harbour Water Treatment Plant, Cove Cay, Egmont and the North Pender Harbour Water Systems. In addition to water for drinking, these water systems supply potable water used for fire protection, recreation (pools and ice rinks), industrial use and irrigation.

Combined, the SCRD Water Systems consist of over 379 km of watermain, 16 storage reservoirs, 15 pump stations, 29 pressure reducing valve stations, 1145+ fire hydrants, 10 chlorination stations and approximately 11,475 water connections.

The quarterly report includes information about larger capital works and projects, and noteworthy program developments, as well as, monthly water treatment volumes from the Chapman Creek Water Treatment Plant and the South Pender Water Treatment Plant, and a summary of work orders.

**PROJECTS - CAPITAL WORKS**

- **Watermain Replacement Program**

- North and South Pender Harbour Watermain Replacement
  - All of the North Pender and South Pender water mains have been installed and connected. The paving and site clean-up is required in South Pender with completion expected by mid-July.
- Chapman Creek Bridge Watermain Replacement
  - The watermain attached to the Chapman Creek Bridge is in need of replacement due to age and corrosion. This project has been awarded and completion is expected by mid-July. Construction planning with the contractor is underway.
- Exposed Watermain Rehabilitation
  - The first tender process was unsuccessful, one bid was received and over budget. Staff are exploring alternate methods and construction techniques to complete the work as required. Staff attended a contractor sponsored workshop on the various paint coating systems available and proper metal and substrate preparation. Several locations of exposed watermain were reviewed with a contractor to identify and prioritize different painting options available. This project will be retendered in Q3 2019.
- Henry Road Watermain Replacement
  - The 480 metres of ductile iron watermain is installed and functioning. Paving and final site cleanup is required. This project is expected to be complete by the end of September 2019.
- Mark Way Watermain Replacement
  - The planning and design work is underway for the replacement of the old watermain on Mark Way. This project was part of the 2019 budget and is expected to be complete by Q4 2019.

- **Water Projects**

- Groundwater Investigation– Phase 3
  - Drilling of the second pilot test well began on July 8, 2019. Pump testing of the well will occur in the first week of August. Pump testing will occur 24 hours per day for up to four days to confirm both the water quality and the sustained pumping capacity of this well. The location of this second test well is adjacent to the first test well, that was drilled late last year, and both test wells are adjacent to Elphinstone Avenue. More detailed design of the required infrastructure to connect the well field with the current water distribution network will subsequently be initiated. A water license application for this well field will also be submitted shortly.

- Raw Water Reservoir(s) – Feasibility Study Phase 3
  - The consultant is working on the hydrological portion of the feasibility study at each of the four site locations to determine the long term water capture areas at each of the reservoir sites. A ground reconnaissance via helicopter and hiking to each of the four sites will occur at the end of July and data will be collected to determine site characteristics from both an accessibility and geological standpoint.
- Town of Gibsons Zone 3 uncoupling
  - Staff met in early July to discuss next steps and aligning projects.
- Review Bulk Water Agreement Town of Gibsons
  - This process has been delayed due to other work priorities.
- Chapman Water Treatment Plant Chlorination Project
  - Tendering for engineering of an On-Site Generation system is underway. The intent is to begin the construction phase of this project in Q4 2019 with completion in 2020.
- Langdale Well Upgrade
  - The preliminary design of the interior piping is completed as well as a draft version of the tender documents. During the actual well upgrade construction work, the well had to be out of commission for up to 30 days. Testing of the back-up water supply from the Hopkins Improvement District's system functioned as desired during a two day test in June. The formal tender will be issued in Q3 2019, with a projected project completion in Q4 2019.
- **Wastewater**
  - Curran Road
    - The outfall weights on the Curran Road outfall pipe are failing and need replacement. A proposal to replace all of the aging outfall pipe weights on the Curran Road outfall was incorporated into the 2019 Budget as Categorized Mandatory. A RFQ document for construction will be issued this fall.
  - Woodcreek Wastewater Plant
    - A RFP for engineering and design services for the replacement sand-filter septic system will be issued in Q3 2019.
- **Demand Reduction Rebate Programs**
  - The 2019 Rainwater Harvesting Rebate Program launched on April 15, 2019. All 50 rebates available in the Regional Water Service Area were awarded. One of the four rebates available in the South Pender Water Service Area was awarded and one of the three rebates available in the North Pender Water Service Area was awarded. Applicants have 90 days to complete the installation.

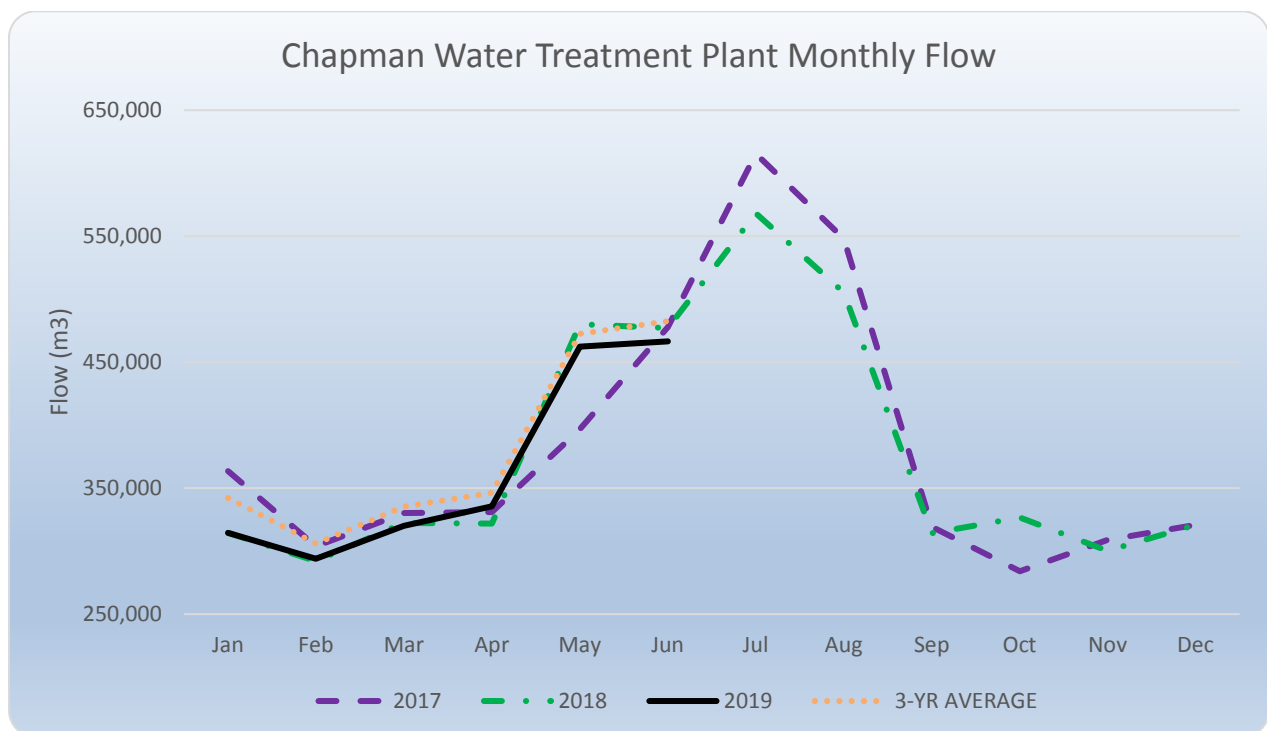
- **Water Dialogues Events**

- Three public engagement events on water were held on June 3, 4 and 5 in Sechelt and Gibsons with 350 residents in attendance. A report with a summary of the public input received during these meetings was presented at the June Infrastructure Services Committee.

**OPERATIONS - WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM**

**CHAPMAN WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

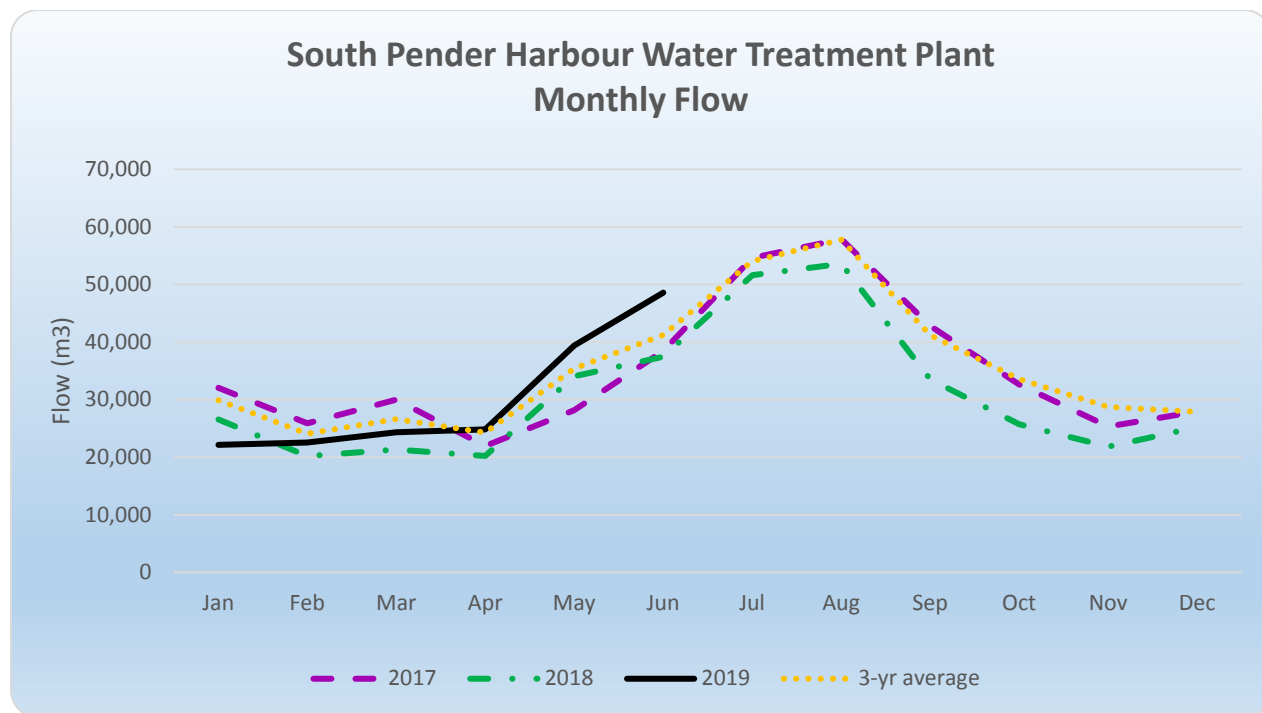
In the Q2 2019, the Chapman Creek Water Treatment Plant produced and supplied 1,264,402 m<sup>3</sup> of potable water to residents, a 4.2% decrease over the three year average.





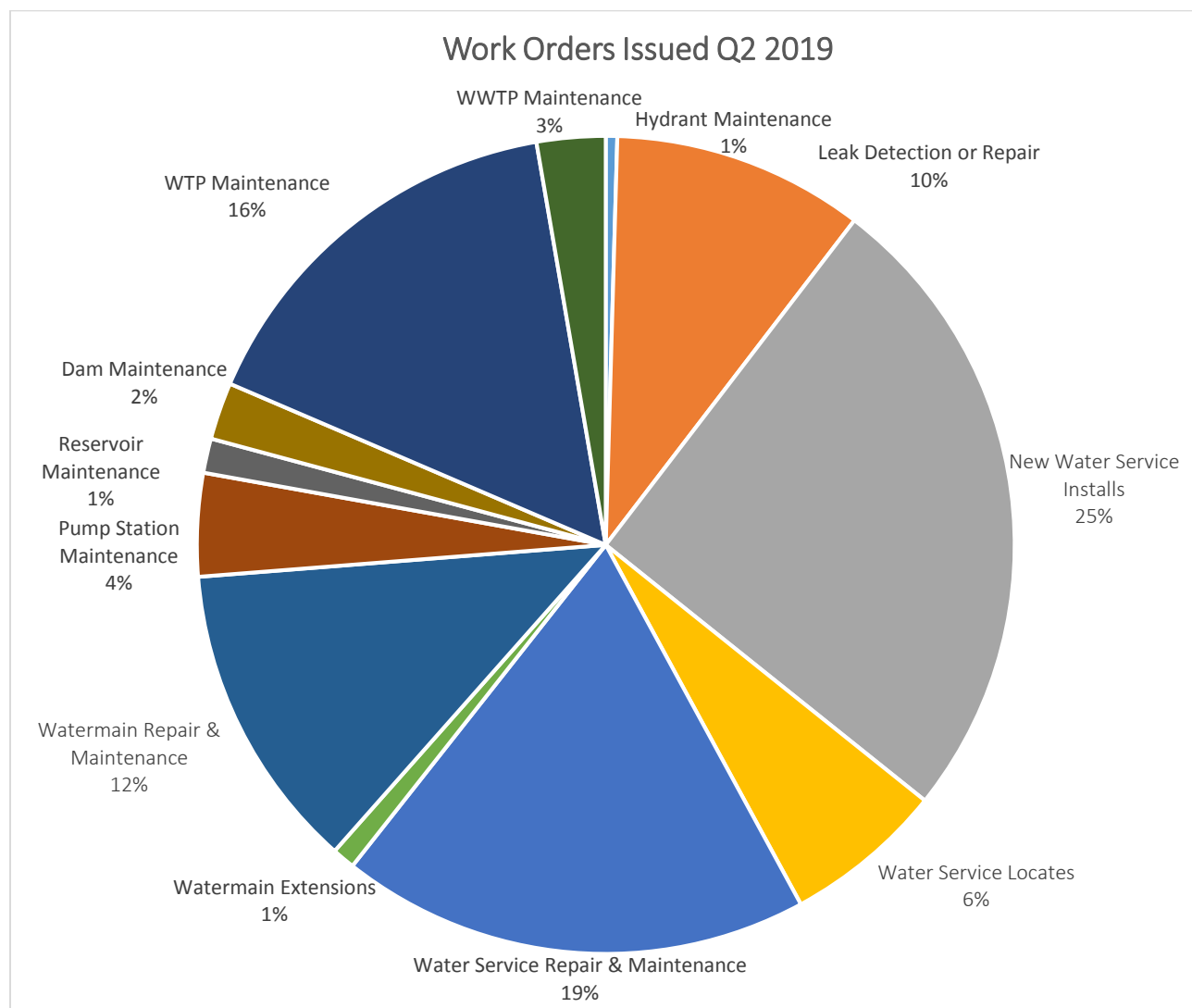
### SOUTH PENDER WATER TREATMENT PLANT

In the Q2 2019, the South Pender Water Treatment Plant produced and supplied 112,820 m<sup>3</sup> of potable water to approximately 2,300 full and part-time residents of Madeira Park, Francis Peninsula and the surrounding area. This is an 18.7% increase over the three year average. If this trend were to continue over the summer, increased focus on leak resolution and water conservation efforts may need to be considered for this water system.



### Work Orders Issued in Q2 2019

Work performed by SCRD Utility Services is tracked through the department's work order management system. Work may include scheduled or reactive maintenance and repairs, service locates or capital asset work.



### *Transportation and Facilities [310, 312, 345, 350]*

In contrast to most BC Transit systems, the SCRD functions as both the Local Government partner and the service contractor in relationship with BC Transit. This provides a clearer picture of costs than would otherwise be the case. Service expansion in October 2017 added approximately 6,300 annual hours or a 26% service increase.

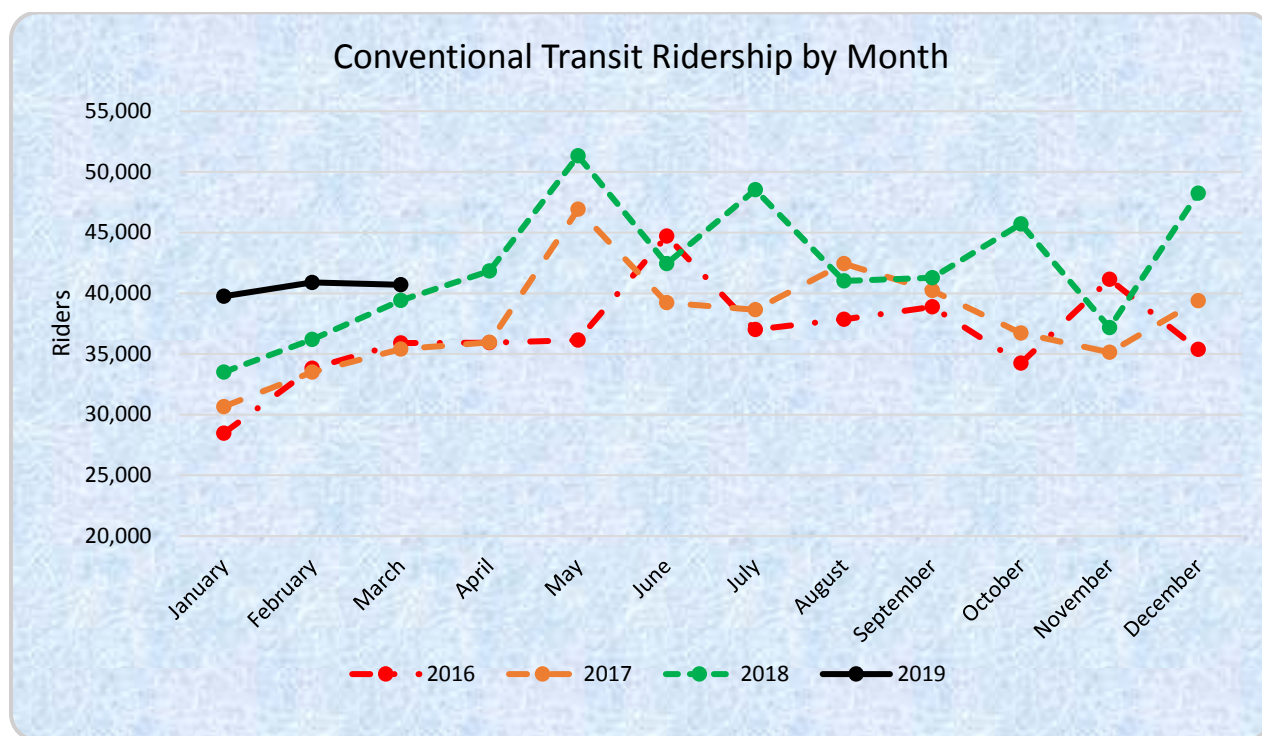
## PROJECTS

### *Transit*

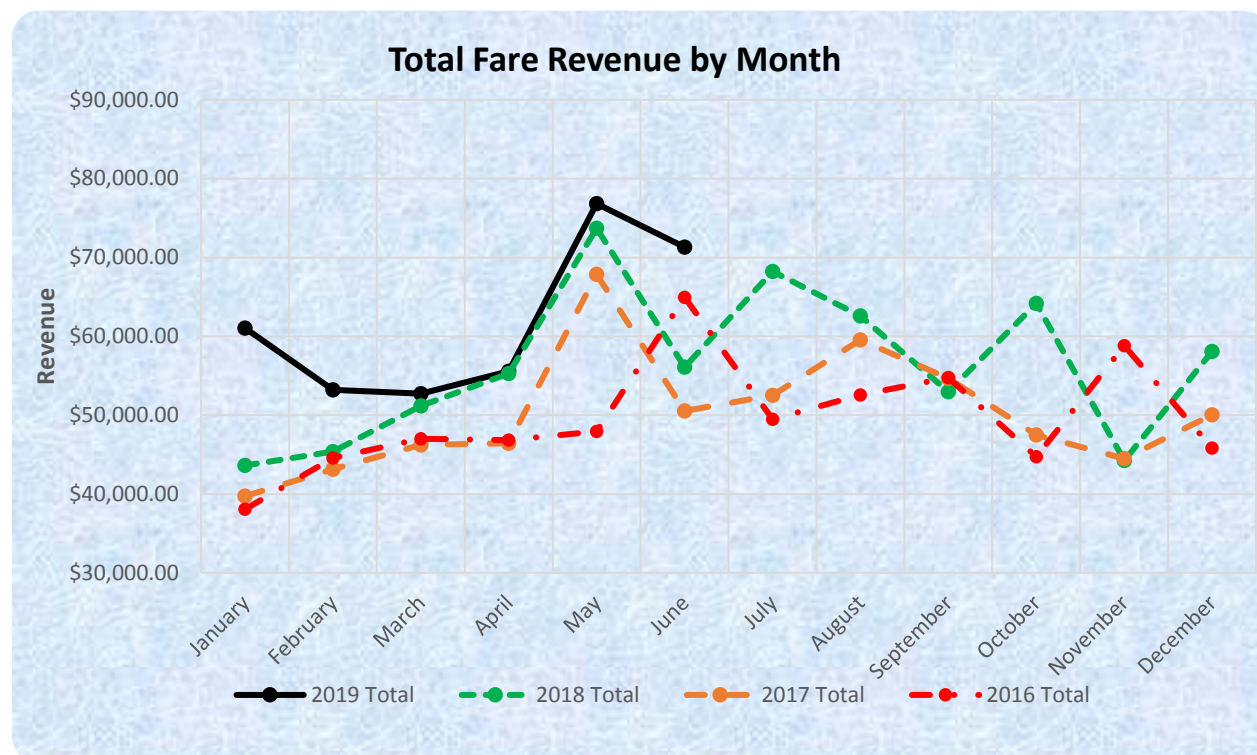
Transit fare sales are up for the second year, with June year-to-date sales showing a 14% increase over 2018. A significant shift is being seen toward monthly pass sales and ticket sales. While cash fares create more net revenue, monthly passes and tickets (sold only in strips of 10), indicate a greater commitment to future transit use.

On-time performance has improved significantly over last summer following a review of the schedule and the reallocation of time to allow for increased ridership and traffic. Unanticipated construction events or accidents can delay service briefly, but the additional recovery time also assists when these occasions arise.

A bus shelter and amenities program is being developed. An outline of the program will be brought to committee for review, when planning is complete.



\*Includes all data received from BC Transit to date



### **Fleet Services**

An extra staff person has been temporarily assigned to assist mechanics, as a step toward mitigating workload pressures at Fleet maintenance. Additional transit service results in vehicle mileage accumulation more rapidly, raising the frequency of preventive maintenance and required repairs. Bi-annual fire truck inspections and maintenance are complete and necessary repairs are underway, also impacting the regular Fleet preventive maintenance schedule. Detailed specifications are being developed for the purchase of the updated forklift approved by the Board.

### **Solid Waste [350, 351, 352, 355]**

The Solid Waste Division provides solid waste management for the Sunshine Coast. In British Columbia, Regional Districts are mandated by the Provincial *Environmental Management Act* to develop Solid Waste Management Plans. The SCRD's Solid Waste Management Plan 2011(SWMP) guides how the SCRD manages its solid waste including waste diversion programs, services and disposal activities.

The division oversees the operation and maintenance of the Sechelt Landfill and the Pender Harbour Transfer Station. The division also maintains the contracts for curbside garbage collection services for Electoral Areas B, D, E and F, three recycling depots and green waste drop off locations.

The SCRD adopted the Regional Organics Diversion Strategy in January 2018. The goal of the Strategy is to develop a financially sustainable roadmap that will lead to a robust, region-wide organics diversion program.

The quarterly report provides an update on current projects, diversion programs, services and monthly statistics.

## **SOLID WASTE PROGRAMS**

### *Recycle BC Conference*

Solid Waste Programs Coordinator attended the Recycle BC Collectors' Conference in New Westminster from April 8-9, 2019. Updates were provided on upcoming Recycle BC initiatives such as GHG reporting, organics contamination and recycling market update. Presentations on the circular economy and packaging design changes were presented. As well information was provided by other depot collectors and municipalities on ways that they are being successful in their programs.

### *Love Food Hate Waste 2019 Provincial Campaign*

The Province of British Columbia has invited local governments to join a provincial partnership to promote food waste reduction across BC. The Solid Waste Programs Coordinator participated in a conference call on May 1, 2019 to discuss campaign collaboration this year. Solid Waste Services staff received print materials and a tall banner from the campaign. These print materials will be brought to all public outreach events and are displayed in the foyer of the Field Road Administration building. Staff were given access to a Provincial outreach templates.

### *AVICC Solid Waste Communications Group – Recycle Right at Home Campaign*

The Solid Waste Programs Coordinator participated in a conference call on May 2, 2019 to confirm a coordinated schedule with other AVICC members to release "Recycle Right at Home" videos that the group has developed. A news release was generated and the videos were uploaded to the SCRd YouTube channel and shared on our department webpages and social media.

### *British Columbia Product Stewardship Council (BCPSC)*

Solid Waste Programs Coordinator attended an AGM with the BCPSC and Product Stewardship Association on May 8, 2019. The AGM included conversations around continuing the current working groups that focus on outward communications, service access and coordination between the council and association. Staff were given the opportunity to meet one on one with particular stewards to communicate gaps in access to their services. This included stewards for electronics, appliances, outdoor power equipment and Recycle BC.

### *Recycling Council of British Columbia (RCBC) Annual Conference*

The Solid Waste Programs Coordinator attended the RCBC Annual Conference in Whistler from May 8-10, 2019. Updates were provided by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, Extended Producer Responsibility legislation and upcoming steward initiatives such as expanding programs. Presentations on improving solid waste systems, food waste reduction, reducing the amount of plastics entering oceans, dealing with agricultural plastics, recycling of hard to recycle plastics, single use item reduction strategy, creating synergies between unrelated businesses to reduce waste, the right to repair, repair workshops and semi-underground collection systems for waste.

*Metro Vancouver Municipal Waste Reduction Coordinator Committee (MVMWRCC) Meeting*

On May 15, 2019 the Solid Waste Programs Coordinator participated in 2 meetings with the MVMWRCC. At the meetings current initiatives from around the region were shared including Love Food Hate Waste, Single Use Plastic Strategy, Illegal dumping and Zero Waste. As well updates were provided by the Zero Waste Committee, Behaviour Change and Community-based Social Marketing, Construction and Demolition Waste Management Toolkit and access to a Metro Vancouver SharePoint.

*Recycling Council of British Columbia (RCBC) Forum on Future EPR Priorities*

On June 26, 2019 the Solid Waste Programs Coordinator attended a forum on product categories that are currently not included within an approved EPR program in BC. RCBC will collect information from this forum to add to their report to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy.

*Islands Clean up*

The Islands Clean Up schedule was finalized and residents have begun signing up for flag stops. The SCR D will be collecting electronics and small appliances from residents this year as the special item.

Islands Clean Up Event	Event Date	Participants
Nelson Island – flag stops	July 6, 2019	17
Gambier Island – flag stops	July 27, 2019	
Thormanby and Trail Islands – land and flag stops	August 10, 2019	
Keats Island – flag stops	August 24 ,2019	
Keats Island – land events	August 24, 2019	
Gambier Island – land event	August 24, 2019	

*Backroad Trash Bash*

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Backroad Trash Bash is scheduled for September 21, 2019. The event hub will be located in Sechelt and will target illegal dumpsites from Halfmoon Bay to Roberts Creek.

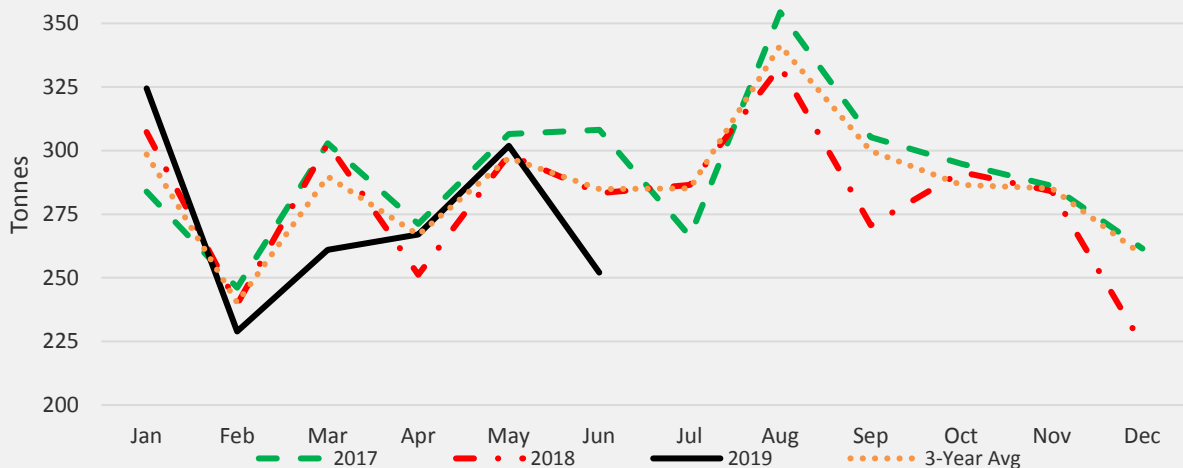
## SOLID WASTE OPERATIONS

### Statistics – Landfill

Residential garbage consists of both garbage collected curbside and garbage self-hauled by residents to the Pender Harbour Transfer Station and Sechelt Landfill. The residential curbside garbage tonnage presented includes a combined total of garbage collected curbside from residential dwellings in the Town of Gibsons, Sechelt Indian Government District, District of Sechelt and Sunshine Coast Regional District. Curbside residential garbage is then delivered to the Sechelt landfill and buried. The residential self-haul garbage presented includes a combined total of garbage self-hauled by residents to the Sechelt landfill or the Pender Harbour Transfer Station.

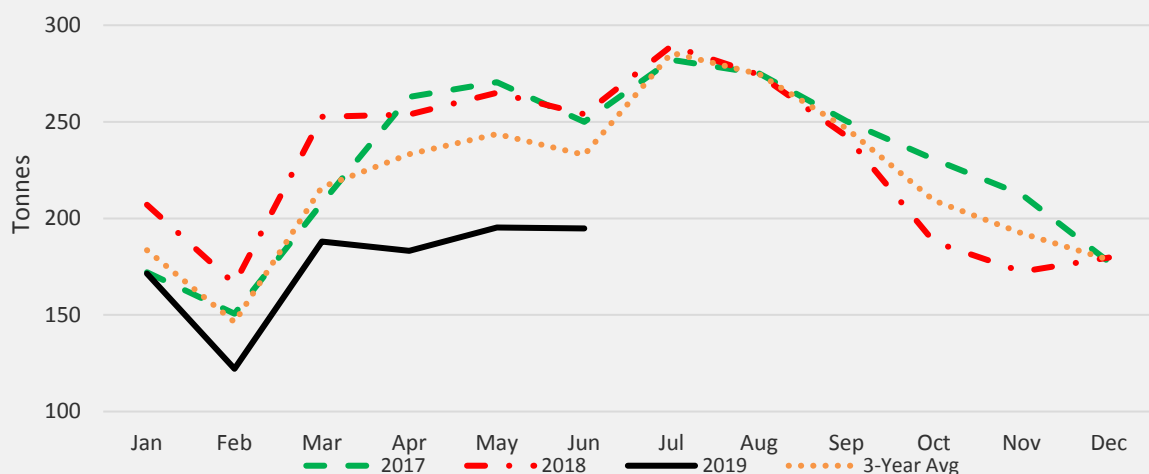
### Residential Curbside Garbage (Tonnage)

Town of Gibsons, Sechelt Indian Government District,  
District of Sechelt and SCRCD Combined



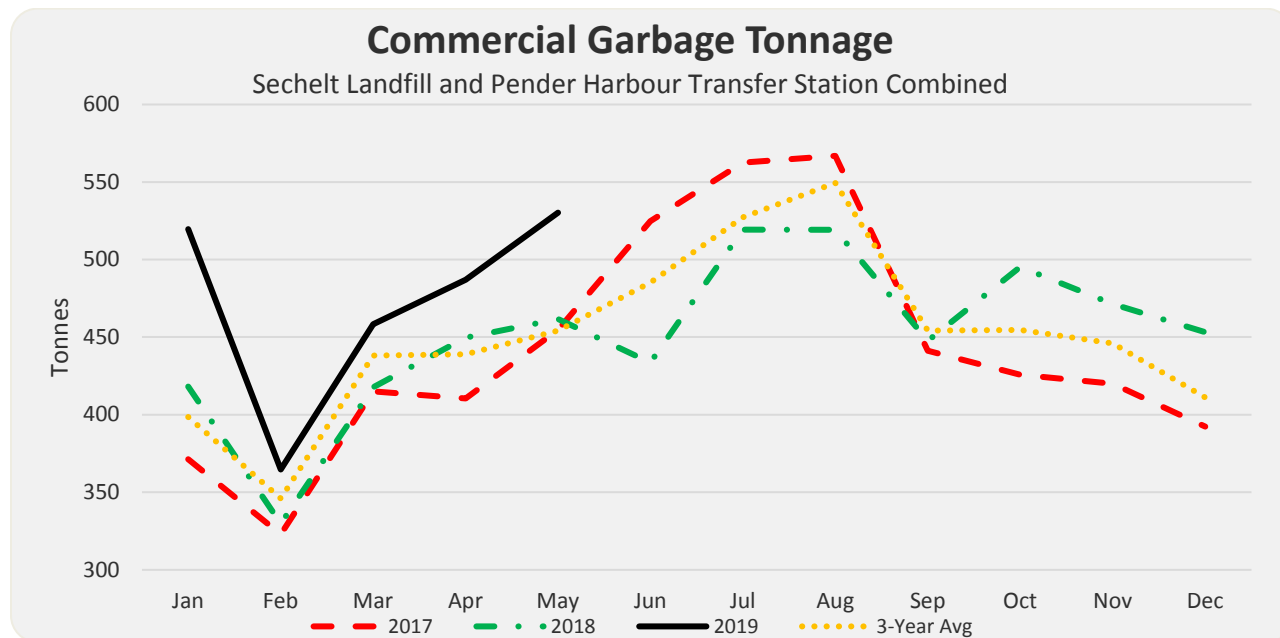
### Residential Self-Haul Garbage (Tonnage)

Sechelt Landfill and Pender Harbour Transfer Station Combined



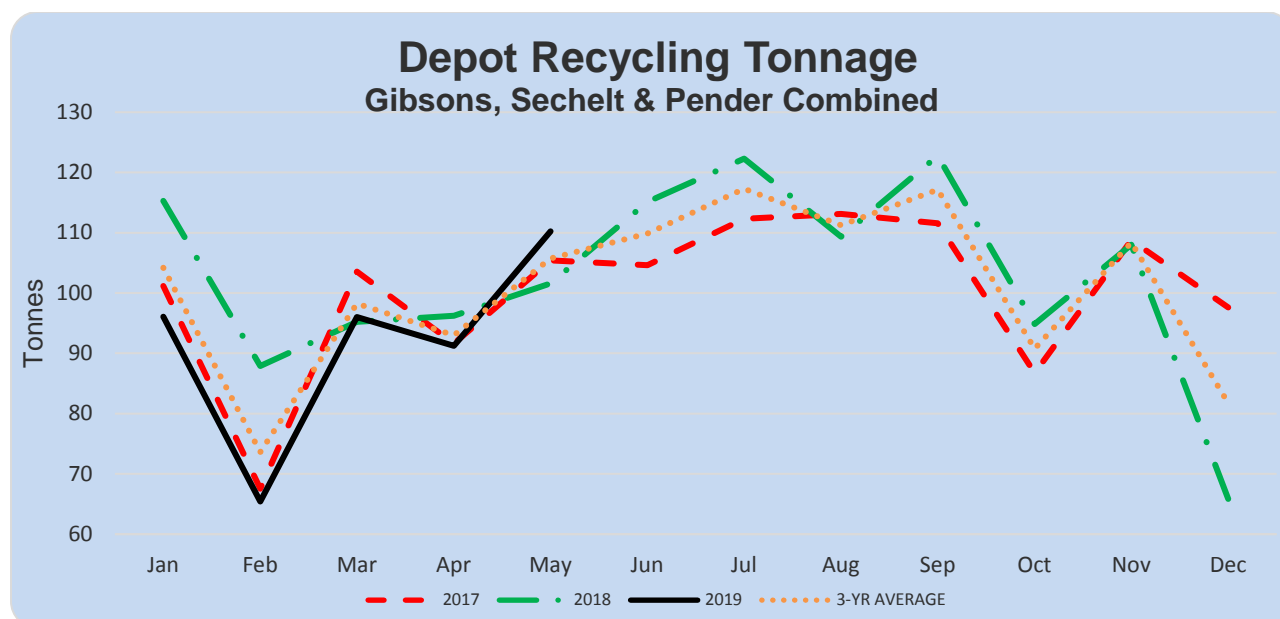


The commercial garbage tonnage presented includes garbage generated by commercial activity picked up from businesses and multi-family dwellings (SCRD) or dropped off at the Sechelt landfill and Pender Harbour Transfer Station. This does not include other landfilled items such as construction/demolition waste, asbestos or furniture.



#### Statistics – Recycling

The SCRCD has an agreement with Recycle BC to provide PPP Depot Recycling Services in Gibsons, Pender Harbour and Sechelt. The SCRCD contracts these services to Gibsons Recycling, GRIPS and Salish Soils respectively. The data presented is provided by RecycleBC and is updated as it is received. The data represents the combined monthly weight (by tonne) of the materials dropped off at the three recycling depots.

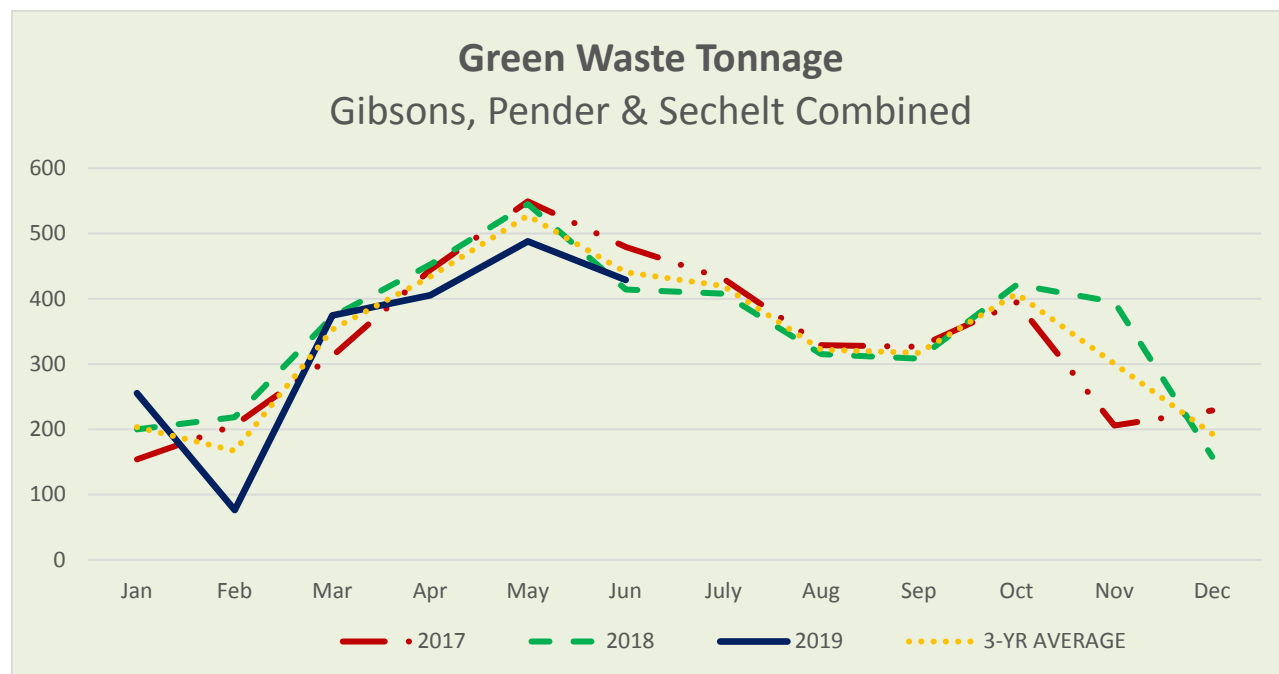


\*June data is not yet available from RecycleBC

### Statistics - Green Waste

The SCRD green waste recycling program provides collection locations for residents to self-haul and drop off yard and garden green waste at the Town of Gibsons Green Waste Facility, Pender Harbour Transfer Station, Sechelt Landfill and residential self-haul at Salish Soils. The collected green waste is then processed in Sechelt for composting.

The data presented provides the combined monthly weight (by tonne) of green waste dropped off at the collection locations.



### INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES OUTREACH EVENTS

Event	Event Date	Attendees
Earth Day at Roberts Creek	April 28, 2019	40
Compost Awareness Event at Salish Soils	May 11, 2019	30
Local Government Awareness Week	May 21, 2019	15
Water Dialogues	June 3 - 5, 2019	350
Home and Garden Expo	June 8, 2019	181
Canada Day, Sechelt	July 1, 2019	100

Reviewed by:			
Manager	X – G. Dykstra X – R. Cooper X – S. Walkey X – S. Misiurak	Finance	
GM		Legislative	
Interim CAO	X – A. Legault	Other	



By Email – board@SCRD.ca

June 26, 2019

Chair & Directors  
Sunshine Coast Regional District

The Board of Directors of the Sechelt & District Chamber of Commerce ("The Chamber") has discussed the impact of the current water supply situation and directed me to provide the following comments.

Our members and, indeed, all businesses provide jobs, goods, services and amenities that contribute to making the Sunshine Coast a great place to live, work and play. However, the uncertainty regarding the supply of water for our communities negatively impacts economic development, endangers homes and businesses and places an additional burden on businesses and community. This harms the attractiveness of and quality of life on the Sunshine Coast.

It is our view that the process of addressing this matter needs to be improved, urgently. We need solutions being implemented now. Plans that mean waiting 3 or more years to be implemented are not acceptable.

To this end, we ask that you take the following items into consideration during your deliberations in the coming weeks:

1. You and the community at large need to know, immediately, the financial resources we have available. (In particular, staff need to immediately report on the financial reserves available, outline likely contributions from future Development Cost Charges and produce a fulsome detailed analysis of potential funding from other governments and agencies.)
2. With these amounts quantified, the Board can then consider the impact on residents should additional funding from taxpayers be required to finance the best solution(s).
3. Expedite a decision on what is/are the best solution(s) that will meet the community's needs now and for several decades to come.

**Sechelt & District Chamber of Commerce**

Phone: +1 604 885-0662

PO Box 360, Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0

[www.SecheltChamber.bc.ca](http://www.SecheltChamber.bc.ca)

[exec@SecheltChamber.bc.ca](mailto:exec@SecheltChamber.bc.ca)



4. We encourage the Board's decision to not be delayed by concerns about perceived challenges and impediments. Such matters are issues to be confronted if and when they arise once the best solution(s) have been determined.
5. We suggest this project is likely the largest to be taken by the Regional District. As such, it project warrants finding and using the best experts in designing and building such solutions.
6. We believe it is unnecessary to make any formal declaration of a crisis or emergency. Such could have long term negative impacts on the image of our community.

The Chamber directors support and appreciate your hard work and commitment to the wellbeing of the business community and the public at large. We stand ready to assist as you take the bold and courageous action to address this urgent challenge.

Yours sincerely

For and on behalf of  
SECHELT & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ED PEDNAUD  
Interim Executive Director



www.transportationchoices.ca

coasttrac@gmail.com



July 10, 2019

1975 Field Road  
Sechelt, BC  
V0N 3A1

SCRD Board Of Directors:

TraC would like to request your support for the attached letter sent to Minister Trevena (MOTI). The letter outlines an increasing need for improved road infrastructure, our collaboration with MOTI and local governments to prioritize projects, and a request for much needed investment.

Our local MLA, Nicholas Simons, plans to discuss this matter with the Minister and his position would be strengthened by an endorsement from the SCRd Board. The endorsement could be of the letter specifically or the general sentiment.

If the board is willing to support the letter specifically the following could be used as a starting place for a motion.

*That the SCRd write a letter to Nicholas Simons supporting the request by Transportation Choices - Sunshine Coast to Minister Trevena, dated 13-June-2019, for increased funding of active transportation infrastructure on the Sunshine Coast prioritizing areas where the shoulder of Highway 101 is less than a meter wide.*

Sincerely,  
Alun Woolliams  
TraC President



www.transportationchoices.ca  
coasttrac@gmail.com

*Via email - Minister.Transportation@gov.bc.ca*

13 June, 2019

Honourable Claire Trevena  
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure  
PO Box 9055  
Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, B.C. V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Trevena:

We write to seek your support for increased Provincial investment in active transportation infrastructure on the Sunshine Coast. The communities of the Sunshine Coast are growing, with an increasing number of cyclists and pedestrians now sharing our roads. We are also ideally situated to attract bike-tourists, offering beautiful coastal scenery a short ferry ride from Vancouver. For us to capitalize on these opportunities, however, our roads need to be made safer and more welcoming to residents and visitors alike. A focused investment by your Ministry in building adequate shoulders for the length of Highway 101 will increase alternative transportation use on the Sunshine Coast, improve road safety, assist the Province in meeting its active transportation and greenhouse gas reduction targets, and grow the local tourism economy.

Our organization (TraC) supports active transportation and GHG reductions by promoting cycling, walking and public transit. For several years we have collaborated with MOTI, as well as local governments, in developing our cycling route project, the Sunshine Coast Bike Route (SCBR), and seeking a coordinated approach to cycling infrastructure maintenance and construction. In particular, in 2005 the MOTI, Sunshine Coast Regional District, Town of Gibsons and District of Sechelt, along with TraC, developed a shared set of four transportation priorities, including the following: "work towards building a minimum 1-metre shoulder on either side of Hwy 101 from Langdale to Earls Cove in the areas where there is currently no shoulder".

Achieving this goal is critical to increasing active transportation on the Sunshine Coast. TraC surveys of local cyclists identified inadequate highway shoulders as a key barrier to increased use of bikes for transportation. More tellingly, this year we lost the Gibsons Grind, an annual bike race, due to safety concerns about Highway 101. The Grind has been a huge success, drawing hundreds of visiting cyclists to the coast each year and pumping thousands of dollars into our tourism economy. Unfortunately, the organizers announced this spring that the 2019 Grind is cancelled because "a significant increase in traffic and deterioration in the quality of Hwy 101 ... [puts] Grind participants at risk".<sup>1</sup> We are already feeling the economic cost of inadequate cycling infrastructure.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.gibsonsg grindgranfondo.com>



www.transportationchoices.ca  
coasttrac@gmail.com

One critically important and achievable step your Ministry could take towards improving active transportation on the Sunshine Coast is a multi-year funding commitment to build or expand shoulders on Highway 101 that conform to the current 1.5 meter TAC recommendation. As noted above, MOTI, local governments and TraC are all in agreement that this should occur. And the work required is limited in scope and achievable. As part of our SCBR project, we surveyed the highway from Langdale to Earls Cove, and mapped the areas where there is no/insufficient shoulder. As the attached map illustrates, there are many places where adequate shoulders are in place. What is needed is focused investment to eliminate the gaps.

There are so many reasons why increased investment by MOTI is needed to support active transportation on the Sunshine Coast. There is the economic benefit to local communities generated by bike tourism, which is a fast growing sector of the tourism market;<sup>2</sup> the statutory responsibility of MOTI to build and maintain highways fit for safe use by all road users; the science demonstrating that active transportation contributes to individual and community health ;<sup>3</sup> and the fact that your government's progressive commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve the CleanBC goals requires, among other things, shifting away from driving towards cleaner, lower emission options like cycling and walking. All of these factors support a targeted investment by MOTI to improve our road infrastructure.

Minister, it is in our view time for an increased investment by MOTI in roads on the Sunshine Coast. Our population is growing, traffic is increasing, and highway maintenance and construction has simply not kept pace with these demands. We urge you to commit funding to widening shoulders on Highway 101, as a first and much needed concrete step towards making our roads safe for all users.

Sincerely,

Alun Woolliams  
TraC President

Cc. Nicholas Simons, MLA  
Lori Pratt - Chair, SCRD  
Bill Beamish - Mayor, Town of Gibsons  
Darnelda Siegers - Mayor, District of Sechelt  
Don Legault - Operations Manager, MOTI  
Glen Hafey - President, Sunshine Coast Cycling

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<sup>2</sup> For information on our Coastal Bike Route project, which promotes bike tourism on the Sunshine Coast, see: <http://transportationchoices.ca/wp/initiatives/coastal-bike-route/>

<sup>3</sup> See, for e.g., the National Collaborating Centre for Public Health Report at: [http://www.nccch.ca/sites/default/files/Active\\_Transportation\\_in\\_Urban\\_Areas\\_June\\_2010.pdf](http://www.nccch.ca/sites/default/files/Active_Transportation_in_Urban_Areas_June_2010.pdf)

## Meter Plus Shoulder Between Langdale and Powell River

