



REGIONAL DISTRICT OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN PRESS RELEASE

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Second Award for the Naramata Water System

Following on the heels of last month's Union of BC Municipalities' Award of Excellence, the Regional District Okanagan Similkameen is the proud recipient of a second award of excellence for the Naramata Water System. The Water Supply Association of British Columbia recently awarded the system the 2008 Brian Harvey Award of Excellence.

RDOS Chair, Dan Ashton stated; "The Electoral Area E Director, Tom Chapman, the Naramata Water Advisory Committee and staff are truly deserving of this second award in excellence. The replacement of the system was necessary due to growing demand, higher water standards and the deteriorating water system in Naramata. Director Chapman, the members of the Naramata Water Advisory Committee and staff faced many challenges over the course of the project, but together came up with innovative and effective solutions, as these two awards demonstrate."

Associated Engineering nominated the RDOS on the basis of their proactive approach to addressing water quality on systems within the Regional District, in particular the Naramata Water System.

The RDOS demonstrated excellence for the small community of Naramata during all phases of the Water Treatment System Project by conserving both water and energy at every opportunity. Prior to 2007, the Naramata Water System utilized a mixture of upland creek water and water from Okanagan Lake. The upland creek source supplied consistently poor drinking water. In 2007, a new pump station and treatment facility was commissioned to provide residential water solely from Okanagan Lake. For the design and operations of the facilities, energy efficiency was a key component for all the major innovative solutions used. These included conserving energy by the utilization of stored reservoir water for temperature regulation in the facility, creating chlorine for disinfection on site, and bypassing water from higher to lower pressure zones during times of low flow.

Director Chapman is "proud of the team and the community for making this a reality. Naramata now has a state of the art safe water system which will provide for the community over the next 100 years. We are excited that both the Union of BC Municipalities and the Water Supply Association of BC have recognized this great project. "

D. Ashton
RDOS Board Chair

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