



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

INFORMATION RELEASE

March 27, 2017

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen receives BC Clean Water/Wastewater Grant for Olalla Water System

The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) has received a BC Clean Water/Wastewater Fund (CWWF) grant from the Federal and Provincial governments. This project is just one of five projects awarded to the Regional District out of the 144 projects in BC announced on March 17, 2017. The BC Clean Water/Wastewater Program is based on 50% funding from Canada, 33% funding from BC and the remaining 17% will come from the recipients of the service.

Olalla Water System Upgrade – The RDOS will receive \$497,792 for the replacement of approximately 1km of watermain underground infrastructure in Olalla; along with the appropriate valves, hydrants and rehabilitation of roads impacted by project construction. Design of the project is well underway and construction will be finished prior to March 31, 2018.

The Olalla Water System (OWS) is a small system which supports fire protection to the community and consists of a deep well source, a pump house, approximately 4 km of water mains with 9 fire hydrants, and an above ground concrete reservoir. There are older watermains in the system that have significant leaks and the Regional District is striving to replace the remaining older watermains in phases to eliminate these leaks. This grant will allow us to move to Phase 2 of the Olalla Water System Upgrades work and go along way to reducing leaks and protecting our environment..

“Canada and British Columbia launched the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund (Fund) in September 2016 to help accelerate the rehabilitation of water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure”, states MP Dan Alba. “The Government of Canada will contribute \$225.1M to a BC program primarily focused on meeting immediate priorities for clean water and wastewater to support a cleaner and healthier environment. I’m very pleased this federal contribution will assist locally in the community of Olalla.” said Albas.

“Safe and reliable drinking water and wastewater systems are essential infrastructure for all communities in our province,” said Linda Larson, MLA Kootenay-Boundary. “To be able to partner with Canada and the Regional District to ensure clean water for citizens in Olalla is a critical investment in essential services by the province. The 144 Clean Water/Wastewater projects recently announced will create close to 4,000 direct and indirect jobs that will benefit families across British Columbia, but on another level, good infrastructure is so very important in the South Okanagan-Similkameen where water conservation is becoming increasingly critical.”

“The RDOS is grateful for the contributions from our federal and provincial partners in helping protect our most valued asset – water,” said Chair Karla Kozakevich. “The \$497,792 for the Olalla Water System infrastructure is very significant and we sincerely appreciate this investment in our future.”



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For further information, please contact, at (250) or info@rdos.bc.ca.



Karla Kozakevich, Chair
Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

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