

# Directors Report Nov 2024

## Universal Water Meters for those connected to the Campbell River Water System

After years of promise the community is finally closer to having water meters installed for those households that are on the City of Campbell River water system. At the **Nov 27<sup>th</sup> 2024 Regional Board Meeting** the board **supported** the **motion** to **award** the Phase One Universal Water contract to **Edgett Excavating Ltd.**

After months of preliminary work this past year the SRD did locate 852 water connections for phase one of this project. While this successful bid was 14% higher than anticipated, the SRD does have ample funds from the 2.8 million dollar grant received last year from the Province to proceed with this very important project.

With 160 water meters already installed and the addition of 852 water connections located there are still approximately 200 water connections that are proving difficult to locate. I would like to assure those property owners that finding those water connections so a water meter can be installed is of utmost importance. As stated at the Regional Board Meeting on Nov 27<sup>th</sup> 2024 , SRD staff will be bringing forth a report and a plan in the New Year on how best to locate these difficult to find water connections. I have been very clear at the Regional Board with Directors and staff that this needs move forward as quickly as possible as I recognize the hardship that many property owners have faced since 2018 with the high cost of water from the City of Campbell River.

Phase one of this project will commence in the first quarter next year and this portion of the project will be completed over the next 12 months. As already mentioned, staff will be planning a phase two project and further information will be available in the new year.

## Other News

As the year is winding down I will be out knocking on doors with the hopes of informing the community of the challenges that we will face with the current Fire Protection Service Agreement with the City of Campbell River. It is time to update this legacy 45 year old service agreement that includes terms that are now presenting challenges with extra taxation that will continue for the next how many years.

Thank you to all those that have supported this petition to date and I hope to connect with many more residents over the month of Dec and into Jan 2025.

If you have concerns, questions please contact me 250.203.1598 or email [jrice@srd.ca](mailto:jrice@srd.ca)