

# *Graham Lake Improvement District*

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## Manager's Report to the AGM on April 19 2018

2017 was as challenging a year as any, with operational complexities colouring all aspects of the Improvement District's structure and management.

Absent a comprehensively engineered and suitably budgeted chloramination system, the reliance on input from CVRD engineers in order to make our system work in any way satisfactorily was continuously frustrating and only proved that a GLID system of 80 or so connections, on an island, requires its own local operator and management and cannot be adequately serviced by CVRD which has 60,000 +/- households in the Valley and so much larger, more expensive problems to solve.

The sudden resignation of our Operator in early September caused only a brief 24 hours of concern as we had recognized GLID's vulnerability 13 months previously and had taken the precaution of establishing the position of Relief Operator, in which capacity Craig Williams was able to take over the Primary Operator responsibilities immediately and the quality of water delivered did not suffer. At the time of writing Enrico Wauri is close to finishing his training and Small Water Systems certification whereafter he will become our new Primary Operator & Craig will revert to his Relief Operator position.

As a step towards integrating DIWLSA (Parnell) into GLID & equalizing what households pay for water, a new Water Supply Agreement was negotiated with CVRD which significantly improves net income to GLID as well as giving our neighbours the benefit of all the water they may responsibly use. Arrangements for adding further connections in between are in process which will contribute further to GLID's bottom line.

The Island Health (VIHA) requirement that small water systems meet Surface Water Treatment Objectives and the related significant projected cost made the prudent decision to contract an engineering study easy. Opus International was chosen and their study, with pricing & recommendations, is expected June 1 of 2018.

As Improvement Districts cannot access either Provincial or Federal grants, the SWTO-related upgrade cost will fall on GLID households & on those to whom we supply water. That is unless some governance structure, acceptable to GLID members, is established that would enable CVRD to apply for grants for this project. A study of options is underway, due for completion in June, when it will be brought to GLID members and others involved for consideration and decision.

In due course a date for an Extraordinary General Meeting will be announced with both the above important matters as the main items on the Agenda.

The cost & question of meeting Fire Underwriters Survey requirements for fireflow at our hydrants is under review. Safe operation of a bypass is not simple and is therefore expensive, other options may be preferable. Members will likely be advised of the situation prior to the AGM