

# *Graham Lake Improvement District*

3567 East Road, Denman Island, BC V0R 1T0  
www.grahamlakewater.com ~ info@glid.ca

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## **GRAHAM LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MARCH 16, 2022**

### **REPORT FROM THE TRUSTEES**

The information in this report is a summary of the key initiatives undertaken by the Graham Lake Improvement District (GLID) in 2021 and is presented as part of GLID's 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM).

### **2021 – CONTINUING OPERATIONS DURING CHALLENGING TIMES**

In addition to working diligently to operate safely during the pandemic, GLID's operations experienced additional challenges during the year:

- A. **CHALLENGES WITH WATER USAGE** – The summer of 2021 saw unprecedented levels of water use – especially during BC's "heat dome" that settled in during late June. At times it appeared that GLID's water treatment facilities wouldn't be able to keep up with the demands for water from GLID and DIWLSA residents. Actions taken by GLID's operators – Craig Williams and Enrico Wauri – along with modifications in water use undertaken by residents -- helped us to address the supply-and-demand challenges brought on by the unusually warm weather.

In the event that we experience similar hot dry spells this coming summer we will be asking landowners and residents to heed requests to reduce water demand.

- B. **OTHER SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES** – The Operators have been very resourceful and effective in finding creative ways to cope with the ongoing supply chain challenges (such as ensuring that there are always sufficient supplies on-hand for water treatment processing).

The Operators also ensured that routine and scheduled maintenance took place on the water treatment plant, including:

- the cleaning of the treated water reservoir,
- the servicing of distribution pumps,
- maintenance and overhauling of sensors and pumps involved in the water treatment process, and
- ongoing repairs and servicing when needed

During the year the Operators identified and implemented water treatment plant modifications that have resulted in a 20% reduction in electrical consumption. This is a significant

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accomplishment – as the cost of energy represents one of GLID’s largest expenses.

GLID’s operators are instrumental in maintaining GLID’s water treatment plant and keeping the distribution system up and running throughout the year. The attention and detail that Craig and Enrico demonstrate when undertaking work on behalf of GLID, landowners and residents is greatly appreciated.

- C. **UPDATE: SURFACE WATER TREATMENT OBJECTIVES (SWTO)** - In 2021, GLID’s Trustees and operators, together with engineers from WSP and staff from CVRD began work on a pilot project to determine the suitability of a combination of biological filtration and nanofiltration as a possible treatment method for water from Graham Lake. Pilot testing began early in 2022 and is expected to continue throughout the summer at which time an analysis will be undertaken to determine the appropriate next steps.

Finding an affordable treatment system that complies with the Provincial SWTO standards continues to be challenging.

- D. **STRONG FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE** – Annual tolls and taxes, fees from GLID’s water service agreement with CVRD, and a transfer of working capital have allowed us to bring the balance in GLID’s Capital Renewal Reserve Fund to just over \$388,000, an increase of approximately \$41,000 from 2020.

The costs of operating expenses in 2021 came in under budget. A significant portion of the favourable budget variance can be attributed to the diligent cost management exercised by the Operators. Portions of the revenue from taxes were used to purchase capital equipment and to support the biological filtration and nanofiltration pilot project.

- E. **WORKING TOWARDS BECOMING A CVRD SERVICE AREA** - Following the strong support landowners indicated in the Conversion Poll undertaken at the beginning of 2021, the Trustees continued working with CVRD and Province of British Columbia Ministry of Municipal Affairs staff towards the conversion of GLID to become a Service Area within CVRD.

Key milestones that have been achieved include:

- 1) CVRD being successful in their application for a Federal/Provincial grant to help fund an upgrade to GLID’s water treatment plant; and
- 2) The BC Ministry of Municipal Affairs has determined that the poll undertaken at the beginning of the 2021 is sufficient evidence of landowner support for GLID’s conversion to a Service Area within CVRD.

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Discussions between GLID, CVRD and the BC Ministry of Municipal Affairs have identified the end of 2022 as a realistic target date for conversion – and all parties are working towards that date.

Additional information regarding conversion will be provided over the coming months.

- F. **THE ROAD AHEAD IN 2022** - In addition to moving ahead on conversion and the biological filtration and nanofiltration pilot project, GLID will continue to work to maintain a high level of service delivery, strong administrative support and to meet budget commitments for 2022.

In the coming months the Trustees will establish a date for a Trustee election. Peter Jackson's current 3-year term expires this year. He has indicated his intention to seek re-election. Once the date for the Trustee election has been established, information regarding the process for nominations will be provided to GLID landowners.

The Trustees will continue to work on behalf of landowners in the District and appreciate the commitment of all those who support and perform work on behalf of GLID.

As always, we look forward to receiving feedback and suggestions from all GLID landowners.