



building communities together

2019 Business Plan 108 Mile Water (1884)

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Working in partnership with communities, large and small, to make the Cariboo Chilcotin a socially, economically and environmentally desirable region to live, work and play.

Department/Function Services

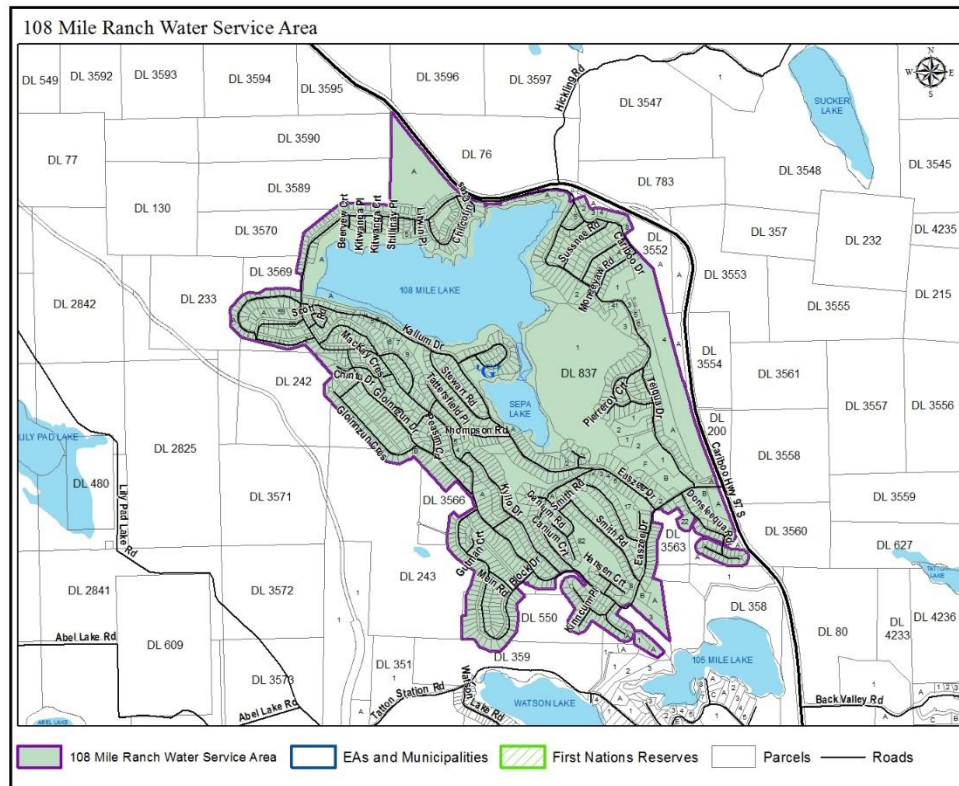
- The 108 Mile Water function was established in 1988 and approximately 1,414 land parcels are taxed.
- Currently, 1142 developed land parcels are connected to the water system and charged annual user fees.
- The system is comprised of two wells, a well house, associated booster pumps, distribution piping, fire hydrants and three reservoirs.
- In addition to meeting domestic/commercial needs, the system provides an adequate quantity of water to aid community fire protection.

The water quantity and quality is tested on a regular basis and adjustments to the system are made as required. Regular inspection and maintenance to the system components is undertaken to ensure continuous operations. As well, new connections are provided to residents as requested.

Taxation is collected by way of a parcel tax of \$135 and has remained unchanged since 1998, and a variable rate user fee of \$220 has remained unchanged since 1999. Function authority is provided by the 108 Mile Water Local Service Area Bylaw No. 2436.

New water reservoirs were constructed in 2010 at a cost of \$800,560.

As Electoral Area G is the only stakeholder, and the *Local Government Act* requires more than one vote, the entire Board is responsible for the governance of this service.



Business Plan Goals, Objectives & Strategies

2019 Goals

1. **Goal:** Comprehensive flushing program of the distribution system
Rationale: With commissioning of the new manganese removal plant, a comprehensive flushing program is needed to remove any remaining manganese from the system.
Strategy: Implement a flushing program in a phased approach, focusing on lower elevation and smaller diameter water mains first, then remaining lines. Given the size of the system a complete flushing program may require additional staffing.
2. **Goal:** Create an additional FTE Utility Operator Position
Rationale: Currently there are two utility staff who operate the 108 Mile water system as well as the Lac La Hache water and sewer systems, 103 Mile, Gateway, Forest Grove, Canim Lake and Horse Lake water systems. One supervisor position and one operator position. An additional operator is needed as a result of increased monitoring and sampling requirements, increased health and safety requirements, increased requests for connections as a result of development pressures, and operation and maintenance of the new 108 water treatment plant. The inevitable retirement of the Utilities Supervisor creates the need for succession planning and

system knowledge transfer. An additional FTE will also allow consideration of other shifting models that may result in decreased overtime costs.

Strategy: Hire an additional full-time operator for the 108 Mile Ranch and other South Cariboo utility systems.

3. Goal: New SCADA system for 108 Mile Ranch water system

Rationale: The current SCADA system is in excess of 20 years old and is in need of replacement. One reason for delay in commissioning of the new WTP was challenges encountered in having old technology mesh with new technology. A new SCADA system will provide more reliable communication between the WTP and other system components such as well pumps and reservoirs.

Strategy: Issue an RFP for a new SCADA system.

Overall Financial Impact

Project funding through local property parcel taxes was obtained through a public assent process and grants. The parcel tax was increased from \$135 to \$250 in 2016. The user fee was increased from \$220 to \$284 in 2017.

The projected capital reserve as of December 2018 is \$650,042. The system has numerous debt issues that retired in 2018. Currently the amount to a yearly debt payment (principal and interest) for the new treatment plant is \$63,000. Capital reserves are being contributed from the function on an annual basis.

Significant Issues & Trends

WorkSafe BC has a recent mandate targeting municipalities and regional districts focusing on confined space entry plans, policies and procedures as well as general occupational health and safety requirements. In response to inspections by Worksafe, hazard assessments were completed for the 108 water system along with the remaining utilities in the South Cariboo to identify all confined space locations and subsequently procedures were developed for each. In order to strictly meet WorkSafe requirements, some of the procedures recommended cannot be implemented with existing infrastructure layout. Staff are currently investigating how other jurisdictions are approaching these requirements and looking for alternative procedures acceptable to WorkSafe.

The Public Sector Accounting Board now requires local governments to report and record tangible capital assets. At some time in the future local governments may be required to amortize these assets over their useful life.

The Cariboo Regional District is a signatory on the Province of BC/UBCM Climate Action Charter, and has committed to continuing work towards carbon neutrality in respect of corporate operations.

Measuring Previous Years Performance

Goal: Commission the new treatment plant in March 2018

- Manganese reduction and efficiency continues to be monitored.