



building communities together

2021 Business Plan Lac La Hache Sewer (1770)

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Working in partnership with communities large and small to offer local, sub-regional and regional services to ensure that the Cariboo Chilcotin is a socially, economically and environmentally desirable region.

Department Services

- The Cariboo Regional District (CRD) owns and operates the Lac La Hache Community Sewer System.

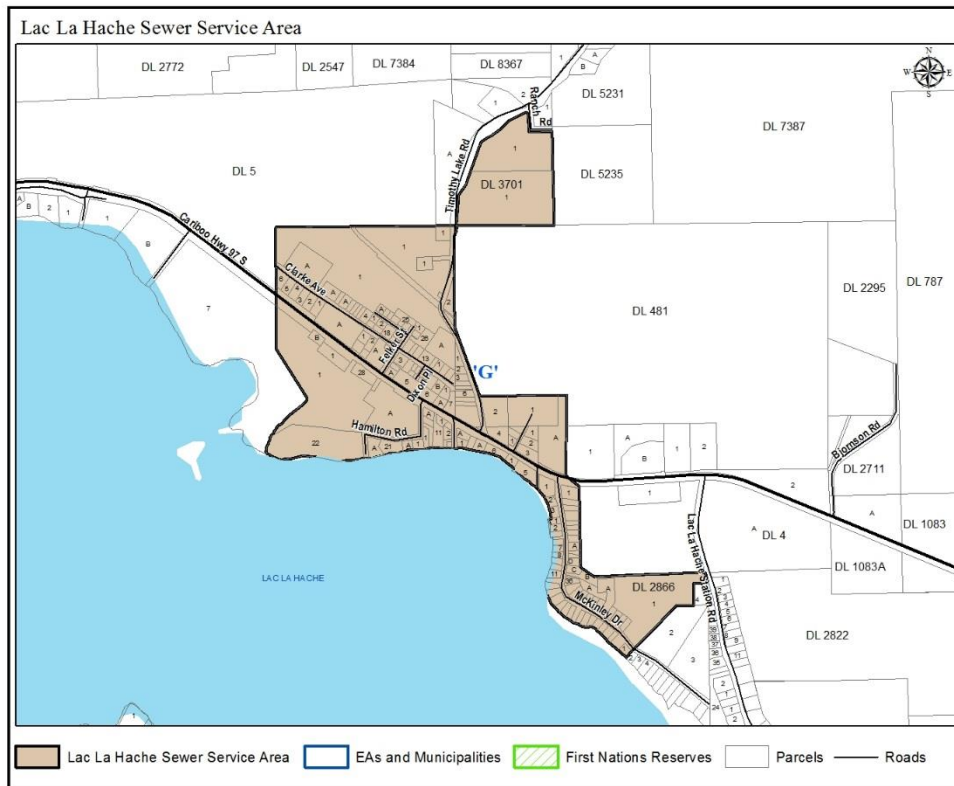
Background Information

- The Lac La Hache Sewer function was established in 1976 and now services approximately 150 land parcels;
- The system is comprised of 4 lift stations, sewage lagoons and associated sewer piping;
- The Main and Hamilton lift stations were refurbished in 1998. The Beach and McKinley lift stations were upgraded in 1999;
- Regular inspection and maintenance to system components is undertaken to ensure continuous operations.

Operations

Taxation is collected by way of a parcel tax of \$275 per year and has remained unchanged since 2006. A variable rate user fee of \$198 per year is collected and has remained unchanged since 2006. Function authority is provided by the Lac La Hache Specified Area Sewer Management Bylaw No. 1905.

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.



Significant Issues & Trends

The concrete wet well at the McKinley lift station is in need of repair/rehabilitation, and a re-build of the spare lift station pump is needed. Staff will investigate costs to complete these tasks.

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 all 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 future date local governments may be expected 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.

Business Plan Goals, Objectives & Strategies

- 1. Goal:** Rehabilitate/repair McKinley Drive lift station wet well.
Rationale: Concrete surface of the wet well is spalling and deteriorating.
Strategy: Engineering assessment to identify options to repair the wet well including sewage management plan to control sewage during repair. Tender the preferred improvement option.
- 2. Goal:** Investigate options for potential extension of McKinley Drive sewer.
Rationale: Staff have received several inquiries about extending the sewer line to service residences along the west end of McKinley Drive, that are currently not within the service area.
Strategy: Feasibility level assessment of options to extend the sewer and prepare class D cost estimates for consideration.

Overall Financial Impact

The 2021 requisition remains the same as the 2020 requisition.

The projected capital reserve as of December 2020 is \$434,542. The existing user fee should be sustainable for the next five years. The system had a yearly debt payment of \$23,023 that expired in 2018. At this time, the current user fee is adequate to maintain the financial needs of the service.