



**Date:** 13/06/2023

**To:** Chair and Directors, Cariboo Regional District Board

**And To:** Murray Daly, Chief Administrative Officer

**From:** Stephanie Masun, Manager of Emergency Program Services

**Date of Meeting:** Cariboo Regional District Board\_Jun23\_2023

**File:** 7130-01

---

## Short Summary:

Quesnel-Hixon Subdivision Erosion Protection Works Service Termination

## Voting:

Corporate Vote - Unweighted

## Memorandum:

The Quesnel-Hixon Subdivision Erosion Protection Works Service was established in 2012 due to an emergency where imminent risk to structures and life safety along the Cottonwood River became evident. This service was necessary because of erosion on the riverbanks that was affecting six properties and the residents were resting only 24 meters from the top of the bank with erosion occurring at a rate of 5.6 meters per year. If erosion rates continued, several buildings/structures would be at imminent risk of damage in just a few years. Two of the six properties were purchased by the Region with provincial funding and dismantled. The four remaining properties were included within the service area. The service was created to provide erosion protection along the riverbank to mitigate any more erosion.

The CRD and the province entered into an agreement for funding the project, as well as a 10-year responsibility for works constructed. Within that agreement it was articulated that the CRD would monitor and maintain the infrastructure on behalf of the residents for 10 years.

The Cariboo Regional District could not provide ongoing maintenance/ownership of proposed works without service establishment and taxation of the properties receiving the direct benefit of the works.

### *Service establishment*

In 2012, petitions were sent to property owners to create a service so the works could be installed, maintained, and monitored over the 10 years of the service.

The Service was then created by Bylaw No 4754 Quesnel-Hixon Subdivision Erosion Protection Works Service Bylaw, which provides for the operation and maintenance of the erosion protection works constructed for Lots 2, 3, 4 & 5, Plan 14976, District Lot 8589, Cariboo District.

When the property owners agreed to the creation of the service and taxation, the Bylaw was adopted, and service agreements were entered into with contractors for the works to be installed. The work was completed in 2012.

There are four properties in the service area and three owners. One property changed hands in 2014.

### *Monitoring and assessment*

After installation, CRD staff monitored the works and engaged Qualified Professionals in 2013 and again in 2022 to review the performance of the structures since installation and identify the need for any repairs or follow-up mitigation work. A report done in 2022 by DBW Consulting Services Ltd., *Cottonwood River Protection Works Assessment*, is attached for review.

### *Assessment key findings*

The 2022 DWB assessment report states that:

- no maintenance or upgrading issues with the erosion protection structures are identified, and;
- the infrastructure continues to function as intended.

Note: A 20% climate change factor was applied to account for future climate impacts on river discharge.

### *External coordination*

B.C. Water Management Branch and Director of Authorizations, MOF, MOTI, and EMCR each have been informed of the 2022 DWB assessment report and its findings to keep appropriate jurisdictions/regulators apprised of the CRD business planning goal for this service in 2023 (bylaw repeal).

All participants of the service have been kept apprised of the status of the works and the CRD has done its due diligence in keeping with the agreement.

Staff have been in contact with Municipal Affairs regarding whether the service can be repealed, and they came back with some questions, all of which have been answered.

### **Attachments:**

1. Cottonwood River Protection Works Assessment – DWB Consulting Services LTD.

### **Financial Implications:**

All unused funds to be returned to the service area participants.

## Policy Implications:

N/A

## Alignment with Strategic Plan:

- ☐ **Infrastructure and Asset Management:** To establish a systematic, predictable approach to managing the regional district's assets and infrastructure that builds on current asset management data and condition assessments.
- ☐ **Enhanced Communications and Engagement:** To build trust and credibility of the regional district by enhancing our communications and engagement with citizens, stakeholders, and volunteers.
- ☐ **Effective and Responsive Land Use Planning and Development:** To ensure our land use planning and development is responsive to future growth and housing needs, anticipates risks and hazards associated with climate change and provides efficient and consistent processes for landowners and developers.
- ☐ **Relationships with First Nations:** To foster a healthy and inclusive region by building and strengthening our relationships with First Nations and embracing the principles of reconciliation.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

## CAO Comments:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

## Options:

1. Endorse recommendations;
2. Receipt and other action.

## Recommendation:

**#1:** That the agenda item summary from Stephanie Masun, Manager of Emergency Program Services, dated June 13, 2023, regarding the Quesnel-Hixon Subdivision Erosion Protection Works Service Termination, be received. Further, that the CRD proceed with repeal of the Quesnel-Hixon Subdivision Erosion Protection Works Services Bylaw No. 4754, 2012 as per the 2023 Service Business Plan Goal.

**#2:** That the unused Quesnel-Hixon Subdivision Erosion Protection Works Services funds be returned to the service area participants.