



*building communities together*

## **2024 Business Plan Lexington Water (1891)**

*Peter Hughes  
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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.***

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### **Department Services**

- The Cariboo Regional District (CRD) owns and operates the Lexington Community Water System.

### **Background Information**

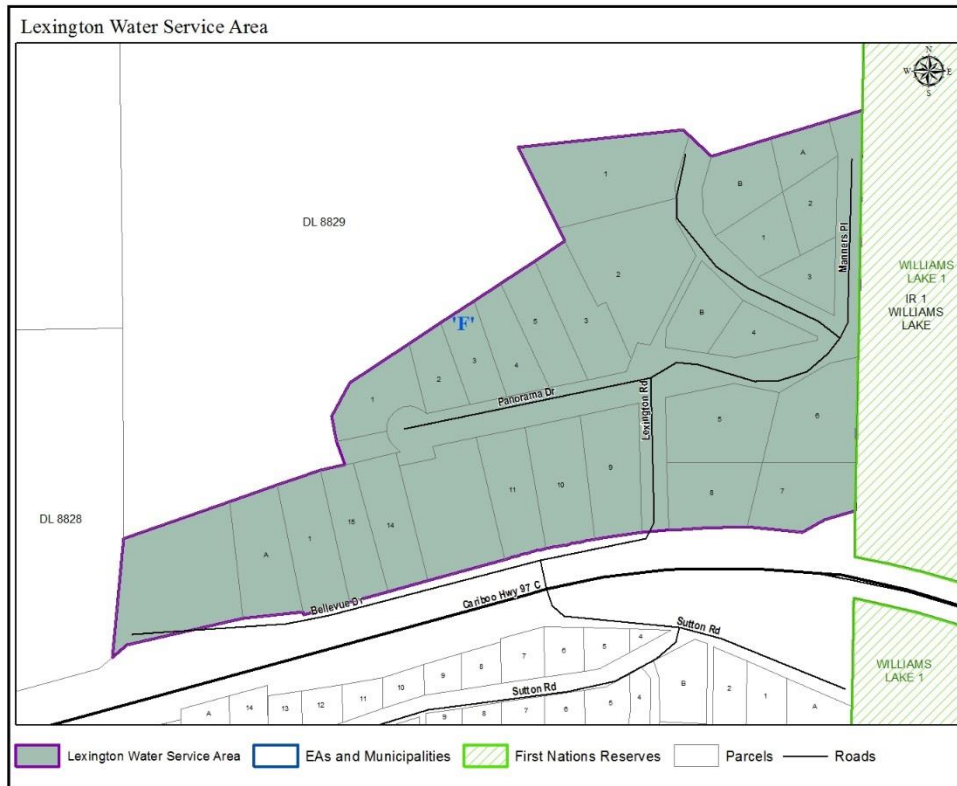
- The Cariboo Regional District acquired the Lexington water system effective January 1, 2019.
- The system was comprised of a lake intake, a pumphouse, associated pumps, reservoir, and distribution piping that services 28 parcels.
- The system meets domestic needs only and does not provide water for community fire protection.
- Capital improvements completed in 2018 were drilling of a well to replace the surface water intake. In 2019, the new pumphouse and associated electrical and mechanical requirements were designed. The project was then tendered, and construction completed. The water quantity and quality will continue to be tested on a regular basis and adjustments to the system made as required.
- Connection of the new well and construction of the pumphouse and associated electrical and mechanical components.
- Several improvements were required for the system including a new groundwater source (well), pump house, electrical controls, disinfection, and flow metering.
- In 2016, the Board allocated \$107,167 of Community Works Funds for a 1/3 contribution towards system improvements and approval for project funding via petition to borrow through MFA was obtained. The project was tendered in 2019

and costs were over the anticipated budget. The Board subsequently allocated an additional \$225,000 in Community Works Funds to complete the project.

## Operations

Operational costs will be collected by way of a user fee set at \$980 per year. Taxation will be collected by way of an annual parcel tax of up to \$420 that began in 2019. The Lexington Water Service Establishment Bylaw 5084 and Lexington Water Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 5085 provide function authority.

As Electoral Area F 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

Interior Health Authority conducted inspections of CRD water systems and made recommendations to achieve compliance with the Drinking Water Protection Act and Regulation. Recommendations for the Lexington system have not yet been provided by IHA.

The Public Sector Accounting Board 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 to the Clean BC Climate Action Plan (formerly 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:** Continue SCADA upgrade.  
**Rationale:** Improve work productivity.  
**Strategy:** Upgrade (SCADA) Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition.
  
- 2. Goal:** Improve flushing program.  
**Rationale:** Water service reliability.  
**Strategy:** Add flush and sampling ports.

### **Overall Financial Impact**

The projected capital reserve as of December 2023 is \$27,387.

Taxation is collected by way of a parcel tax of \$420 per year and has remained unchanged since 2019.

The current residential user fee is \$980 per year, which is adequate to maintain the integrity of the system.