

We Need To Hear Your Questions

We are currently working on preparing a Question and Answer (Q&A) package for the first public information meetings. Our hope is that people will send us the questions they have on their minds NOW to help us prepare all the needed information.

The Q&A package will be more extensive than the formal Information Package about the project and will continue to be updated as more questions come in right up to the referendums in the fall.

Help us help you! **Send Elizabeth Ahlgren your questions today.** The more we understand what the community needs, the better we will be able to communicate about this very complex project. You can email Elizabeth at eahlgren@rdek.bc.ca or call her at our Cranbrook office at 1-888-478-7335 or 250-489-2791.

Stay in the Loop

If you are not already signed up for our email group, sign up today. Simply email Loree Duczek at:

lduczek@rdek.bc.ca

Subject Line: "Your Community" Email Group

(put your community name in the subject line followed by Email Group.

For example: Timber Ridge Email Group / Pedley Heights Email Group, etc.)

The email groups receive Windermere Water Upgrade updates, emergency notifications and periodic items of interest related to Area F and occasionally the RDEK (such as our monthly Board Meeting Highlights).

The emails are for information purposes only. No legal ads or notices are sent via email. The list is for RDEK use only (it is not shared with third parties).

For More Information

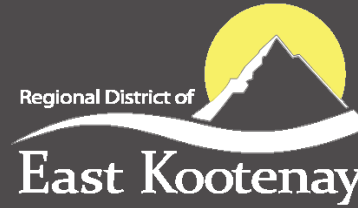
For more information on the Windermere Water Project, contact Project Supervisor Elizabeth Ahlgren at eahlgren@rdek.bc.ca or by phone at 1-888-478-7335 or 250-489-2791. If you have questions about the project and how it may impact you, please send them our way so that we can make sure we are providing you with the information you need.

You can also contact Electoral Area F Director Wendy Booth at wndbooth@gmail.com or 250-345-6155.

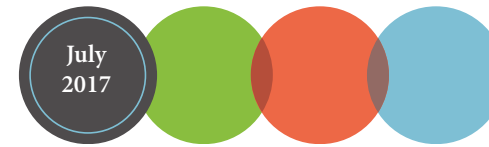


WE WANT TO
HEAR FROM YOU

LOOKING
FOR MORE
INFORMATION



WINDERMERE WATER UPGRADE NEWS



What's Going on With the Project and When Will We Get More Information?

Whether you are in Windermere or are an existing Parr customer, we know you may have many questions about the Windermere Water Project and the RDEK's proposed purchase of Parr Utilities' assets.

We are committed to getting you the information you need. Many of the project specifics cannot be finalized until the ongoing negotiations are complete. As a result of the negotiations, we cannot provide many details at this time. We thank you for your ongoing patience and look forward to sharing more information once an agreement has been signed.

**There have been some great strides forward
in several areas of the project that we wanted to share.**

It's important to note that the community will make the final decision on whether the project proceeds.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS IN WINDERMERE WATER UPGRADE PROJECT:

Visit rdek.bc.ca for a map of the proposed service area

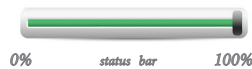
- \$1.2 million in Community Works funding has been approved by the RDEK Board of Directors. The approved funds are equivalent to the cost of the building purchase
- An application has been submitted for a \$6,000,000 grant through the Gas Tax Strategic Priorities Fund. Unfortunately, we do not expect to know if our application is successful until after the elector assent process on this project
- Negotiations between the RDEK and Parr Utilities Ltd. have been ongoing for several months and an agreement was brought to the July RDEK Board Meeting for first review. The agreement will be conditional on elector assent in the fall
- The Board has decided the method of elector assent will be by referendum and has moved forward with the regulatory processes to be ready for the fall
- The RDEK plans to hold two referendums in the fall of 2017. One will be for the Windermere water service area regarding borrowing for the purchase of the water treatment plant. The second parallel referendum will include Timber Ridge, existing Parr customers and Windermere to establish a larger water service area for operation and maintenance
- There will be two Public Information Meetings. We are working on finalizing dates; however, we hope they will be held in the third week of August and early October
- Staff continues to compile questions from the community to be answered at the public information meeting and through a Q&A document. If you have questions about the project and how it may impact you, please send them our way so that we can make sure we are providing you with the information you need

PROGRESS REPORT: THE KEY MILESTONES

DUE DILIGENCE



- The intent is to purchase the assets of Parr Utilities and not the Corporation
- BDO's financial review is complete and shows that the proposed price is less than the value of the assets
- Negotiations with Parr Utilities Ltd. are still underway



SERVICE BOUNDARY



- If the project proceeds, there will be 3 service areas:
- a new, larger service area (encompassing Windermere, Timber Ridge and other current Parr customers). This service area would manage the operation of the water treatment plant and distribution system*
 - the existing Windermere water service area would remain to pay the debt related to the purchase of the Parr Utilities' assets*
 - the Timber Ridge water service area would remain to pay down the existing debt associated with its previous connection to Parr Utilities

* if the referendums are successful



FINANCIAL IMPACT



Once negotiations and forecasts are complete, final numbers will be presented to the community.

Quick highlights:

- user fees will be around \$60/month
- user fees would be billed with a flat rate plus consumption
- taxation related to borrowing for the purchase to be paid by existing Windermere water service area



COMMUNICATION



Communication

- Will kick into high gear once an agreement has been signed.
- Two public meetings will be held (August and October), and a detailed info package and initial Q&A document will be prepared (July/August)



ELECTOR ASSENT



Elector Assent

- Method of assent will be by referendum (vote)
- Two parallel referendums will be held
- Timing is expected to be fall 2017
- Required bylaws have been introduced, given three readings and forwarded for Ministry approval to allow for fall referendum to take place

