

BOARD REPORT

TO: Chair and Directors

File No: 5600 47 01

SUBJECT: Rural Feasibility Study Fund – Scotch Creek Water

DESCRIPTION: Report from Terry Langlois, Team Leader, Utilities, dated July 7, 2017. Access to the Rural Feasibility Study Fund.

RECOMMENDATION #1: THAT: in accordance with Policy No. W-4 “Water Utility Acquisition” access to the Rural Feasibility Study Fund be approved in the amount of \$90,000 plus applicable taxes to conduct community engagement and complete an engineering assessment for a new water system for the community of Scotch Creek.

SHORT SUMMARY:

The CSRD understands that significant senior federal and provincial infrastructure grants may be announced in 2017/2018. The community of Scotch Creek has limited options for a water system to service both residential and commercial properties. Constructing a phased water system to serve the entire community will require significant grant funding. An important part of the process is conducting community engagement to determine sufficient public support, as well as the completion of a comprehensive engineering assessment of a water system for Scotch Creek. These processes are necessary to provide possible options and the associated costs in order for the CSRD to be prepared to apply for available grants in the future.

VOTING: Unweighted LGA Part 14 Weighted Stakeholder
Corporate (Unweighted) Corporate (*Weighted*)

BACKGROUND:

The community of Scotch Creek currently receives water through a variety of water systems. There is one small CSRD owned water system (Saratoga), several privately owned water systems which service small individual developments, and an abundance of individual wells and lake intakes. Most of the privately owned water systems do not meet current drinking water standards and are operating with various operating permit conditions enacted by Interior Health. Over the past several years, there has been so many issues with water service in the Scotch Creek area that the Comptroller of Water Rights has placed a moratorium on any new privately owned water systems in the area, and any new water system must be government owned.

Another contributing factor to the servicing issues for the community is the water quality itself; the aquifer below Scotch Creek, while highly productive, is extremely poor in quality. This creates a substantial health risk for users if the water is not properly treated.

POLICY:

Policy No. W-4 “Water Utility Acquisition” Item 6(b) outlines the Electoral Area Director can request access to the Feasibility Study Fund to complete an engineering assessment from the Board.

FINANCIAL:

Funds to complete both the assessment (\$70,000) and the community engagement (\$20,000) will come from the Rural Feasibility Study Fund. If the water system is constructed by the CSRD, the Rural Feasibility Study Fund monies will be repaid by the new function within its first fiscal year.

KEY ISSUES/CONCEPTS:

To determine the cost to construct a new water system for Scotch Creek and gauge public interest in the development of a community water system.

IMPLEMENTATION:

An engineering assessment which outlines the options available for the construction of a new water system in the Scotch Creek community will be undertaken by Gentech Engineering Inc., and will commence immediately upon Board approval.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Representatives from the Scotch Creek Community will be notified of the Board decision and the next steps.

DESIRED OUTCOMES:

To complete both the public engagement plan and the engineering work required in order to be prepared for future grant opportunities for the construction of a new water system in Scotch Creek that serves all of the community's needs.

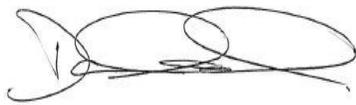
BOARD'S OPTIONS:

1. *Endorse the Recommendation.*
2. *Deny the Recommendation.*
3. *Defer.*
4. *Any other action deemed appropriate by the Board.*

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	2017-07-20_Feasibility_Study_Scotch Creek_Water system.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Jul 11, 2017

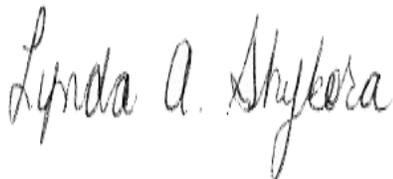
This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:



Darcy Mooney - Jul 10, 2017 - 3:15 PM



Jodi Pierce - Jul 10, 2017 - 4:00 PM



Lynda Shykora - Jul 10, 2017 - 4:14 PM



Charles Hamilton - Jul 11, 2017 - 9:11 AM