



VILLAGE OF BELCARRA

"Between Forest and Sea"

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September 24, 2010

BELCARRA POTABLE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2010

Council will hold a Public Information Meeting, Monday, October 4 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm at the Village Hall to provide information on connection requirements to the Belcarra Potable Water Utility (BPWU). The information does not apply to properties located in Cozy Cove, Farrer Cove and Twin Islands.

The MRIF grant approval for the potable water system was predicated on providing a sustainable water source to protect the health of persons and to ensure protection of property, and includes conditions requiring the Village adopt bylaws to protect the integrity of its municipal water system. In considering Council's objective of not requiring existing well users to connect to the BPWU, a number of specific situations have come to our awareness including some which will require a property to connect to the BPWU.

Fraser Health Authority's (FHA) position on shared responsibility for wells places significant responsibility for providing potable water from the wells on both single and shared users and on the owner of the land on which the well is located, in some circumstances the wells are located on municipally-owned land.

Ministry of Forests policy guidelines include refraining from aerial fire suppression tactics that use fire retardant and chemical agents near open water sources. Some properties obtain their water from an open water source (springs, shallow wells and streams). Not requiring properties using open water sources to connect to the BPWU would result in "No Drop Zones" thereby putting the community at increased risk of a fire loss due to limited fire suppression tactics.

Some properties receive water from shared or group domestic water supply sources and do not have legal rights of access to the source and appurtenances for regular maintenance, repairs and water quality sampling.

Conditions which will require a property to connect to BPWU

Existing Potable Water Sources	Required to Connect	Rationale
Private shared well on another property for Domestic Use*1, No registered easement.	Yes	The guest user has no rights to access the Well for repairs, maintenance and water quality assurance.
Private shared well when use is both Domestic*1 and Non-Domestic*2 uses; and where 1 user chooses to connect to BPWU	Yes	The integrity of water quality and health safety becomes compromised.
- Private closed well on municipal land. - Group or Community closed well on municipal, crown or park lands. - Private open water source located on municipal, crown or park lands.	Yes	FHA regulation requires "owners" of a system (water supplier) to provide potable water to users of the system. If a municipality allows water to be taken from a well on public property, the municipality can be required to provide safe drinking water should the system prove unsafe.
- Licenced private open water source. - Unlicensed private open water source.	Yes	Community protection from wildfires becomes compromised as aerial suppression using chemical retardants cannot be used near source.

Open Water Source Potable water sources not contained within a drilled deep well casing or deep bedrock shaft and protected from surface water.

Domestic Use*1 Potable water defined as potable by the Province.

Non-Domestic Use*2 Potable or not; water is used for non-domestic purposes

Residents are invited to attend this public information meeting. Please contact the Municipal Hall at 604-937-4100 for additional information.

**RALPH DREW
MAYOR**