



News Release

Get Involved in the Future of Water on the Sunshine Coast

Sechelt, BC – May 9, 2022 – It's one of the most pressing issues in our community and the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) wants to hear from you about it. Yes, we're talking water. More specifically, the future of water on the Sunshine Coast.

Just this past year, the SCRD has made great progress on increasing water supply in the region to address the current needs of the community. The Church Road Well Field Project will be completed by fall and the water meter program will expand to Sechelt starting this year. At the same time, the region has experienced unprecedented summer heat and a prolonged period of drought as the impacts of climate change hit the Sunshine Coast.

The SCRD is developing a Water Strategy to ensure safe and reliable water for current and future generations. We want to hear your ideas and concerns related to long-term water supply, management of infrastructure such as water treatment plants and water mains, efficient use of water in our communities, and the protection of valuable water sources such as Chapman Lake.

"A quick skim of social media will give you a sense of how big the topic of water supply is in our community and now is the time to have your voice heard on how to deal with these issues long-term" says Remko Rosenboom, General Manager, Infrastructure Services, with the Sunshine Coast Regional District. "We hope that in the coming weeks, our community will take the opportunity to be part of the Water Strategy development, get involved and help shape the future of one of the most critical issues for our growing communities."

The SCRD will also collaborate with the shíshálh Nation, Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw, and other local governments on the development of the Water Strategy.

The feedback received from the community during from the engagement process will help form a 10-page public-facing document that clearly explains the SCRD's long-term plan for providing a safe and reliable water supply. The SCRD will return to the community again in early 2023 with the draft Water Strategy for further input.

Here is how you can get involved.

Open House

On Wednesday, May 25, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., drop by the Seaside Centre, 5790 Teredo Street, Sechelt to learn more about the Water Strategy. There will be display boards, and a short presentation at 4pm and repeated at 5pm. SCRD staff will be on hand to answer any questions you may have.

Online

Check out our engagement page at letstalk.scrd.ca/water-strategy to learn more about the project, ask questions, and complete a survey.

Roundtable Discussions

SCRD staff will host community and key sector roundtable discussions in June. These will be small sessions in each water system to learn more about your ideas for the Water Strategy. For more details, please visit letstalk.scrd.ca/water-strategy.

“We know we have more work to do to increase water security for Sunshine Coast residents,” says Remko Rosenboom. “We are looking forward to engaging with the community about drinking water supply and developing a plan that clearly outlines our next steps for providing safe and reliable water for the coming decades.”

Stay up to date at letstalk.scrd.ca/water-strategy.

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