



# SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT



**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD  
IN THE BOARDROOM OF THE SUNSHINE COAST  
REGIONAL DISTRICT OFFICES AT 1975 FIELD ROAD, SECHELT, B.C.**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2023**

## **AMENDED AGENDA**

**CALL TO ORDER 1:30 p.m.**

### **AGENDA**

1. Adoption of agenda

### **PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

- |     |  |                                       |
|-----|--|---------------------------------------|
| 2.  | Jennifer Spencer, Negotiator, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation<br>Regarding shíshálh swiya Dock Management Plan / Foundation Agreement Update | Verbal                                |
| 3.  | Lower Crown Raw Water Reservoir Project Update   | Verbal                                |
| i.  | Presentation: Jasmine Paul, Vice President Negotiation, Governance and Policy / shíshálh Nation Consultant, Castlemain Group                                     |                                       |
| ii. | Staff Report: General Manager, Infrastructure Services and Chief Administrative Officer<br><i>(Voting – A, B, D, E, F and Sechelt)</i>                           | Annex A<br><b>⇒ADD</b><br>Pages 2 - 4 |

### **REPORTS**

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

### **MOTIONS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

### **IN CAMERA**

THAT the public be excluded from attendance at the meeting in accordance with Section 90 (1) (k) of the *Community Charter* – “negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service...”.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

## SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT STAFF REPORT

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**TO:** SCRD Special Board – November 30, 2023

**AUTHOR:** Remko Rosenboom, General Manager, Infrastructure Services  
Dean McKinley, Chief Administrative Officer

**SUBJECT:** LOWER CROWN RAW WATER RESERVOIR PROJECT UPDATE

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### RECOMMENDATION(S)

- (1) **THAT the report titled Lower Crown Raw Water Reservoir Project Update be received for information;**
  - (2) **AND THAT \$100,000 from the Feasibility Study Long-Term Surface Water Supply Sources project be reallocated to the Lower Crown Raw Water Reservoir – Feasibility Assessment project;**
  - (3) **AND THAT the 2023-2027 Financial Plan be amended accordingly;**
  - (4) **AND FURTHER THAT a proposal be brought forward to the 2025 Budget to seek additional funding for the Regional Water Service Feasibility Study Long-Term Surface Water Supply Sources project.**
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### BACKGROUND

At the October 12, 2023 Board meeting the staff report titled 'Implications to the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) of the Development of the Proposed Lower Crown Raw Water Reservoir' was presented and Board approval was provided for a Letter of Support for an application by the shíshálh Nation for provincial grant funding for the Lower Crown Raw Water Reservoir (RWR) project.

The purpose of this report is to seek Board approval for a project budget for SCRCD and their consultants to work on the initial phase of this project and to provide further information on process and timelines for the completion of this project.

### DISCUSSION

#### *Options and Analysis*

shíshálh Nation completed a technical and financial feasibility study for the development of the proposed RWR. The SCRCD recently received a copy of this study. A cursory review of these materials confirms that it would take a substantial amount of staff and consultant time to review the provided materials and engage with the shíshálh Nation and their consultants regarding any concerns or comments that might arise during this review. For example, such a review would include a review and assessment of the design as well as the operational and short and long-

term financial implications of this project. Multiple staff from multiple divisions would be involved in such a review. Given current work priorities and mandatory requirements staff would only be able to start their full review of these materials in January 2024.

Besides the review of the feasibility study, staff will also need to engage with Vancouver Coastal Health and the Ministry of Forests, and potentially the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategies, on their conditions for the required permits to be obtained for the construction and commissioning of this RWR as a water supply source.

The shíshálh Nation and the SCRD would also need to confirm the terms and conditions of any legal agreements required.

The scope of the SCRD's Lower Crown RWR – Feasibility Assessment project would include the review of and engagement on the Feasibility Study prepared by the shíshálh Nation and assess its legal, financial, and operational implications, both short-term and long-term. The study will result in a staff report to the Board in support of their considerations on furthering the SCRD's participation in the development of this RWR.

#### *Organizational and Intergovernmental Implications*

This Lower Crown RWR – Feasibility Study project is currently not part of the corporate or divisional workplans. Staff are currently focused on meeting regulatory requirements, ongoing contractual obligations, and ensuring ongoing service delivery. Consequently, staff have in the short-term a very limited ability to engage in the required work to advance this project. While consultants could be retained to support staff with certain components of this project, there will remain a significant amount of work that would have to be undertaken by staff, including several senior staff. Staff could fully engage in this project starting early January 2024 by delaying work on several projects and initiatives. While the exact list of projects and initiatives would still need to be confirmed, this could include but is not limited to:

- Feasibility study to confirm option to develop other long-term surface water supply sources (incl. Clowhom Lake, Rainy River, Sakinaw Lake).
- Assessment of long-term solid waste disposal options.
- Negotiations with the YMCA regarding the Langdale Wastewater Treatment plant. Such an agreement is required before the capital project to upgrade that facility can be initiated.
- Planning study on Square Bay Wastewater Treatment plant infiltration reduction.
- Feasibility study for the Jolly Roger and Secret Cove Wastewater Treatment plants.
- Feasibility study to take over the Hopkins Landing Improvement Districts water supply services.
- Update and modernization of *Subdivision Servicing Bylaw No. 320 and Water Rates and Regulations Bylaw No. 422*.
- Watershed Agreement Aquifer 560.

*Financial Implications*

There is currently no dedicated budget for this project. In order to resource this project, a budget needs to be established and approved by the Board.

An option to fund the initial phase of the Lower Crown RWR-Feasibility project is from the Regional Water Service Feasibility Study Long-Term Surface Water Supply Sources project. The intent of that project is to assess the feasibility of additional surface water supply sources for the Chapman Water System and currently has an uncommitted budget of \$180,355. Staff are recommending allocating \$100,000 from this budget to the Lower Crown RWR – Feasibility Assessment project. In addition to staff time, these funds would also be utilized for any consulting and legal support required.

Staff would defer the assessment of the feasibility of other surface water sources to 2025 and will present a Budget Proposal for additional budget as part of the 2025 budget process.

*Timeline for next steps*

Staff are anticipating it could present the results of the Lower Crown RWR – Feasibility Assessment to the Board by the end of Q1 2024.

*Communications Strategy*

Staff will include this project as an active project on it's webpage and Let's Talk platform.

**STRATEGIC PLAN AND RELATED POLICIES**

The development of additional water supply sources is one of the strategic priorities included in the draft 2023-2027 Strategic Plan.

**CONCLUSION**

Confirmation of the feasibility of the development of a Lower Crown Raw Water Reservoir would require a substantial amount of staff time, as well as consultant and legal review with an estimated completion by the end of Q1 2024. Staff are recommending reallocating \$100,000 from the existing budget for the Feasibility Study Long-Term Surface Water Supply Sources project to the Lower Crown RWR – Feasibility Assessment project and amending the 2023-2027 Financial Plan accordingly.

Reviewed by:			
Manager		CFO/Finance	X - T. Perreault
GM		Legislative	
CAO		Other	