

To: Fraser Valley Regional District Board

Date: 2024-01-25

From: Brodie Barber, Engineering & Community Services Technologist

File No: 1719, 2023

Subject: Fraser Valley Regional District North Cultus Lake Sewer System Service Area Amendment Bylaw No. 1719, 2023

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board give first, second, and third readings to the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District North Cultus Lake Sewer System Service Area Amendment Bylaw No. 1719, 2023*.

BACKGROUND

The proposed service area amendment bylaw would adjust the boundaries of the North Cultus Lake Sewer Service Area to include the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) property located at 4222 Columbia Valley Road. The federally owned property currently houses the Cultus Lake Salmon Research Facility and contains several laboratories, artificial streams and ponds, and an experimental hatchery. The site is home to 11 full time DFO employees, and is utilized by numerous other DFO staff, graduate students and university researchers, and guests.

DISCUSSION

The property currently relies on an individual septic system and an onsite absorption field for wastewater disposal. DFO, as well as the Cultus Lake Park Board, are interested in redirecting sanitary discharge from the aging onsite septic system to the FVRD's **system** for treatment and disposal. As part of the inclusion into the service area, DFO will be responsible for the construction of additional sanitary infrastructure from the connection point of the Cultus Lake Laboratory property to the FVRD pump station SL#4. The construction of the sewer infrastructure will allow for additional Cultus Lake Park Board properties to be included and connected to the sewer service area in the future.

The property in question is on Federal Crown land and will be unable to meet the legislative requirements for a petition into the service area. However, pursuant to the *Local Government Act*, written consent from the Electoral Area H Director for the adoption of the service area bylaw amendment may be provided instead. After receiving three readings, the bylaw requires approval by

the Inspector of Municipalities. Once the bylaw has received this approval it will be brought back to the FVRD board for adoption.

The FVRD is in receipt of a signed Servicing Agreement which covenants that the DFO will design and construct all infrastructure works associated with the connection of the DFO property to the FVRD sanitary sewer system. Included within the Servicing Agreement is a capital connection improvement fee of \$13,549.75 to join the service area, as well a provision that notes service cannot be guaranteed until the new North Cultus Wastewater Treatment Plant is operational. This agreement will also act as the written request from the DFO to include their property located at 4222 Columbia Valley Road into the North Cultus Lake Sewer Service Area.

COST

No costs to the FVRD.

All associated sewer infrastructure upgrades and costs will be borne by His Majesty King in Right of Canada as represented by the Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

COMMENTS BY:

Sterling Chan, Manager of Engineering and Infrastructure: Reviewed and Supported

Tareq Islam, Director of Engineering & Utilities: Reviewed and supported.

Kelly Lownsbrough, Director of Corporate Services/CFO: Reviewed and supported.

Jennifer Kinneman, Chief Administrative Officer: Reviewed and supported.