

To: Electoral Area Services Committee

Date: 2025-10-09

From: Tareq Islam, Director of Engineering and Utilities

Subject: Bylaw to Amalgamate Three Existing Storm Drainage Service Areas into a Single Storm Drainage Service Area in Popkum

Reviewed by: Beth Klein, Controller/Deputy CFO
Jaime Van Nes, Director of Legislative Services/Corporate Officer
Jennifer Kinneman, Chief Administrative Officer

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board give three readings and adoption to the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Popkum Storm Drainage Service Area Merger and Establishment Bylaw No. 1789, 2025*.

BACKGROUND

FVRD staff seek Board approval for the amalgamation of three existing storm drainage service areas in Popkum (Electoral Area D) into a single consolidated service area under Bylaw No. 1789, 2025:

- The West Popkum Storm Drainage Service Area was established under Bylaw No. 888, 1990.
- The East Popkum Storm Drainage System Local Service Area was established under Bylaw No. 0228, 1998.
- The Popkum Drainage Service Connection Service Area was established under Bylaw No. 1321, 2015.

These three service areas currently operate independently, with separate bylaw structures. The proposed Bylaw No. 1789, 2025 repeals and consolidates them into one unified service area, to be known as the Fraser Valley Regional District Popkum Storm Drainage Service Area.

DISCUSSION

The amalgamation will:

- Simplify service administration by consolidating multiple bylaws into one governing framework.
- Provide greater consistency in service delivery and funding for storm drainage in Popkum.

- Ensure that all participating properties in Electoral Area D are included under a single service area with uniform provisions for cost recovery and taxation.
- Establish a clear maximum requisition authority of an amount equivalent to \$0.0995/\$1,000 of net taxable value.

Through an approved Financial Plan, the annual service costs can be recovered through:

- Property value tax requisitions;
- User fees and charges, as set by separate bylaw if required; and
- Revenues from agreements, grants, or other sources.

COST

Using the current BC Assessment data, tax rates for West Popkum Drainage Service Area (407) are expected to remain at similar levels as identified in the Service Area 5 Year Financial Plan and East Popkum Service Area (419) tax rates are expected to be reduced to align with West Popkum Service Area Tax Requisition levels.

Popkum Drainage Service Connection (422) User Fees would be eliminated from the Amalgamated Service Area.

Any existing Service Area Surplus/Reserve savings accounts would migrate to the amalgamated Service Area account; however, would remain separate until spent.