

**REPORT TO SAANICH PENINSULA WASTEWATER COMMISSION
MEETING OF THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2017**

SUBJECT **Saanich Peninsula Liquid Waste Management Plan – 2016 Annual Programs Report**

ISSUE

To present a summary of the 2016 activities and accomplishments of the Saanich Peninsula Liquid Waste Management Plan (the “Plan”) programs, including trunk sewer and treatment system operations, maintenance, capital planning and, environmental monitoring and management.

BACKGROUND

The Capital Regional District (CRD) has the mandate to provide liquid waste management on the Saanich Peninsula through the trunk sewer and treatment system. Under the *BC Environmental Management Act* and Municipal Wastewater Regulation, the Plan provides the framework for this service, which is implemented through a series of establishing bylaws and services. The system is also subject to monitoring and reporting requirements under the Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations of the federal *Fisheries Act*.

The Plan was first approved in 1996. Since then, it has gone through 4 amendments. The Plan is periodically consolidated to include amendments to that date; consolidation was last done in 2009. Over the next 1-2 years, staff plan to review and audit the Plan’s objectives and commitments. This could lead to revisions based on consultations with the Province, municipalities, First Nations and other stakeholders.

There are 5 general objectives of the Plan:

- ensuring efficient and optimal operation and maintenance of liquid waste infrastructure
- reducing contaminants in the liquid waste infrastructure and the environment
- monitoring and assessing risks associated with the liquid waste infrastructure
- reporting out to satisfy provincial and federal regulatory requirements and to inform stakeholders and the public
- planning and implementing liquid waste infrastructure upgrades

There are 8 programs that work to achieve Plan objectives:

- operations, maintenance and planning
- inflow and infiltration management
- corrosion and odour control
- wastewater and marine environment monitoring
- source control
- stormwater quality
- trucked liquid waste management
- onsite wastewater management

The Saanich Peninsula Liquid Waste Management Plan 2016 Annual Programs Report and the annual reports for the various programs are attached as appendices A to E.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That the following annual reports be approved:
 - a) Saanich Peninsula Liquid Waste Management Plan 2016 Annual Programs Report
 - b) Saanich Peninsula Wastewater and Marine Environmental Program 2016 Annual Report
 - c) Regional Source Control Program 2016 Annual Report
 - d) Saanich Peninsula Stormwater Quality Program 2016 Annual Report
 - e) Trucked Liquid Waste Program 2016 Annual Report; and
2. That the annual reports fulfilling regulatory requirements be forwarded to the BC Ministry of Environment.

Alternative 2

That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission direct staff to submit a revised report.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

In 2016, similar to previous years, the wastewater discharged from the Saanich Peninsula Treatment plant met all requirements of the provincial Operational Certificate and the federal regulations. Surface water and seafloor monitoring confirmed that the treatment facility was operating as expected and that potential impacts to human health and the environment were low. Concurrent discussions are ongoing with Saanich Peninsula First Nations and regulatory agencies regarding the desire to restore access to currently-closed shellfish harvesting areas. The need for disinfection at the treatment plant is currently under review as part of these broader discussions.

For the stormwater system, ongoing monitoring determined that there has been a reduction in the number of high-rated discharges in recent years, despite the ongoing addition of new sources of contamination that arise as infrastructure ages and new developments or renovations have the potential to create stormwater-sewage cross-connections. The monitoring results are provided to local governments to aid their efforts to reduce contaminant inputs and identify infrastructure issues.

Other actions that contributed to the protection of public health and the environment included numerous environmental education and stewardship initiatives.

ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

Funding for the operation, maintenance and capital planning of the CRD's sewer and treatment system is authorized under the Liquid Waste Management Saanich Peninsula Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 1996 (Bylaw No. 2388).

Environmental reporting is a required component of the various programs under the Plan. Funding for these reports is included in the service budgets, as authorized by various bylaws.

CONCLUSION

This is the first year of integrated reporting for the Plan programs focused on the management of liquid waste on the Saanich Peninsula. Program staff continue to work collaboratively to ensure efficient system operation and that the management of liquid waste on the Saanich Peninsula meets regulatory requirements, protects human health and the environment, and the information is communicated to the regulators, stakeholders and general public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Commission recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That the following annual reports be approved:
 - a) Saanich Peninsula Liquid Waste Management Plan 2016 Annual Programs Report
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2. That the annual reports fulfilling regulatory requirements be forwarded to the BC Ministry of Environment.

Submitted by:	Glenn Harris, Ph.D., R.P.Bio., Senior Manager, Environmental Protection
Concurrence:	Larisa Hutcheson, P.Eng., General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B.Sc., C.Tech., General Manager, Integrated Water Services
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

CL:cam

Attachments: Appendix A – Saanich Peninsula Liquid Waste Management Plan – 2016 Annual Programs Report
Appendix B – Saanich Peninsula Wastewater and Marine Environmental Program – 2016 Annual Report
Appendix C – Regional Source Control Program – 2016 Annual Report
Appendix D – Saanich Peninsula Stormwater Quality Program – 2016 Annual Report
Appendix E – Trucked Liquid Waste Program – 2016 Annual Report