

Fall 2011

## GEID Okanagan Lake Intake and Pump Station

**A**fter receiving a Fisheries Act Authorization on May 24, 2011, GEID has commenced construction on the intake and wet wells for the Okanagan Lake pump station. The contract for this work was awarded in 2010, but work could not begin until all approvals were in place. Hayter Construction Ltd. began work at the site in early June, and as of mid-August has completed the majority of the blasting and access construction work. Multiple barriers were installed to prevent sediment release into the lake, including silt fences on shore and two silt curtains in the lake. These provide primary and secondary containment for works below the high water mark. The work window for construction in the lake ends on September 30, 2011. Remaining construction to be completed by September 30th

includes installation of the steel wet well caissons, installation of the intake piping and intakes, and restoration of the disturbed areas below the lake high water mark.

Since the highest risk and most technically challenging components of the entire project were bundled into this current phase of work, GEID expects to obtain very competitive bids for the remainder of the pump station construction. GEID will be drawing down McKinley Reservoir this fall to enable construction of an outlet structure along the northwestern edge. Completion of the outlet structure construction is expected by March 2012.

Project completion is expected by late 2012 once the pump station is oper-

ational. It will take until the summer of 2013 to replace the majority of the Mill Creek water in McKinley Reservoir with lower colour and turbidity water from Okanagan Lake. Following this, GEID will monitor water quality in

McKinley Reservoir for up to a year to obtain design information for ultraviolet disinfection, which is the next step toward providing GEID customers with water that meets Interior Health 4-3-2-1-0 Guidelines. ■



Perfect alignment of 42" pipe by Hayter Construction using 200 ton crane, August 18th.



GEID breaks ground on Okanagan Lake pump station project, June 23rd.

### GEID 2011 Capital Plan Update

In July 2011, the GEID Board of Trustees adopted the 2011 Capital Plan Update prepared by GEID's engineering consultant, Agua Consulting Inc. The Capital Plan Update provides updated costs for projects and outlines the 20 year capital works program for GEID. The overall cost of the Capital Works program is \$58 million, of which approximately

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## Ellison Separation – Phase 1

**W**ater system separation generally includes the installation of separate domestic and agricultural water mains to service an area. The full separation of the rural Ellison area is estimated to cost \$3.5 million. GEID is proceeding in the fall of 2011 with upgrades to GEID's pump station on Glenmore Rd. N. and an existing well. This will allow GEID to proceed with Phase I of the Ellison separation by adding the stratas at the north end of Ellison and the Dry Valley area to the Glenmore distribution system. By switching these areas to the Glenmore system, the number of customers affected by a seasonal Boil Water Notice in the Ellison area will be reduced by half. Customers in the Dry Valley area and the Ellison stratas may notice slightly reduced

water pressure after this change takes place, but the water pressure will still be within GEID's normal residential servicing limits.

Mill Creek, which supplies Ellison, typically has turbidity of 2.5 NTU in the summer. This is less than the 5 NTU threshold used by Interior Health for triggering a Boil Water Notice, but rainfall events and other changes in creek flows can lead to turbidity spikes in excess of 5 NTU that last for hours or days. As GEID is unable to notify Ellison customers through the media when turbidity spikes occur overnight, the Boil Water Notice is expected to remain in place each year through the summer months, when the area is supplied by Mill Creek.

Separating the remainder of Ellison is currently under review by staff. ■

## Capital Plan Update

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\$19 million would be funded by new development through Capital Expenditure Charge projects and direct payment of specific upgrade costs. The remaining \$39 million is expected to be funded by existing ratepayers, with \$6 million for the Okanagan Lake and UV disinfection project, and \$3.5 million is slated for system separation in the Ellison area.

The remaining large projects to be funded by existing users include separation of the Scenic Road agricultural areas and construction of a water treatment facility. While GEID intends to apply to Interior Health for filtration deferral based upon UV disinfection of high quality Okanagan Lake water, plans for water filtration must be in place as a contingency in the event that filtration becomes mandatory at some point in the future. ■

## *Kelowna Joint Water Committee* Kelowna Integrated Water Supply Plan

Progress continues on developing a water supply plan to meet the future needs of all Kelowna residents. The final report should be completed by September, 2011. All five of the large water utilities in Kelowna signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 2010 with an aim of preparing a city-wide strategy that will provide safe, affordable and reliable water supply. The plan will focus on delivering a flexible, low cost solution to infrastructure upgrades that will deliver water quality that meets Interior Health standards while maintaining agricultural interests. GEID's new intake at Okanagan Lake is expected to add resiliency to water servicing in Kelowna, as it offers a lake intake that is largely unaffected by influences such as Mission Creek. Improvements to interconnections between utilities are a key part of the plan, to ensure that in the future, the loss of any single water source will not interrupt the supply of water for indoor use. ■



# Mainline Flushing

Semi-annual water main flushing is scheduled from October 11th to November 10th. For flushing times and locations, please visit our website or watch the newspaper for announcements of specific dates and updates.

For direct notification of flushing, please email your request to [hbauer@geid.org](mailto:hbauer@geid.org) (include your street address). While the District makes every effort to notify customers of regular flushing and emergencies, please be informed that other events may occur that prevent such notification.

Mainline flushing occurs between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. During these flushing periods, water pressure can vary slightly, and there may be some discoloration in the water. Please check your water prior to using – we recommend that you avoid doing laundry at this time. If you experience discoloration, run the cold-water tap until the water runs clear. ■



## Flushing Within Complexes

Internal water lines are the responsibility of each complex, including plazas, multi-family developments, schools and other institutions. These developments should always flush their waterlines AFTER the District has completed its flushing. Prior to flushing, please ensure that you have applied for a private Hydrant Use Permit. ■

## Agriculture Customers

### Fall Shut Offs and Sprinkler Dole Valve Reminder

Irrigation valves will be shut off for the season during the week of October 3rd through 7th. Prior to Spring 2012 turn-on, agriculturalists should ensure that individual dole valves are installed on each sprinkler head. This will promote even flow distribution throughout the length of properly maintained on-site irrigation systems. The master dole valve which was installed by GEID at the property line for meter protection will not assist in evenly regulating flows throughout the sprinkler heads. ■

### Water Notifications continue in effect

The Glenmore portion of the system continues under a continuous Water Quality Advisory (WQA) while the residents in the Ellison and Dry Valley areas are currently on a Boil Water Notice. A map showing the different service areas is available on our website. Residents on the former McKinley Landing Waterworks System receive water from Okanagan Lake and are not affected by these advisories.

GEID announces water quality changes through the media and on its website. Residents can also visit the Kelowna Joint Water Committee website ([www.kjwc.org](http://www.kjwc.org)) to register an email address for notifications. ■

## Website

Information about billing rates, payment information, regulations, policies, maps, bylaws, announcements, and much more, is contained on our website at [www.glenmoreellison.com](http://www.glenmoreellison.com). We are working on a new website that we hope will be more user-friendly and will continue to provide readily accessible information.

### Sudden Pressure Loss or Water Outage

Before calling GEID, please take the time to check your internal system first including all taps in the house; check home filtration units; check for outside leaks; check for construction in the immediate area; check your pressure reducing valve; and check your newspaper for water announcements. If you phone the office and a GEID operator is dispatched to the site, he can only ensure that water is being provided to the property line. In most cases sudden changes especially in water pressure are internal problems and require a visit from your plumber.

Customers should know where their home's emergency water shut-off is located. While GEID staff is able to turn water services off at the curb, the response time to an emergency call-out on a weekend or evening may make the difference between a small problem and a large flood. All after hour call-outs are billed to the landowner. ■

## Office News

**A**fter over 11 years with GEID, General Manager, **Nancy Howlett** retired on June 30th to enjoy some well-earned rest and relaxation. Nancy oversaw operations at GEID through much of the unprecedented growth and expansion of the District. We will miss her drive, enthusiasm, wit and friendly face and wish her all the best in her retirement.

Our new General Manager, **Darwyn Kutney**, has taken up the post with GEID. He has recently been employed with the City of Enderby and the District of Coldstream. Darwyn has over 20 years experience working for municipal governments in a variety of capacities. He brings to our organization a wealth of knowledge and is looking forward to taking on the various challenges of managing the District.

GEID would like to congratulate **Linda O'Neil**, Administrative Treasurer, for obtaining her certificate in Local Government Administration from Capilano University. This is no easy task as many long hours of dedicated study are required. The entire GEID organization will greatly benefit from her accomplishment.

**Drew Allingham** has achieved his Level IV Water Operator Certificate. Drew is GEID's Works Foreman and heads up a crew of operators who, combined with **Mike Rojem**, our Projects Coordinator, have over 75 years experience in the water industry. Drew is one of only 12 Level IV operators in BC.

On behalf of GEID, congratulations to Nancy, Darwyn, Linda and Drew. ■

**Holiday Office Closures**  
October 10th,  
November 11th,  
December 26th to  
January 2nd  
inclusive.

## Public Access to GEID Facilities

Due to ongoing safety and security concerns, public access to the Works Yard and Shop is not permitted. The main office reception can address or direct your enquiries to the appropriate individuals. Office hours are from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm and 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm, Monday to Friday, except during holidays.

## Irrigation Taxes

**Bills will be sent out in late October with payment due December 1st, 2011. To avoid a 10% penalty, please ensure your payment reaches the office by the due date.**

## Assessment Notices and Court of Revision

Assessments are mailed out after September 1st, 2011. These notices verify the land owners' name, property size, and grade. A Court of Revision will be held at 7:00 pm, on September 22nd, 2011 at the GEID office. The Court can only consider complaints regarding the assessment, i.e., that the owner on the assessment notice is not the registered owner of the assessed land or that his/her land has been classified incorrectly. Please contact the office for any discrepancies. If you intend to file an appeal, you must do so no later than 4:00 pm, September 21st, 2011 at the GEID office. ■



Published by  
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## VOICEMAIL EXTENSIONS

<b>Darwyn Kutney</b> General Manager	#109
<b>Darren Schlamp</b> Operations Manager	#102
<b>Mike Rojem</b> Projects Coordinator	#103
<b>Linda O'Neil</b> Administrative Treasurer	#104
<b>Drew Allingham</b> Works Foreman	#108
<b>Andrew Cammell</b> Water Quality Technician	#106
<b>Renee O'Fee</b> Accounts Payable & Utility Billings Clerk	#110
<b>Pat Schmidt</b> Development Clerk	#101
<b>Heather Bauer</b> Receptionist	#100