



Construction of ERWS Project Officially Underway

Construction of the Englishman River Water Service project officially got underway this morning with an on-site “shovel in the ground” ceremony.

The ERWS is a joint venture between the City of Parksville and the Regional District of Nanaimo formed in 2011 to secure bulk water supply from the Englishman River for the residents of Parksville and the Nanoose Bay Peninsula Water Service Area. The ERWS project includes:

- An in-river water supply intake designed and located to consider the needs of river users and protect aquatic habitat.
- Water treatment plant with a minimum of 16 million litres per day of membrane filtration capacity to comply with new water regulatory treatment standards including UV light and chlorine disinfection.
- Transmission supply mains to homes and businesses of Parksville and the Nanoose Bay Peninsula Water Service Area.

The total cost of this project is anticipated to be \$34.5 million with just over \$12 million provided by the province and federal governments through the New Building Canada Fund: Small Communities Fund and the Clean Water Wastewater Fund.

In his remarks, City of Parksville Mayor Marc Lefebvre said, “We are most appreciative of the significant funding support given to this project by the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada; funding which is critical to its success. On behalf of the ERWS management board and the City of Parksville, I wish to express our sincere thank you to MLA Michelle Stilwell for her tireless efforts to move this project forward and for advocating on our behalf.”

The general contract for the construction of the Englishman River water intake, pump station, water treatment plant and transmission to Top Bridge was awarded to Knappett Projects Inc in January 2017. The tender closes today for the remainder of the project work which involves the transmission main to Springwood reservoir. ERWS anticipates the project will be substantially complete by fall 2018.

Once this significant community project is complete, the community’s water system will ensure high-quality, safe water which will exceed Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines and the project will be sized to handle water demands for future generations.

[Note: The Englishman River Water Service Management Board members participating in the ground breaking – Marc Lefebvre, Sue Powell, Bob Rogers, Joe Stanhope joined by MLA Michelle Stilwell.]

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For more information:

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