

# NORTH CANYON IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2011

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY 2012!!!!

## **The Grant;**

We are extremely pleased to announce that with the help of RDCK Area B Director John Kettle, we have been able to receive a grant of approx. \$11,000 to invest in a crucial part of our infrastructure.

This summer we were faced with a failing alarm system up at the reservoir. Our old computer at the reservoir with its outdated software was not reliable in alarming us when needed. We also found we were unable to add the needs for our chlorination system into this software, one of the main reasons we could not start it up for prolonged testing.

As with everything, it was not easy to replace the computer and its software. Suddenly we had to consider making use of new technology such as remote access via a computer. This option will save us a lot of time in the future because the operators will no longer have to travel up in person to the reservoir to see what's going on with our system. The price tag that came with this new computer system was substantial, but we with the help of Mr. Kettle, we were able to finance this project with the grant. The installation is well underway.

## The chlorinator

Since we were unable to add the alarm functions of the chlorinator to the auto alarm dialer, we were not willing to have the chlorinator on by itself. (In case it's delivering an overdose of chlorine....)

We have therefore delayed chlorinator start-up until our computer upgrades are in place.

**JUST A REMINDER: NCID EMERGENCY**

**PHONE NUMBER IS: 250-254-1215.**

## **Boil Water Alert Incident**

On Oct 8<sup>th</sup> we received notice from Interior Health that our weekly water test had come back positive with pollution levels strong enough to activate our Emergency Response Plan.

This plan consists of several elements such as flushing and scrubbing our reservoir, chlorinating the distribution lines and informing all our customers to enforce the boil water advisory.

As you know we called/emailed everybody as good as we were able to, learning along the way that many of you have not provided us with current telephone numbers. But overall we were able to contact a good 97% of our water users.

Rodents had entered our reservoir building most likely in the spots where the old foam had deteriorated. We immediately got in action to have this foam replaced and we had an agreement in place, but after waiting several days, this local outfit decided to back out. This left us with option #2, a Creston outfit that really helped us out by springing into action on short notice! Only when our reservoir was sealed, we were able to lift the Boil Water Alert.

### **WATER RATES**

We are approaching the start of a new year. For the NCID this means a new budget for 2012. It is our job as the Board of Trustees to manage the incoming money responsibly. 2011 brought not only a very high amount of repairs, but also a very high amount of positive water test. Both are an indication that our infrastructure is showing its age and starts failing. We anticipate this trend to continue, and have therefore increased our 2012 operating budget with money to allow for multiple repairs. Unfortunately this will mean an increase of water rates.... but not without sound reasoning. We will keep you informed.

### **VALVES!**

We had several instances this year of people operating our valves, some of them broke in the process causing major repair jobs and water shut offs. Please do **NOT** operate the NCID valves, our system is old, they might be fragile and incorrect operation might break them. Be aware that the NCID will forward the repair charges for this to the homeowner if they tampered with our equipment. If you need your water shut off use the homeowners valve, if you don't have one, call the operator on duty to schedule a shut off. Charges may apply.

**Volunteers Needed!** In the basement of Canyon Hall the NCID has a small office and a decent sized storage area where we keep our tools and supplies. This area is in dire need of an overhaul. We need some shelving, a workbench, some storage and a cleanup / reorganization of this space. We can have our operators do this, but they will have to be paid and are quite frankly not hired to do this kind of work. We are hoping that there are a few handy people out there that can spend a Saturday helping us to fix this area up. Ideally we have 1 volunteer that can coordinate and run the job, and others that help build, fix and clean. If we plan this right, it should be done in one day and we hope to have this done before the end of January. The days are longer, its dark and cold outside, come on Canyon, help us out! Also, if you happen to have materials that we can use, we'd appreciate it. Call Caroline at 250-428.9865.

### **No trespassing**

We have noticed that there are people that are walking up to the area where our reservoir is located. This is a big concern for us. Please be aware that **nobody without proper authorization** is allowed onto NCID property. We have too many sensitive systems and valuable assets there, and although we have locks on all buildings, there are still ways to interfere with our work. Please do not walk your dogs on our property; you might encourage others doing the same. It costs huge dollars to put a proper security fence around this area, something we just don't have right now. We will install a security camera and shall pursuit trespassers. We are counting on everybody to respect the no trespassing sign and if you see any suspicious behaviour, please call our NCID cell phone 250-254.1215

**Email: [ncidforyou@gmail.com](mailto:ncidforyou@gmail.com) - Telephone: (250) 254-1215 - Postbox 60, Canyon, BC V0B 1C0**

**NCID Administrator: Myrna Johnson (250) 428.3428**

**Board of Trustees:**

**Caroline Hill (chair), Michael Byrne, Michael Bachynski, Dan Kusalik, Moe Widish**