

# NORTH CANYON IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2011

*We are welcoming Myrna Johnson on board as the new NCID Administrator per 1 August. Myrna moved from Lunenburg NS to Creston to be closer to family. She seems to be qualified and very pleased to join the NCID and the board looks forward to a long lasting relationship.*

**For any administrative related questions we ask you to email us at [ncidforyou@gmail.com](mailto:ncidforyou@gmail.com) or call Myrna at 250-428.3428.**

*We want to point out that Ila Carrington is no longer responsible for any NCID items, lucky lady, she can spend more time horseback riding now..... we will miss her and all her excellent work!!!!*

## REQUEST FOR CASUAL LABOUR

Anyone interested, on a casual employment basis, in assisting our Water Operators when repairing / renewing our buried water pipe system, is asked to please send a short letter (box 60, Canyon, V0B 1C0) or email at [ncidforyou@gmail.com](mailto:ncidforyou@gmail.com). Please state your availability, wage expectations, as well as your skills and physical abilities. As part of our succession planning, a casual labourer will have the opportunity to be selected as an NCID Operator Trainee

**JUST A REMINDER: NCID EMERGENCY  
PHONE NUMBER IS: 250-254-1215.**

### Chlorinator testing

Our July test week was a week with very high water use and due to the large turnover of the water in our reservoir combined with the powerful force of our big (10") pump the results were quite good. However, in the night hours with lower water demands and the smaller (6") pump at work, the results were not ideal yet.

The big challenge is to make the machine work with both heavy water use in summer, and low water use the other nine months of the year. That is why we will have to run another test after the main irrigation season is over.

It's still a work in progress.....

## OUR OPERATORS ROLES & ACTIVITIES

At the NCID we are now employing two Water System Operators. They work on a job-share basis giving each of them time on and time off duty. The NCID Water Operator's roles and activities are:

- 1) To be "on call" daily on a year-round basis to ensure responsiveness in the event of problems with the water system.
- 2) Safely and efficiently operates, repairs, and maintains the NCID's water supply infrastructure to an acceptable standard while managing his time & costs to our water users.
- 3) Collects and submits weekly bacteriological water samples.
- 4) Monitors the NCID's chlorination equipment to ensure a residual is maintained on a consistent basis throughout the district's water system.
- 5) Completes and maintains written and electronic records for access by the NCID or regulatory officials.
- 6) Maintains the minimum professional standing within the Environmental Operator's Certification Program of BC.
- 7) Deals professionally and courteously with the trustees, the district's water users, and the public.
- 8) Contributes suggestions to the Board of Trustees related to the district's facilities and services with the intent of improving the quality, efficiency, and dependability of the NCID's water supply.

The NCID's Operators are Dale Beebe and Michael Symington. When you call the NCID Water Operator cell phone at 250-254-1215, you will speak to one of these gentlemen.

### **ATTENTION PRIVATE WELL USERS:**

The number one priority of the NCID board of trustees is to protect the public health of all its water users.

In the last years we see more water tests with 'light' pollution in different parts of our water distribution system. Since we also test our source water every week, and it is clean, we know that 'dirt' is somehow entering in our pipelines and that is cause for concern. "*Cross connection control*" is a way to prevent the mixing of potable and non-potable water. It protects North Canyon's water supply (and your health) and prevents contamination of the district's water supply via external water sources.

"*Cross connections*" occur when water from two different sources is mixed together through pipes that are linked. Water from one source can be introduced into the other supply when they physically touch each other inside of pipes. The water supplied through the NCID's system is potable water, while water from outside sources on private property - such as wells, creeks, or ponds - may not be safe to drink. The best way to prevent unsafe water from entering into our system is by installing 'backflow preventers' *It is important to realize that those water users who make use of external water sources other than that supplied by the district's system will be asked to install comply with the new Bylaw and that all costs associated with the application of this Bylaw will be borne by them.*

It is anticipated that those costs will include the purchase, installation, and maintenance of an approved backflow prevention device. There will also be a requirement for yearly inspections by a certified technician.

Please be advised that the NCID is proceeding through the final stages of the approval process for a Cross Connection Control Bylaw for the district. Once approval is completed, there will be implications for district water users who utilize other non-NCID sources of water, for domestic or irrigation purposes. At present, the NCID board anticipates this Bylaw will become mandatory policy in the district in 2012. The Bylaw has been mandated by the BC government's Interior Health Authority in compliance with the terms and conditions they have specified in the district's Permit to Operate. Questions? Contact the NCID board for more information regarding this Bylaw.

**NCID Administrator : Myrna Johnson**

**Board of Trustees:**

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