



CAO REPORT – June 28, 2021

I am pleased to report that the final paving on South Victoria road near the golf course turn-off has been completed, concluding the water main break repairs we started a couple weeks ago. On the subject of water, I had the pleasure of touring our water and wastewater treatment plants last week and met the talented staff who quietly run those facilities in the background every day. These teams monitor plant functions around the clock so that we can have safe and convenient access to high-quality drinking water and waste removal at the mere turn of a tap or pull of a lever. Water consumption this time of year is especially demanding as temperatures soar, creating high demands from residents and commercial users alike for things like irrigation. We are monitoring the current dry conditions and will update any community advisories regarding water consumption that may be required.

Another commodity in high demand this time of year is electricity. When things get hot, people tend to run fans and air conditioners with frequency, and often at the same time of day. This demand-driven consumer behaviour in turn increases the costs that our electric utility pays during those peak periods. We will be putting some additional information in the upcoming newsletter regarding the ways residents can help by making small changes in their power consumption such as turning on dishwasher or clothes dryers later at night or earlier in the morning. Together we can all make a difference simply by making small changes in our usual electricity use habits. In the meantime, with demands expected to increase, our transmission wholesaler Fortis BC, has moved their mobile substation to Summerland in case we have issues this week.

Finally, I wanted to update Council with a few staff changes. Our Corporate Officer Karen Needham will be departing the organization in early July for a similar role working for the Central Okanagan Regional District. A new Corporate Officer has been selected, and I am pleased to report that Kendra Kinsley will be coming to us from the community of Vanderhoof, BC. Also, with the pending departure of Kris Johnson who is taking a job on the Alberta side to be closer to family, we are in active recruitment for that position and will be doing initial interviews this week. Finally, with the forthcoming retirement in the fall of our long time Fire Chief Glenn Noble, Rob Robinson has been selected to replace Glenn in this important role. Rob has been with the Fire Department for 15 years and is well positioned to serve this important office.

We wish the best for Karen, Kris and Glenn as they step into their next chapter, and look forward to welcoming new staff as we embark on this exciting time of organizational renewal.

Respectfully submitted,

Graham Statt
Chief Administrative Officer