



Town of Gibsons Council Approves Water Exchange with SCRD

September 27, 2022 – The Town of Gibsons (the Town) is now positioned to supply water from the Gibsons Aquifer to the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) on a temporary emergency basis.

Approval for the action was given by Council at a Special Council Meeting held on Monday, September 26, 2022. It allows the Town to supply the SCRD with up to 1000 m³ of water per day from the Gibsons Aquifer.

The start date for supplying water from the Gibsons Aquifer to the SCRD has not been set, but once that decision has been made, the exchange system can be activated quickly.

“As most people know, the regional district’s current water supply is extremely low, with most of its residents already at Stage 4 water regulations,” said Bill Beamish, Mayor of Gibsons.

“Rigorous monitoring of the Gibsons Aquifer tells us that there is ample capacity to provide water to our neighbours in the SCRD.”

The Town moved to Stage 3 (Acute) Water Regulations on September 1, 2022, partly in anticipation of a future need to supply the SCRD with water.

“The ability of Gibsons and the SCRD to easily provide water to one another when required is hugely advantageous to both parties and speaks to the highly cooperative nature of our relationship,” said SCRD Chair Darnelda Siegers. *“As in most things, we are stronger together than apart and will always do better when we collaborate to find solutions to Sunshine Coast challenges.”*

This is the second time that new water infrastructure installed in 2021 to enable the two-way exchange of water between the Town and SCRD will be used in this way.

In September 2021, the Town supplied the SCRD with a total of 5850 m³ of water to help alleviate pressure on the Chapman Lake water system. The water exchange ended when rainfall replenished Chapman Lake to normal levels; the SCRD subsequently supplied 5850 m³ of water to Gibsons before the end of the year.

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