



## District of Peachland

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### MEDIA RELEASE

**March 13, 2017**

Residents of Peachland will benefit from improved drinking water, thanks to joint funding from the governments of Canada and British Columbia through the Small Communities Fund. The Small Communities Fund provides support for priority public infrastructure projects that deliver on local needs in communities across Canada that have fewer than 100,000 residents.

Funding will be used to construct a water treatment plant, at a total project cost of \$18.8 million. The project will provide year round, safe, clean, filtered drinking water for Peachland residents.

In 2007, the District of Peachland adopted its Water Master Plan, which identified the need for various water infrastructure improvements, including a water treatment plant. A reserve fund was established, and to date, the residents of Peachland have amassed \$7.6 million in the fund to contribute towards the construction of the treatment plant.

#### Quick Facts

- The Government of Canada will contribute \$3,480,000 through the Small Communities Fund for this project.
- The Province of British Columbia will contribute \$3,480,000 to this project.
- The District of Peachland is responsible for the remaining costs - \$7.6 million will come from reserves, and \$4.3 million will come from long term borrowing
- Long term borrowing will require elector assent, either by an Alternate Approval Process, or by referendum.

#### Quotes

MLA Dan Ashton said “Not only will the residents get to share in the direct benefits of the new water filtration plant, but the construction, maintenance, and operations of the treatment plant will create numerous employment opportunities for Peachland.”

“We are very grateful for the funding participation of the senior governments in this much needed project. Water quality has been identified as this Council’s top priority, and this funding will help us achieve our goal.” said Mayor Cindy Fortin.

The design, construction and completion of the water treatment plant is expected to be a two-year process, which will get underway as soon as possible.

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For more information, please contact:

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