



The Corporation of the District of Peachland

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August 14, 2020

Gail Given, Chair
Regional District of Central Okanagan
1450 KLO Road
Kelowna BC V1W 3Z4
Via email: gail.given@rdco.com

Sue McKortoff, Chair
Okanagan Basin Water Board
1450 KLO Road
Kelowna BC V1W 3Z4
Via email: smckortoff@osoyoos.ca

Dear Chair Given and Chair McKortoff,

Re: Okanagan Lake Level Management

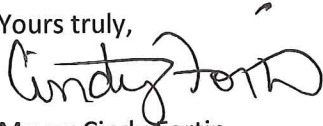
Okanagan Lake flooding has become an annual occurrence of significant and unnecessary expense to Okanagan lakeside communities. A forty-five year-old model governs the lake level management. This model attempts to balance multiple factors such as fish flow needs, agricultural needs, tributary and lake edge erosion, infrastructure capacity and downstream commitments. The current "Full Pool" designation of 342.48 metres does not take into account the effects of population growth, climate change, or the problems inherent in an outdated flow management model.

The management of lake levels is entirely within the jurisdiction of the Provincial Government Ministry of Forest, Lands and Natural Resource Operations. With this in mind, the District of Peachland seeks support from the Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO) and Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB) in lobbying the Province to re-evaluate the current lake level flow management practices. The District also requests the support of the RDCO and OBWB in urging the Provincial Government to take immediate action to update current flow management models and climate forecast methodology.

Pending completion of such studies, the District of Peachland would like consideration be given to setting "Full Pool" at a lower level in order to create a more realistic planning standard along with a more practical margin of error.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss further on how we can lobby the Province collectively, to re-evaluate the current lake level flow management practices, please contact me directly at 250-212-9416 or mayorfortin@peachland.ca.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cindy Fortin". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "C" and a distinct "F".

Mayor Cindy Fortin
District of Peachland

c. Peachland Council
CAO, Joe Mitchell