

New Water Systems Regulation Bylaw

Bylaw No. 1513, 2023

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Purpose

To a new Water Systems Regulation Bylaw No. 1513, 2023.

Background

- Six Water Systems – One Water System Regulatory Bylaw
- Regardless of size, all water systems must meet the same Drinking Water Guidelines.
 - Largest System – Over 300 Properties
 - Smallest System – Only 8 Properties.

Updates to Bylaw

- **Mandatory Pit water meters for all future connections**
 - Meter accessibility for maintenance and replacement
 - Full property metering
 - identification and notification of water service leaks;
 - less tampering and water theft
 - Back flow prevention
 - Permits weather protected temporary connections
 - Eliminates risks of operators
 - entering and working on private property;
 - RDCO assets on private property

Updates to Bylaw

- Water meter cost updates

- The previous fees were indexed for inflation by 2%; however, the actual costs have increased higher than projected.
- The proposed bylaw updates the fees to reflect the current costs of a pit water meter and indexes the fees annually by 6%; more reflective of current and projected inflation to 2027.

Updates to Bylaw

- Capital cost update for water meter pit installation, administration fee, and minimum charges
 - Added mechanism to Schedule A to collect capital costs related water meter pits in addition to updating administration fee and minimum charges to be more reflective of actual costs.
 - A provision has also been included to allow fees to be reduced or removed if alternate funding is available for the applicable works such as United Way funding the cost of water meter pit installations for properties impacted by the White Rock Lake wildfire.

Updates to Bylaw

- Provision for unauthorized water system connections
 - The intention of the change is to clarify the options available to RDCO staff in the event of an unauthorized connection or works to the water system to help reduce tampering, theft, and unmetered water use.
 - The initial response for unauthorized works will be education; however, this bylaw change clarifies options available to motivate bylaw compliance and maintain the safety of the water system.

Updates to Bylaw

▪ Continuation of User Fees at water turn off

- User fees currently only apply when the water to the property is turned on.
- The recommended amendment will charge user fees to all properties until the water connection is physically disconnected.
- In exchange, the \$150 turn on and turn off site visit fee will be set to \$0 for the first turn on and turn off each year.
- The goal is to reduce administration which accompanies seasonal turn-on/turn-off.

Updates to Bylaw

- Minor housekeeping
- In conjunction with the more significant bylaw updates, the bylaw is proposed to be updated with minor housekeeping items including:
 - Definition of “Regional District Officer” to reflect department name change
 - Definition clarification of drip irrigation
 - Addition of “Unmetered” property to the penalty
 - Typo corrections and minor edits.

Recommendation #1

All Directors – Weighted Vote – Majority (LGA s.210)

THAT the Regional Board give first, second and third readings to Regional District of Central Okanagan Water Systems Regulations Bylaw No. 1513, 2023.

Recommendation #2

Bylaw Adoption – Weighted Vote – 2/3 Majority (LGA s.228)

THAT the Regional Board adopt Regional District of Central Okanagan Water Systems Regulations Bylaw No. 1513, 2023.



Questions?