

**For immediate release  
August 28, 2019**

**SQUAMISH-LILLOOET REGIONAL DISTRICT SECURES SIGNIFICANT FUNDS FOR  
BLACK TUSK VILLAGE WASTEWATER INTEGRATION PROJECT**

***Funding committed through Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) by  
the Government of Canada and Province of British Columbia***

**Pemberton, BC** – The Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) has secured more than \$4.5 million in federal and provincial government funding to upgrade the Black Tusk Village (BTV) wastewater collection system, integrating it with the new Pinecrest Estates wastewater system, and transferring ownership to the SLRD.

The proposed project will upgrade the existing BTV wastewater collection system and redirect wastewater to the new, expanded treatment facility in the adjacent community of Pinecrest Estates. The current wastewater treatment plant is more than 35 years old, is operating beyond its life expectancy and is not compliant with its operating permit.

This is the second phase of a two-phase project to upgrade and integrate the end-of-life wastewater infrastructure in the communities of Pinecrest Estates and BTV, both located in Electoral Area D of the SLRD.

Phase One was completed in 2018 and involved the replacement of the wastewater treatment plant at Pinecrest Estates with a modular membrane bioreactor (MBR) facility.

The funding, announced this week, will allow for the second phase to move forward, ultimately resolving a number of issues involving the location and capacity of the aging BTV facility, increasing efficiencies and reducing costs for both BTV and Pinecrest Estates.

The total project cost for Phase Two is \$6,148,000. The grant funding of \$4,508,328 (\$2,459,200 federal funding and \$2,049,128 provincial funding) equates to 73.33% of the total project cost; the remaining 26.67% of the total project cost (\$1,639,672) will be funded by BTV.

This project resolves current land trespass issues and provides a sustainable wastewater solution with long-term economic, social and environmental benefits to both communities, explains SLRD Board Chair and Elector Area D Director, Tony Rainbow.

“This funding announcement is fantastic news for the communities of Black Tusk and Pinecrest Estates,” said Rainbow.

“Replacement of the aging wastewater treatment facility at Black Tusk Village is a priority for the community and this funding allows us to move forward with a project that provides a sustainable solution with long-term economic, social and environmental benefits.”

“The project aligns with the SLRD’s Area D Official Community Plan, the Regional Growth Strategy and the Integrated Sustainability Plan. To see this project come to fruition, with support from multiple levels of government, is encouraging. We are grateful for this support from the Federal and Provincial governments; without it, a project of this size and scope would simply be too cost prohibitive for this small community to undertake. Without this funding, we’d be back at square one and without a solution for dealing with the BTV wastewater system.”

The project is expected to begin in fall 2019 with completion aimed for 2021.

More information about the project, including the outline and anticipated timeline, along with project updates as they become available, will be shared on the SLRD's website.

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## QUOTES

“Modern efficient water infrastructure is essential to ensuring Canadians’ health and well-being. These essential projects are key to ensuring that all BC residents have access to safe and reliable drinking water, whether they live in a large city or a remote community. These projects also reflect our commitment to protecting our ecosystems and fostering sustainable economic growth that will ensure our children and grandchildren can enjoy British Columbia’s beautiful waterways and coastlines for years to come.”

*Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, Member of Parliament for West Vancouver–Sunshine Coast–Sea to Sky Country on behalf of the Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities*

“Through this landmark investment in drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, we are helping to deliver the services people count on, while helping to keep our communities and environment healthy. The Province is working in partnership with the federal government to invest in critical infrastructure for communities in a way that works for the people that live in these communities while building a healthy, green future for all British Columbians.”

*Sheila Malcolmson, Parliamentary Secretary for Environment and Member of the Legislative Assembly for Nanaimo, on behalf of the Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing*

### **About the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District**

Located in southwestern BC, the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) is a local government federation consisting of four member municipalities (the District of Lillooet, the District of Squamish, the Village of Pemberton and the Resort Municipality of Whistler) and four unincorporated, rural electoral areas (A, B, C, and D). Headquartered in Pemberton, which is the approximate geographic centre of the region, the SLRD delivers a wide range of local, regional and sub-regional services to approximately 42,665 residents (2016 Census).

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