PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

Project Charter

Project Overview			
Project Name	*Stoddart Creek Potable Water Feasibility Project*	**Project Sponsor**	*Kari Bondaroff, General Manager of Environmental Services*
Project Start Date	*June 2026*	**Project Manager**	*Daris Piper, Environmental Services Manager*
Project End Date	*2027*	**Project Status**	*Under Review*

Project Authorization

On April 30, 2026, the Regional Board approved the following resolution:

> *That the Regional Board authorize staff to investigate the opportunity for a future water service at the location of 14414 Stoddart Creek Road.*

The Stoddart Creek Potable Water Feasibility Project is hereby authorized to proceed to investigate the opportunity for a future water service at the location of 14414 Stoddart Creek Road to provide potable water options to residents within the vicinity of Montney and North Charlie Lake. The project involves assessing the feasibility of acquiring an existing Stoddart Creek water source for use as a new community potable water service. The assessment will evaluate the source's long-term reliability, water quality, infrastructure condition, regulatory requirements, environmental considerations, operational needs, and overall financial viability. Activities may include technical and engineering reviews, water quality and capacity analysis, infrastructure inspections, legal and regulatory due diligence, lifecycle costing, risk assessment and stakeholder engagement and analysis of existing and future water demands.

The outcome of the project will be a comprehensive understanding of whether the water source can sustainably support current and future community water demands while meeting potable water standards and operational requirements. The assessment will identify potential risks, upgrade requirements, treatment requirements, estimated costs, and implementation considerations to support informed decision-making regarding acquisition and long-term water supply planning.

Project Budget

The estimated cost for this project is **$100,000**, based on comparable projects of similar size and scope. Funding will be provided through the capital surplus carry forward in Function 702 – Area B Potable Water. The current capital carry forward balance in the 2026 Financial Plan is **$1,619,093.**

Project Scope

In Scope	Out of Scope
• Procure a hydrogeological consultant • Develop and implement a communications plan, including website updates and public communications • Assess the feasibility of acquiring an existing water source for community potable water supply purposes in the Montney, North Charlie Lake area • Evaluate source capacity, reliability, and long-term sustainability	• Detailed engineering design and construction drawings • Construction, installation, or commissioning of infrastructure • Final acquisition negotiations or property purchase agreements • Long-term operational management or staffing implementation

- Review historical and current water quality data and treatment requirements
- Assess the condition and capacity of existing water infrastructure (water well)
- Complete regulatory, legal, and environmental due diligence
- Identify operational requirements, risks, and service delivery considerations
- Determine treatability and treatment requirements for the water source
- Develop capital, operational, and lifecycle cost estimates
- Evaluate compatibility with current and future community water servicing needs
- Engage internal stakeholders, regulators, and external parties as required
- To investigate adding an additional, sixth bulk fill tankloader to Area B potable water to service residents within the Montney, North Charlie Lake area

Deliverables

- Feasibility assessment report
  - Water quantity and quality evaluation
  - Infrastructure condition assessment summary
  - Regulatory and legal due diligence summary
  - Risk assessment and mitigation considerations
  - Capital and operating cost estimates
  - Service delivery and operational considerations
  - Recommendations regarding acquisition viability and next steps

- Detailed environmental impact assessments beyond preliminary due diligence
- Water treatment plant design or process optimization
- Land development planning unrelated to the water source assessment
- Ongoing water quality monitoring programs beyond feasibility requirements
- Grant application preparation
- Detailed geotechnical or archaeological investigations unless identified as necessary through the feasibility assessment

Success Criteria

The Stoddart Creek Potable Water Feasibility Project will be considered successful if the feasibility assessment provides sufficient technical, financial, regulatory, environmental, and operational information to determine whether the existing water source is a viable and sustainable option for community potable water supply. Success includes identifying the source's capacity to meet current and future demand, confirming the ability to achieve potable water standards, identifying key risks and constraints, and providing clear recommendations and cost considerations to support informed decision-making regarding potential acquisition and future service delivery.

Project Risk

- **Insufficient Water Supply:** The source may not provide adequate long-term water quantity for community demand.
- **Water Quality Concerns:** Water quality may not meet potable standards without significant treatment upgrades.

- **Infrastructure Deficiencies:** Existing infrastructure may require major repair, replacement, or upgrades.
- **Regulatory Challenges:** Licensing, permitting, or regulatory approvals may delay or limit project viability.
- **Legal and Ownership Risks:** Easements, title issues, or existing agreements may complicate acquisition or operation.
- **Environmental Constraints:** Environmental sensitivities or contamination risks may impact source suitability.
- **Operational Complexity:** The system may require specialized operations, staffing, or maintenance resources.
- **Financial Risks:** Capital, operational, or lifecycle costs may exceed available funding or affordability thresholds.
- **Climate and Reliability Risks:** Drought, wildfire, flooding, or seasonal variability may impact long-term reliability.
- **System Integration Challenges:** Existing infrastructure may not integrate effectively with current or future systems.
- **Stakeholder Concerns:** Public or stakeholder opposition may impact project acceptance or timelines.
- **Schedule Delays:** Procurement, approvals, or technical investigations may delay project completion.
- **Incomplete Information:** Existing records or technical data may be insufficient for a conclusive assessment.
- **Cost Escalation:** Unforeseen deficiencies or additional investigations may increase project costs.
- **Future Growth Uncertainty:** Future demand or development pressures may affect long-term planning assumptions.

Top Level Project Schedule

Project Phase	Key Activities	Timeline
Project Initiation & Procurement	Water quantity and quality assessments, infrastructure condition review, regulatory and environmental due diligence, and data collection.	Q3 2026
Technical & Due Diligence Assessments	Water quantity and quality assessments, infrastructure condition review, regulatory and environmental due diligence, and data collection.	Q4 2026
Analysis & Feasibility Evaluation	Risk assessment, operational review, financial analysis, lifecycle costing, and evaluation of service delivery considerations.	Q4 2026
Reporting & Decision Support	Draft and final feasibility reporting, stakeholder review, recommendations, and Board consideration of next steps.	Q1 2027

Project Manager

Daris Piper is given authority to implement the project plan as approved by the Regional Board and in accordance with all PRRD policies and procedures.

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Project Sponsor Acceptance			
Signature of Project Sponsor		**Date**	