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**REPORT TO ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, 3 MARCH 2010**

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**SUBJECT**                      **Fee and Charge Bylaw for Salt Spring Island Utility Services and  
Wilderness Mountain Water Service Area**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to request Board approval of fee and charge bylaws. The user charge revenue contained in the 2010 provisional financial plan requires increases in rates for a number of service areas.

**BACKGROUND**

Following are six local water services and one local sewerage service within the Salt Spring Island electoral area which are operated by the Capital Regional District (CRD). They are:

- Salt Spring Island Cedars of Tuam Water System
- Cedar Lane Water Service
- Beddis Water Service (Committee input expected prior to this meeting)
- Highland Water System Local Service
- Fernwood Water Supply Local Service
- Fulford Water Service
- Maliview Estates Sewerage Local Service

The CRD also operates the Wilderness Mountain Water Service within the Juan de Fuca electoral area. It is more convenient and efficient to consolidate the individual bylaws into one for the Salt Spring Island electoral area.

Costs of these services are recovered by a combination of a user charge levied in accordance with a fee and charge bylaw and parcel taxes. Increases in fees and charges are required from time to time to offset operating cost inflation and to fund capital works.

The 2010 budgets and work plans have been reviewed and are supported by the committees. Fee and charge bylaws require adoption by the CRD..

**ALTERNATIVES**

1.        a) That Bylaw No. 3688, cited as "Salt Spring Island Sewer and Water Fee and Charge Bylaw No. 1, 2010" be introduced and read a first time, read a second time, read a third time and adopted.
  
- b) That Bylaw No. 3658, cited as "Wilderness Mountain Water Service Area Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1, 2009, Amendment Bylaw No. 1, 2010" be introduced and read a first time, read a second time, read a third time and adopted

2. That the bylaws be referred back to the local service committees.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Annual user charge increases are required in order to maintain an appropriate level of service. The proposed changes are recommended by each of the committees except Beddis where a recommendation is expected prior to this meeting date.

**SUMMARY/CONCLUSIONS**

The CRD operates local water services and local sewerage services within the Salt Spring Island electoral area and the Wilderness Mountain Water Service within the Juan de Fuca electoral area. It makes sense to consolidate the fee and charge bylaw for Salt Spring Island local services into one bylaw. All of the fee and charge changes, except for Beddis, have been supported by the individual committees during the budget review process. Staff expects to have Beddis Committee input prior to this meeting.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- a) That Bylaw No. 3688, cited as “Salt Spring Island Sewer and Water Fee and Charge Bylaw No. 1, 2010” be introduced and read a first time, read a second time, read a third time and adopted.
- b) That Bylaw No. 3658, cited as “Wilderness Mountain Water Service Area Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1, 2009, Amendment Bylaw No. 1, 2010” be introduced and read a first time, read a second time, read a third time and adopted.

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Rita M. Estock, DBusM, FCGA  
Sr. Manager, Financial Services

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Diana E. Lokken, DBusM, CMA  
General Manager, Corporate Services

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Kelly Daniels  
C.A.O. Concurrence

COMMENTS:

Attachments: 2