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Agenda Item #7  
REPORT #JWDC 2011 - 02

**REPORT TO JUAN DE FUCA WATER DISTRIBUTION COMMISSION  
MEETING OF TUESDAY, 5 APRIL 2011**

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SUBJECT WATER SERVICE TO ALLOTMENT GARDENS

ISSUE

In 2010 the Sooke Regional Food CHI Society has once again requested a change in the water rate for the Sunriver Allotment Gardens (SAG) (refer to their letter under 'Correspondence').

BACKGROUND

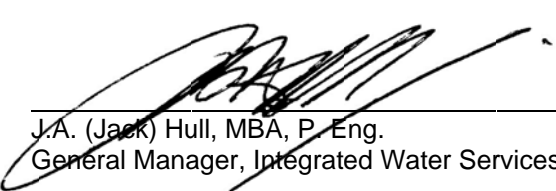
At its meeting on June 8, 2010 the Commission considered a staff report on water service to allotment gardens and who pays for the water. The report is attached for information (**Attachment 1**). Based on the responses received, either the users of the allotment gardens or the local municipality pay for water.

In the case of the Juan de Fuca Columbus Club in Metchosin, the Club is eligible for the agricultural rate under CRD Bylaw 2570, 'Water Supply Service Area Fees and Charges Bylaw No.1 1997' because the land is classified as 'farm' under BC Assessment. This classification is necessary under the bylaw to receive the agricultural rate. The Sunriver Allotment Gardens is in the Agriculture Land Reserve, but not classified as 'farm' under BC Assessment and, consequently, is not eligible for the agricultural rate.

The SAG certainly would not qualify for a bulk water rate as that rate is charged to municipal customers only.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission receive the report for Information.

  
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J.A. (Jack) Hull, MBA, P. Eng.  
General Manager, Integrated Water Services

Attachment: 1



**REPORT TO JUAN DE FUCA WATER DISTRIBUTION COMMISSION  
MEETING OF TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2010**

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SUBJECT ALLOTMENT GARDENS IN THE CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

PURPOSE

To provide the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission (JWDC) with information on water for allotment gardens in the Capital Regional District (CRD).

BACKGROUND

At its meeting held 6 April 2010, the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission, the Sooke Regional Food Chi Society made a presentation requesting a water rate exemption for the Sunriver Community Allotment Gardens, in the District of Sooke. Following the presentation, the Commission requested that staff prepare a report on allotment gardens in other municipalities, including information on who pays for the water, the total area of the plots and, if metered, how much water is actually used.

SUMMARY

Nine (9) municipalities were asked for information on allotment gardens and the following is a summary of the responses received. The emails received are attached for information.

MUNICIPALITY	WHO PAYS	TOTAL AREA OF THE PLOTS	TOTAL CONSUMPTION
Saanich ( 2 plots)	Allotment Garden Associations – park rate	3 ha with 142 plots 1.5 ha with 74 plots	3334 cubic meters 2132 cubic meters
Colwood	Capital Families Association/individual plot users *	40 plots ranging in size	161 m <sup>3</sup>
Oak Bay	Oak Bay	60m x 12m (197 ft x 39 ft).	289 m <sup>3</sup>
Metchosin	Juan de Fuca Columbus Club – agricultural rate	No information available	No information available
Langford	No allotment gardens		
Highlands	No allotment gardens		
View Royal	No allotment gardens		

\*Note: Based on Pilgrim United Church metered use.

No information was received from Victoria or Esquimalt, although follow up requests were sent to each municipality.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission receive the staff report for information.