

## Meeting Notes from Meeting with Parker Rd. Area Residents

July 13, 2016

### Summary

- Sandra and Gilles from GW Solutions presented some slides on their report on the rating of the RDN well at 2729 Parker Road and the first year of monitoring of the 15 neighbouring wells.
- Overburden wells did not display any connection to the pumping of the Parker Road well. A number of bedrock wells did display connection with the Parker Rd wells and those will be used to reference a safe operating level for the Parker Rd well.
- The well will start operation on July 14, 2016 and will be run at a low rate of 30usgpm at a normal operational cycle to start evaluating it the context of how it can be run safely and sustainably, while maintaining the water availability in the neighbouring private wells.
- Long term monitoring will be the focus now, with loggers left in place in all wells over the summer and fall and select representative wells from there forward. This long term monitoring will be part of an Area E wide water monitoring initiative to track trends over time. There is an interest in improving our understanding in overall storage capacity, recharge and availability of water in local aquifers.
- Saline intrusion is a concern for residents with wells close to the shore. This will be tracked in the monitoring wells with Electrical Conductivity sensors, as an indicator for saline intrusion. This will give ample warning if changes start to occur. Currently conductivity levels are well in the freshwater category at approx. 200 uS/cm; it is at 1000 uS/cm the water is considered saltwater. There are no exact drinking water guidelines for conductivity – it is used as an indicator in conjunction with Chloride levels.
- RDN will be licensing their groundwater use for the Nanoose Bay Peninsula Water Service Area, submitting an application to the Province prior to Feb 29, 2017.
- Domestic wells cannot be licensed, but should be registered with the Province. The Water Sustainability Act enables the statutory decision maker to consider potential impacts on existing domestic use of an aquifer when reviewing license applications for existing non-domestic uses of the same aquifer. When considering potential impacts on domestic use, government deems the owners of domestic wells to have a water right of up to 2,000 litres per day. In times of scarcity domestic wells are preserved a right to 250L per day for each dwelling.
- The RDN will observe what takes place in the Parker Rd well and the neighbouring wells during the summer and fall while the well is run to determine a safe operating level, which will be presented to the public at a meeting later in October or so.