

File: 5700-01

November 12, 2013

Via Facsimile: 250-356-1202

Water Sustainability Act
Ministry of Environment
Water Protection and Sustainability Branch

Dear Sir:

Re: Water Sustainability Act Review

The Board of Directors for the Cariboo Regional District has had an opportunity to review the proposed Water Sustainability Act and would like to provide the following comments under the appropriate headings.

1) Protect Stream Health and Aquatic Environments

Where community water/sewer systems are needed to mitigate the environmental impacts of poorly planned small lot subdivisions, provincial funding should be provided to facilitate improvements.

2) Consider Water In Land Use Decisions

The Cariboo Regional District supports the consideration of water issues in the land use decisions, as proposed. The initiative to gather and share information is beneficial for making land use decisions for larger developments. However, in this region there is very little information and the province is encouraged to fill those gaps, rather than have the onus on the regional districts and the individual developers.

3) Regulating and Protecting Groundwater Use

The Cariboo Regional District supports the regulation and protection of groundwater wells, as proposed.

4) Regulate Water Use During Times of Scarcity

The Cariboo Regional District supports regulating water use during times of scarcity, as proposed.

-2-

5) Improve Security, Water Use Efficiency and Conservation

The Cariboo Regional District supports the provisions for improving security, water use efficiency and conservation, as proposed.

6) Measure and Report Large-Scale Water Use

The Cariboo Regional District supports the measurement and reporting of large-scale water use, as proposed.

7) Provide for a Range of Governance Approaches

The Cariboo Regional District supports the provisions for providing a range of governance approaches. Provincial resources should be allocated to completing provincial aquifer mapping.

I trust that the above comments will be helpful as you move forward to finalize the Water Sustainability Act.

Yours truly,



Mitch J Minchau

Manager of Environmental Services

MJM/lr