



DISTRICT OF COLDSTREAM

MEDIA RELEASE

July 26, 2011

District of Coldstream Supports the Greater Vernon Water Utility

Until now, the District of Coldstream has been negotiating with the City of Vernon to break apart the Greater Vernon Water Utility into several smaller utilities by jurisdiction, through an agreement to address some of the City's concerns regarding the distribution of water. The District has conducted these negotiations in good faith and to reduce points of friction. However, Coldstream Council now sees that continued negotiations are not in the best interest of the residents in the Greater Vernon area.

On July 25, 2011, Coldstream Council passed a motion that the water utility service in its present structure serves the residents well and that Council does not support any changes to the service at this time. The water utility has made great headway in addressing the requirements set out by the Interior Health Authority and needs to continue to do so. This can be best achieved through the water utility's present structure to benefit the entire area, recognizing the resources that the participating municipalities and electoral areas brought to the service when it was created.

The District of Coldstream would now like to concentrate its efforts on supporting the City and Electoral Areas "B" and "C" in reinstating the Greater Vernon Governance Bylaw, which the City had previously stated was repealed erroneously. Coldstream Council agrees that this repeal was an error and is willing to work towards correcting this mistake, which had resulted in a less cooperative approach to providing service in both water and parks.

- 30 -

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