



TOWN OF SIDNEY

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REPORT TO COUNCIL

TO: Mayor & Council
FROM: Mike van der Linden, Manager of Engineering and Environmental Services
DATE: March 11, 2019 **FILE:** 5240-20
SUBJECT: REAY CREEK POND CONTAMINATION REMEDIATION UPDATE

PURPOSE:

To provide Council with an update on the latest developments of the Reay Creek Pond contamination remediation project.

BACKGROUND:

Transport Canada (TC) has accepted responsibility for the cleanup of contaminated sediments in Reay Creek Pond and is preparing design drawings and tender documents for this remediation project. Transport Canada funding for this project is in place and the project must be completed in the 2019 budget year or Transport Canada loses the funding.

DISCUSSION:

Transport Canada has just recently confirmed that there is funding in their 2019 budget for the pond area contamination remediation and this work is scheduled to proceed in summer/fall of this year. Transport Canada has also stated that this funding will not be available after this year so if the Town wishes to have the pond contamination removed it must be completed in 2019.

In order for TC to complete design drawings and begin the tendering process, TC has asked Town staff of the future of the dam and pond. This information to TC is important and it will assist the preparation of tender documents for this project. TC is unwilling to tender this project with two options; pond to remain and pond to be removed, as this will take more time and effort and potentially extend the tendering process as contractors prepare cost estimates for the optional work. TC has also confirmed that they are not able to contribute any funding towards dam construction works and that they are only responsible for clean-up costs.

As an answer is required as soon as possible so as not delay this project, Town staff believe that this project should proceed on the basis that the pond and dam will remain for at least the short term. The reasoning for this is that the Town Council approved the 2019 budget with \$600,000 for the dam reconstruction. This is sufficient funding to remove and rebuild the dam if necessary in 2020. Concurrently to the pond contamination remediation by Transport Canada, the Town can conduct a community wide stakeholder consultation to determine the support of the retaining the dam and pond. Meanwhile, as per the recently approved budget, Town staff will also engage a geotechnical engineer to determine if any of the dam is reusable for reconstruction to potentially reduce dam reconstruction costs.

Once all the information and feedback has been gathered, staff will report back to Council who will then be able to make a decision on the pond and dam, and the works (dam reconstruction/pond or dam removal/natural stream) can be completed in the 2020 fisheries window for construction (typically mid-July to mid to late September). Reconstructing the old dam to the new standards, if the old dam is sound, or removing the existing dam to return the pond area to a free flowing stream are believed to be far more economical than replacing the existing

dam. From a financial perspective, the complete removal and replacement of the existing dam is the most costly option with the above other two options being less costly.

The following table outlines the process that staff recommend for arriving at a decision on the Reay Creek Dam, yet allowing Transport Canada to proceed with the contamination remediation in 2019.

Step	Description	Completion Date
1	Council approval of interim dam/pond retention	March 2019
2	Engage Thurber Consultants to commence borehole analysis of the dam	March/April 2019
3	Community Engagement Process – This should be significant and an approach report will follow.	April – July 2019
4	Transport Canada Remediation – on the pond	Summer/Fall 2019
5	Staff Report to Council with recommendation on the dam	August - September 2019
6	Dam removal/renovation/reconstruction	Summer 2020

As part of any work by Transport Canada to remediate the pond, consultation with First Nations is required and is believed by staff to have been completed.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve the interim retention of the Reay Creek Dam and Pond to facilitate the design/tendering/remediation of the Reay Creek Pond in 2019 by Transport Canada.

Respectfully submitted:



Mike van der Linden,
Manager of Engineering and
Environmental Services



Bandy Humble,
Chief Administrative Officer

REAY CREEK POND & DAM Location Plan

Schedule A

