



# TOWN OF SIDNEY

## REPORT TO COUNCIL

**TO:** Mayor & Council

**FROM:** Tim Tanton, Director of Development Services, Engineering, Parks & Works

**DATE:** August 7, 2018 **FILE:** 5240-20

**SUBJECT:** REAY CREEK POND & DAM: AUGUST UPDATE

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### **PURPOSE:**

To provide Council with the latest developments on the Reay Creek Pond and Dam remediation.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Transport Canada has accepted responsibility for the cleanup of contaminated sediments in Reay Creek Pond and is currently studying options for this remediation project, which is expected to occur in 2019.

Meanwhile the Town is considering options for addressing safety issues with the Reay Creek Dam. It is expected that the dam safety issues will be addressed at the same time as the pond remediation. Earlier this year, Sidney hired consultants to conduct the following studies:

- Preliminary Geotechnical Options Assessment (Thurber Engineering Ltd.)
- Fish Habitat Assessment (LGL Limited).

### **DISCUSSION:**

Both of the above studies are currently being finalized, but some preliminary results are summarized below:

#### Geotechnical Report

- Estimated cost to remove existing dam is \$135,000
- Estimated cost to remove existing dam and replace with new dam is \$507,000
- Further work (estimated fees \$25,000) is required to determine if the dam can be upgraded instead of replaced
- Costs to maintain a new dam will be significant and ongoing.

#### Fish Habitat Report

- Pond represents important habitat as a holding pool
- Cutthroat Trout and Coho Salmon are using the pond for holding on their spawning migration
- A fish ladder should be added to the dam if possible
- If the dam and pond are removed, 225m of channel improvements (pool-riffle sequences and large woody debris placements) are required to provide good habitat.

**Next Steps:**

The following table outlines the process that staff recommend for arriving at a decision on the Reay Creek Dam:

<b>Step</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
1	Engineering Study by Thurber	August 2018
2	Fishery Study by LGL	August 2018
3	Request and receive Feedback from Public (Town Talk, Facebook, Twitter)	Fall 2018
4	Staff Report to Council and Decision on Dam	January 2019

As part of any work by Transport Canada to remediate the pond, consultation with First Nations is required. It is assumed that this will also be completed in the Fall of 2018, and that Council will then be able to consider options and budget amounts in January 2019.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council receive this report for information.

Respectfully submitted:

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Tim Tanton, MPA, P.Eng.  
Director of Development Services,  
Engineering, Parks & Works

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Randy Humble,  
Chief Administrative Officer