

## Notice to Users: Tolls and Taxes

### Future Adjustments Under Consideration

At the recent Annual General Meeting (AGM), there was general consensus among members that an increase to tolls and taxes should be considered in response to ongoing **inflationary pressures**. While no immediate changes have been made, the Board of Trustees recognizes the financial reality of **rising costs for parts, equipment, and system maintenance**.

The Board will take the next year to explore what a reasonable and sustainable adjustment may look like. We want to assure users that **there will be no change to tolls and taxes in 2026**. However, based on the current outlook, **an increase is expected to take effect in 2027**.

We understand that changes to rates can impact households differently. If you have **input or concerns about how an inflationary increase may affect your household**, we encourage you to submit your feedback to the Board over the coming year. All feedback will be considered as part of the Board's analysis and planning process.

It is important to note that **tolls and taxes have remained unchanged for several years**, and the rising cost of maintaining the system is becoming increasingly difficult to absorb under current rates.

We appreciate your understanding and continued support as we work to ensure the cooperative remains financially sustainable while continuing to deliver reliable water services to all members.

### New protocol for emergencies!

In the event of a water emergency, example: no water or low pressure. Please call the following persons in this order:


1. Adam Mandseth	Available most afternoons and evenings	1-250-505-3678
2. Rick Haukkas	Available only on Sunday, Monday and Tuesdays as well as evenings	1-250-777-7380
3. Wayne Haukkas	Only if the above can not be reached in a timely manner	250-825-0045

Note: This call out information will also be posted on our website.

### Changes to payment options for Tolls and Taxes

Starting in **October of 2025**, we will no longer be accepting cash for your Tolls and Taxes as there is a fee of \$5 for every cash transaction. Please use **ONLY** Cheque or e-transfers. Thank you!

# Summer Watering Schedule - Conserving our Water

June marks the beginning of **BCID Stage 1 Water Conservation Measures**, (watering of lawns).  Watering using drip irrigation, a watering can and/or hand held hose which eliminates over-spray, is permitted at any time.

2025 Watering Schedule is now attached and posted on our Website, along with conservation tips under News & Notices. **An Alert will be sent out if we need to move to STAGE 2!**

## Trustee and Secretary/Treasurer - Job Description

Every year we reach out to try and recruit new persons to take on the position of a trustee or secretary/treasurer. Present trustees and Secretary/Treasurer have been taking care of ensuring that we have clean potable water for our users for a number of years now, and we need new volunteers to step forward in the next few years.

A suggestion from one of our members was to post job descriptions for these positions and allow our users to read and see if they might be interested in the future.

**The Board of Trustees, Maintenance Person and Secretary Treasurer will meet as needed to plan and discuss matters pertaining to BCID.**

### Maintenance Person

- A volunteer from the BCID User Group is needed to fill this position and receives an Honorarium of \$5000 per year to:
  - Become familiar with our treatment plant and how it works, willing to commit to training and attend courses pertaining to Water Improvement Districts if possible
  - Maintain day to day operations of the plant
  - Work collaboratively with the Board of Trustees and communicate any issues that arise
  - Work with Reel Water Solutions
  - Take samples into the Nelson Health Campus on Victoria Street

### Secretary Treasurer

- Key officer within Bourke Creek, ensuring its smooth operation and financial stability.
  - Create agendas, and take minutes of meetings (AGM and Trustee meetings)
  - Submit minutes and other documents (water consumption reporting, Compilation Financial Report, New By-laws, Trustee List, General Statistics) to LGIF@gov.bc.ca
  - Receive and monitor banking monies
  - Keeping accounting records
  - Ensuring financial transactions are categorised and documented
  - Maintain correct contact information for all members
  - Help maintain BCID Website, updating information and sending out alerts
  - Collaborate with Board of Trustees

## **Trustee Position**

- BCID will have 3 Trustees, elected by landowners and collectively form the Board of Trustees, one of which is voted as chairperson. Elections are held at the AGM. *(Generally terms are for 3 years except for Trustees elected to fill vacancies, then it would be for the balance of the term remaining in the original position.)*
  - The trustees will support maintenance and operations of the works for the waterworks, responsible for directing the operation and administration of the District Water System
  - Has access to all properties to ensure that water consumption follows the BCID by-laws.
  - Chair Person of the Board of Trustees will report on the condition of the works at the AGM
  - By-laws, including setting taxes, tolls, additional charges and approving expenditures
  - Ensure the sustainable and effective use of the District's water resources
  - Help to develop long term plans for the development and service delivery of the water System
  - Communicate with landowners, address concerns
- **Specific Powers of the Board of Trustees:**
  - Borrow money for capital projects and invest funds to increase revenue
  - Levy taxes, tolls and other charges to fund District Operations
  - Enter in contracts for services and construction projects
  - Regulate the distribution and use of water including imposing restrictions during droughts
  - Create By-laws to govern various aspects of the District Operations
  - Appoint and oversee a member (honorary) who manages the day-to-day operations.

**In essence, trustees are the elected leaders of BCID, responsible for ensuring the effective and efficient delivery of water services to landowners within their jurisdiction. They are accountable to the landowners and must operate in a transparent, ethical, and collaborative manner.**