



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Electoral Area “B” Potable Water Service – Update

(December 12, 2018) Residents of Electoral Area B are a step closer to additional potable water services.

In June 2017, Electoral Area B residents voted overwhelmingly in favour of the PRRD to:

- improve existing potable water tank loader sites at Prespatou, Boundary and Feye Spring;
- construct additional potable water tank loader sites at Buick and Rose Prairie; and,
- ensure the ongoing maintenance of all potable water tank loader sites in Area B.

The project is in response to a Northern Health requirement that all PRRD water systems supplying rural residents must comply with the Federal Government’s Drinking Water Protection Act, which say rural water must be treated to potable standards.

“We expect that the stations will begin to open early in the New Year,” says Paulo Eichelberger, the General Manager of Environmental Services.

“The existing stations will be shut down 1 to 7 days while they are being commissioned”, Eichelberger goes on to say, “the PRRD does not yet have the exact dates for the shut down of each station, but will provide at least two weeks notice to residents prior to each shut down so people can top up their tanks or arrange to get water from an alternate site. There will only be one station shut down at a time.”

“We are not expecting the stations to be shut down for long, but we don’t have those details yet,” says Eichelberger. “We have been told the exact timeframe is difficult to predict as there will be many factors at play during the station start-up process.”

Water fees will not be charged until all five sites are fully commissioned.

Bear Mountain Construction, based in Dawson Creek, was awarded the contract for this work through a tender process. Since this summer, Bear Mountain has been working at the sites.

“This project will protect our water sources for the future, providing potable water closer to home for many residents and will hopefully result in new water sources being developed as our budget becomes available.” Further to that Electoral Area B, Director Karen Goodings went on to say “I am very proud of the residents who so strongly supported us in the provision and protection of our water.”

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