

March 5, 2020

Dear Homeowner;

**RE: RESIDENTIAL METERING UPDATE FOR ELLISON RESIDENTS**

The Final Phase of construction is nearing completion to bring treated Okanagan Lake Water to Ellison properties and to separate the domestic and agricultural water supply. Once this last phase is complete, ALL GEID RATEPAYERS will have access to clean, clear Okanagan Lake Water for domestic purposes. Mill Creek water will only be used for agricultural supply. Expected completion of this final Phase is the end of July 2020. Metered rates for single family residences in the Final Phase of Ellison will be implemented **July 1, 2020**. If your bill is already showing metered readings, it means your meter is working properly, so there is no need to make meter installation arrangements. Unless previously requested, you will NOT be billed by consumption until July 1, 2020, when current GEID metered and unmetered flat rates will become applicable.

**For Homes Requiring Meters:**

If you don't see any meter readings detailed on your bill, now is the time to arrange for a water meter/MXU purchase and installation. Cost for the 3/4" x 5/8" meter and MXU (remote reading device) as well as the installation are the responsibility of the property owner. The water meter and MXU must be purchased direct from Walseley Waterworks. Due to the required meter specifications, only Walseley Waterworks supplies GEID meters locally. For information on the costs of meters and MXU, please visit GEID website at [www.geid.ca](http://www.geid.ca).

Walseley Waterworks  
Address: 2960 Acland Road, Kelowna, BC  
Phone: 250-765-5186

GEID must be contacted after the meter and MXU has been installed, for inspection and activation. **Please note:** *The charge for initial inspection and activation is \$75.00. If the FIRST inspection fails, any subsequent inspections will also be charged to the owner.*

**For Properties Requiring Meter Setter Pits at Property Line:**

Currently GEID has identified 58 properties in Ellison having other uses such as yard hydrants, winter livestock watering, secondary dwellings, commercial businesses, barns or garages using water in addition to single family residences. All waterlines must run directly through the main home or a single meter location. If this cannot be resolved, then a meter setter pit at the property line will be required at the owner's expense, as per GEID Bylaw #148. GEID will be inspecting properties to ensure all water to the property is indeed being captured by the water meter.

GEID can arrange to have our contractor install the meter and setter pit while doing the service transfers at the property line at a reduced cost of \$2000. Costs for GEID or a private contractor to supply and install the meter pit after the separation project is complete will be approx. \$4400 or greater. The offer is only available in conjunction with the contractor's construction work in the area.

**PLEASE CONTACT GEID PRIOR TO MARCH 31, 2020 TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION AT THE REDUCED COST.**

### **Some Facts About Water Meters:**

- *High water consumption results in extremely costly capital expansion projects. Charging for water on the basis of consumption is useful for utilities in trying to manage demand while encouraging conservation.*
- *All costs for meters and their installations are the responsibility of property owners. This work will likely include some plumbing alterations to permit the installation of the meter and remote reading device.*
- *GEID has required water meters in all new homes since 2003 and on all other facilities built since 1993. Over 97% of GEID ratepayers in single family dwellings, multi-family complexes, as well as industrial, commercial and institutional facilities, already have meters.*
- *All indoor and outdoor water use must be recorded through the meter as per GEID Bylaw #148.*
- *In general, within the home plumbing alterations and installation of the meter and remote reading device usually take 1 to 2 hours.*
- *As per the District's Cross Connection Control Bylaw # 11, any physical connection between the new domestic system and the Agricultural Irrigation system is not permitted. Anything interconnected within the property must be disconnected or have at a minimum a DCVA (dual check valve assembly) installed. This is a testable backflow prevention device installed on the fixture line or at the point of connection (property line) at the owner's expense.*
- *Rates effective July 1, 2020 for properties without a meter, will be paying the current flat rate of \$200 per month, that will continue to increase in the future, providing owners an incentive to install their water meters.*
- *Metered rates are composed of a fixed base charge along with a variable component for the actual consumption. (for each m<sup>3</sup> of water)*

For additional metering information, please call our office at 250.763.6506.

**GLENMORE ELLISON  
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**