

## Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine

---

300 - 4545 Lazelle Avenue  
Terrace, BC V8G 4E1

Tel (250) 615-6100  
Fax (250) 635-9222

January 10, 2007

### Dear Resident/Property Owner

You may recall receiving a letter in March 2004 regarding the presentation of the Draft Stage 1 **Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP) for Lakelse Lake and Jackpine Flats**. The Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (RDKS) took the initiative to develop the LWMP in partnership with the Northern Health Authority (NHA) and the Ministry of Environment (MOE). The Regional District now wishes to present to the public the **Draft Stage 2 Report of the LWMP**. The plan was initiated to assess water quality concerns in the Lakelse Lake and Jackpine Flats areas. Incremental development and increased use of the Lakelse Lake watershed were thought to be contributing sediment, septic effluent and wastewater to the lake, reducing water quality and increasing weed growth. The quality of Jackpine Flats groundwater was of concern due to coarse gravels, shallow groundwater sources and the vulnerability to contamination from septic fields and agricultural activities.

Lakelse Lake is certainly the most popular and populated recreational lake in the region. Many tourists and residents from across the region visit the lake and its watershed each year because of the many amenities it provides.

The LWMP's Draft Stage 2 Report, contains a discussion on current health and land use regulations, an assessment of present drinking water and septic systems and investigation of options to provide wastewater treatment. Specific concerns identified at Lakelse Lake include, septic fields located within floodplain and watercourse setbacks, and lots being too small for septic systems to function properly. For further information, Stage 2 Technical Memorandums and an Executive Summary Report are available on the RDKS website at: <http://www.rdks.bc.ca/news/liquidwasteplan.php>.

To keep the community informed on this important issue, the Draft Stage 2 Report will be presented to residents of the Terrace and Kitimat area at an Open House on **Wednesday, January 24, 2007, at the Mount Layton Hot Springs Resort at Lakelse Lake** and to the residents of Prince Rupert on **Thursday, January 25, 2007, at the Crest Hotel in Prince Rupert**. The Open Houses will begin at 3 p.m. with the Draft Stage 2 findings and recommendations presented at 6:30 p.m. Representatives from the RDKS, the NHA, MOE and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans will be available to discuss the project and to solicit feedback from the community.

These sessions are intended to provide property owners and residents an opportunity to review the Draft Stage 2 Report of the LWMP and provide feedback on the recommended courses of action. They are not intended to be the final decision making forum but rather an opportunity to identify concerns, suggest alternatives and gauge the level of support for the Stage 2 recommendations.

In this package, we include additional information related to the LWMP project, which may be of interest to you:

- Draft Stage 2 Executive Summary Report
- BC Groundwater Protection Regulations brochure
- Well Protection and Ground Water Stewardship for Rural Areas brochure
- Septic System Maintenance Pure and Simple
- Instructions for Collecting Water for Bacteriological Examination

The following are websites that provide further information regarding water conservation.

**Province of BC:**

Clean Water

<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wat/wq/brochures/cleanwater.html>

Drinking Water Program

[http://www.healthservices.gov.bc.ca/protect/dw\\_index.html](http://www.healthservices.gov.bc.ca/protect/dw_index.html)

**Environment Canada:**

Freshwater Website

<http://www.ec.gc.ca/water>

Clean Water - Life depends on it

[http://www.ec.gc.ca/water/en/info/pubs/FS/e\\_FSA3.htm](http://www.ec.gc.ca/water/en/info/pubs/FS/e_FSA3.htm)

Groundwater – Nature’s Hidden Treasure

[http://www.ec.gc.ca/water/en/info/pubs/FS/e\\_FSA5.htm](http://www.ec.gc.ca/water/en/info/pubs/FS/e_FSA5.htm)

**Health Canada:**

Water Quality

[http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/water-eau/index\\_e.html](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/water-eau/index_e.html)

**Fisheries and Oceans Canada:**

Home Page

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

Stewardship and Community Involvement

[http://www-heb.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/community/scihome\\_e.htm](http://www-heb.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/community/scihome_e.htm)

For further information, please contact:

**Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (250) 615-6100 or 1-800-663-3208**

300-4545 Lazelle Avenue

Terrace, BC V8G 4E1

E-mail: [info@rdks.bc.ca](mailto:info@rdks.bc.ca)

**Northern Health Authority (250) 638-2222**

Jody Tozer – Public Health Officer

[jodylynn.tozer@northernhealth.ca](mailto:jodylynn.tozer@northernhealth.ca)

Ron Craig, Drinking Water Leader

[ron.craig@northernhealth.ca](mailto:ron.craig@northernhealth.ca)

**Ministry of Environment, Skeena Region (250) 847-7277**

A.J. Downie, Water Quality Technician

[AJ.Downie@gov.bc.ca](mailto:AJ.Downie@gov.bc.ca)