

## Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine

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### Dear Resident/Property Owner

In January of this year you should have received a letter regarding the presentation of the Draft Stage 2 **Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP) for Lakelse Lake and Jackpine Flats**, and you may have also attended one of our Public Open Houses, at Lakelse Lake or Prince Rupert. Since those open houses the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (RDKS) in partnership with Northern Health Authority (NHA) and the Ministry of Environment (MOE) and other agencies, have been working on the third and final stage of the LWMP. Also participating in the Plan has been a Public Advisory Committee representing various neighbourhoods and community groups in the study area. The Regional District now wishes to present the **Draft Stage 3 Report of the LWMP** to the public. Originally the plan was initiated to gauge current water quality in the Lakelse Lake and Jackpine Flats areas. Incremental development and increased use of the Lakesle 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 a very popular 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.

Included for your information is a copy of the Draft Stage 3 Report, which contains a discussion on communal wastewater treatment/disposal options and costs, the estimated cost of septic system management and a proposed implementation plan. Stage 3 built on Stage 2 information and confirmed areas for cluster, communal and on-site treatment systems, detailed estimated capital, operation and maintenance costs. For further information, Stage 3 Discussion Papers 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 3 Report will be presented to residents of the Terrace and Kitimat area at an Open House on **Wednesday, November 14, 2007, at the Mount Layton Hot Springs Resort at Lakelse Lake** and to the residents of Prince Rupert on **Thursday, November 15, 2007, at the Crest Hotel in Prince Rupert**. These Open Houses will begin at 3 p.m. with the Draft Stage 3 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 3 Report 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 3 recommendations.

For further information, please contact:

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