

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

Sage Mesa Water System

June 2019



Fact Sheet

The Sage Mesa Water & Public Service Co. Ltd. is privately owned by MK Chapman. It provides water to Sage Mesa, Sandstone, Westwood Properties, Pine Hills Golf Course, WOW Golf Course, and Husula Highlands within Electoral Area “F” of the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS).

While the Sage Mesa Water & Public Service Co. owns the assets and water licenses of the system, the Provincial Comptroller of Water Rights (the “Comptroller”) has been managing the utility since 1990 and for the past ten years, has contracted the RDOS to operate the system. Neither the owner nor the RDOS has any part in planning capital improvements, budget, setting rates, billing, or collecting fees for water on this system.

The Regional District has over the years discussed purchasing the system from the Chapmans, and those discussions continue. If a purchase/sale seems imminent, the ratepayers of the system will vote on whether they would support the sale. Prior to the vote, the details of the sale, the plans, and the cost of improvements to the system to bring it into compliance with current Interior Health Authority (IHA) standards would be fully disclosed.

The Regional District is aware that the system infrastructure is deteriorating and at certain times is unable to achieve an acceptable level of water quality. The system is tested regularly and those test results are provided to IHA. If the tests do not meet IHA standards, IHA issues notices or orders for the system. The RDOS then issues the appropriate notification to residents.

Concerns about the condition of the water infrastructure and/or water quality should be registered with the Provincial Comptroller.

Al Aderichin, Water Comptrollers Office: Al.Aderichin@gov.bc.ca

For information about boil water notices, please contact IHA.

Judy Ekkert, Interior Health Authority: Judi.Ekkert@interiorhealth.ca

Public or media enquiries about the role of the RDOS as operators of the water system, should be directed to the RDOS Utilities Manager Liisa Bloomfield at 250-490-4229.



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