



# COMOX VALLEY WATER TREATMENT PROJECT UPDATE



A rainbow lands on the new water treatment plant.

## High Quality Drinking Water for the Comox Valley

The new Comox Valley water treatment system is now officially up and running – marking the completion of this critical infrastructure project, on time and on budget.

Commissioning (start up) of the system is now complete and the CVRD have taken over operation of the facility.

“This is an exciting step for everyone in the Comox Valley who can now be confident that the Comox Valley Water Service is providing fresh, clean, reliable water to users – and will be able to do so for many decades to come,” said Wendy Morin, Chair of the Comox Valley Water Committee.

On Sept. 21, a celebration was held at the facility for all involved, including partners K’ómoks First Nation, City of Courtenay, Town of Comox, Island Health and community and stakeholder groups.

The new treatment plant meets provincial health standards and uses filtration, chlorination and UV disinfection to remove the risks of viruses and bacteria in our drinking water. This technology eliminates the need for turbidity-related boil water notices and will provide a secure supply of reliable, high quality drinking water now and into the future.

The water treatment project is the CVRD’s largest infrastructure project to date with a budget of \$126 million. This includes more than \$62.8 million in federal and provincial grant funding to assist in the construction of the new system and future connecting infrastructure. The new system was constructed by AECON Water Infrastructure and includes a new water intake in Comox Lake, lakeshore pump station, transmission lines and treatment plant.

## Construction Timeline

Fall  
2018

Grant funding secured

July  
2019

Construction contract awarded

Oct.  
2019

Construction Kick Off

Dec.  
2020

Raw water main completed

June  
2021

Commissioning of system begins

Sept.  
2021

Treatment system operational

Sept.  
2021

Project Completion Celebration



Operators are now working with the new equipment to provide safe, clean water.



## Celebrating Completion

On Sept. 21, a celebration was held at the water treatment facility, bringing together many people who have worked over a number of years to bring this to completion. Here are some snapshots from the day:



K'ómoks Cultural Group dancers.



The CVRD Water Committee and partners marked the occasion.



### What's Next?

The project is substantially complete with some minor aesthetic finishes and deficiencies remaining, including:

- Planting/landscaping
- Signage
- Site Clean up and Demobilization

The operations team from the CVRD's water department have moved into the new facility, which is fully operational.

## A Project to be Proud Of

The Comox Valley Water Treatment Project is a critical infrastructure upgrade required for the community today and into the future. Here are some of the top highlights of the project and its delivery:



**Successful Construction:** The CVRD's largest infrastructure project undertaken to date was completed on time, and on budget, despite the enormous challenge of a global pandemic. This success is thanks to strong leadership by the project team at CVRD and AECON Water Infrastructure and the hard work of many on the construction site.



**Employment Opportunities:** Goals for employment opportunities for Indigenous people, apprentices and others were far exceeded by the project contractor AECON Water Infrastructure.



**Excellent Safety and Environmental Standard:** With no significant environmental or safety incidents and no cases of COVID-19 on site,

the whole team's commitment to responsible practices shows through.



**Partnership:** Delivered in partnership with the K'ómoks First Nation, the project meets shared long-term planning and environmental protection goals for the CVRD and KFN.



**Innovative Design:** An underground pump station at Comox Lake minimizes visual and noise impacts on the surrounding environment



**Community Benefits:** A new parking lot and trail access next to the water treatment plant will be completed for the community, and partnership with the Courtenay and District Fish and Game Association will provide them with water and access for a new hatchery project.

## For more information

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