



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PROJECT LAUNCH – Master Waste Water Recovery Plan

The Township of Spallumcheen, the Okanagan Indian Band and Electoral Areas “B” and “C” of the Regional District of North Okanagan are pleased to announce the formation of a Partnership to develop a Master Waste Water Recovery Plan for the Swan Lake Commercial Corridor, South Spallumcheen Industrial and Commercial area (existing and proposed) and portions of the Okanagan Indian Band. The Plan will explore options for sanitary sewer service in the study area with a key goal being the recovery of treated waste water to be used for beneficial purposes such as irrigation.

“This partnership serves two purposes,” said Electoral Area “B” Director Bob Fleming. “It provides an opportunity to preserve Swan Lake, its surrounding wetlands and species which live in these areas. It also provides opportunity for economic development.”

Chief Byron Louis of the Okanagan Indian Band added that the band is in the preliminary stages of designating land for lease and welcomes building relationships with surrounding governments.

“It’s great to be working with our neighbours,” said Chief Louis. “More funding opportunities arise when small governments stop competing for provincial and federal grant dollars and start collaborating.”

One of the underlying principles of the Partnership is “there is no ‘waste’ water - water is a resource,” and the Plan will focus on water recovery.

“Every drop of water that can be recovered will help with drought mitigation,” said Township of Spallumcheen Mayor Janice Brown, “and with our region recently experiencing severe drought conditions, the timing of this project is perfect.”

The Partnership has engaged an engineering consultant to prepare a project work plan.

Further details will be available as the Plan develops.

For further information, please call 250-550-3722.