



**Press Release  
November 7, 2005**

**Band and Village Sign Water / Sewer Agreement**

The Mount Currie Band and the Village of Pemberton have signed an agreement that will benefit both communities.

“We are very excited about the benefits to the Village that will result in connecting the two systems. This agreement is indicative of how far we have come and it shows how when we work together we can provide a better quality of life for all valley residents,” said Mayor Warner.

The agreement paves the way for Village water and sewer services to be extended to the Industrial Park in exchange for the right of the Band to access those services on its Indian Reserve (IR) #1 and #2.

Last spring the Village of Pemberton commenced operation of its state-of-the-art sewage treatment plant located at the airport. As a result it is now feasible to provide water and sewer to the Village Industrial Park which currently has only domestic water provided by the Mount Currie Indian Band.

It was recognized that any extension of the system had the potential to impact the Band’s aboriginal title. To avoid the possibility of impasse both Councils determined that an agreement recognizing the Band’s traditional territory through an accommodation agreement could be a win-win for both communities.

The agreement allows for the existing Village water and sewer lines to be extended to the Village Industrial Park. Construction will be monitored by an archeological technician to avoid impact to culture and heritage resources. In addition, the Band will be able to access those water and sewer services on IR #1 & 2. (See map)

Currently, IR #2 does not have a community water system or a community sewer system. IR #1 does not have a community sewer system and pressure in the community water system does not meet required fire fighting capacity.

“The main benefit to residents of IR #1 is the safety factor of having the additional water pressure available on-demand to fight a residential fire. On IR #2 the benefit is for the band to provide a cost-effective means of delivering services to residents. This is definitely a step in the right direction” said Chief Leonard Andrew.

Further information on this story contact:

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