

BLACK MOUNTAIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT

*Annual Report
And
Financial Statements*
For the Year Ended December 31st, 2003

- TRUSTEES -

Until 2004 Election.....Koetz: O.H.
Until 2004 Election.....Petch: L.
Until 2005 Election.....Kirschner: A.
Until 2006 Election.....Ivans: G.
Until 2006 Election.....Kempf: A.

- DISTRICT OFFICERS -

P.R. (Phil) Ruskowsky, Administrator
Operations Supervisor: Malcolm Tomlinson
Auditors: MacKay LLP
Engineering Consultant: Agua Consulting Inc. (Bob Hrasko)



THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Will be held in the BMID Boardroom
Wednesday, April 28th, 2004
Time: 8:00PM

Black Mountain Irrigation District

Financial Statements

December 31, 2003



**BLACK MOUNTAIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT
285 GRAY ROAD, KELOWNA, B.C.**

Trustees Report To The Water Users

MEETINGS:

The Board of Trustees held a total of 36 regular and special meetings to conduct the business activities of the District.

ELECTION:

G. Ivans and A. Kempf were re-elected to three-year terms as Trustees of the District. G. Ivans was appointed chairman of the Board.

The terms of office for H. Koetz and L. Petch expire in 2004. Both have indicated they will be seeking re-election. Other nominations will be received until 4:00 PM on May 6th, 2004. If an election is required, voting will take place on Thursday, May 13th, 2004 at the BMID office, 285 Gray Road between the hours of 8:00 am and 6:00 pm.

**DRINKING WATER
PROTECTION PLAN:**

The amended Drinking Water Protection Act and regulations came into force May 16th, 2003, replacing the Safe Drinking Water Regulation of the Health Act. The new act and regulation increases expectations for water system assessments, employee certification, monitoring and reporting. While BMID customers already benefit from high-quality drinking water, continued improvements are necessary to ensure public health is protected and expectations for safe drinking water are met.

**INTERIOR HEALTH
AUTHORITY (IHA):**

The IHA has issued a "Permit to Operate" which outlines conditions, which must be met by the irrigation district. BMID meets all requirements under the operating permit including Cross-Connection; and is presently working on an Aquifer Protection Program in conjunction with the Kelowna Joint Water Committee. Phase I of the program is now complete and we are awaiting the final report from Golder & Associates. The Interior Health Region has also appointed a primary Drinking Water Officer being Mike Adams, whose office is located in Vernon, BC. The Drinking Water Officer may take any action, which he considers necessary to address the health hazard or risk to a water supply. If anyone considers that there is a threat to their drinking water, they may request the Drinking Water Officer to investigate the matter.

**WATER SOURCE
PROTECTION:**

A review of potential events or risks that could impact water quality was carried out during the year. The various events that could cause risk included areas such as: Natural Events; Industrial/Agricultural impacts; recreational impacts; Vandalism or other impacts. The following were some of the items dealt with:

- Walk and inspect all BMID properties to check forest health issues.
- Dam maintenance on all upper lakes and settling reservoirs.
- Seeding disturbances and tree replanting on BMID properties, which have been logged.
- Monitor cattle grazing activities.
- Establish a clear understanding of the management status of the deferred area NE of Ideal Lake for lease or management control.
- Some logging was carried out but due to the high fire hazard, the anticipated harvest was cut short.

All of the above issues will continue in 2004 to protect water quality in the watershed.

PERSONNEL CHANGES:

Administrator Phil Ruskowsky is retiring after nearly 30 years service with BMID. Agua Consulting Inc. (Bob Hrasko) has been contracted to become Administrator. Bob has been the District's consulting engineer for many years. The board of trustees on behalf of all water users wish both well in their new endeavors.

Kevin Burtch has also been hired by the district as a Utility Operator. His experience in the construction industry will make him a very valuable asset to the district.

CROWN LEASED LOTS:

Land and Water BC (LWBC) engaged the services of Lakeshore Environmental Inc. to determine the potential impacts, risks and examine water quality issues on those lakes where recreational lots are being considered for sale. The Water Supply Association of BC and their members were of the opinion that there were serious shortcomings in the report and are continuing to lobby the Provincial Government on this issue. A position statement by WSABC outlines reasons why these sales should not take place in order to protect drinking water sources for now and in the future.

FOREST SERVICE

CAMPsites:

The Provincial Government has announced that the Forestry Campsites in the upper watersheds will again be serviced and maintained. Last year, the government abandoned maintenance of these recreational sites, which was a major concern to BMID and other water purveyors.

SUBDIVISION

DEVELOPMENT:

An additional 126 users were added to the system in 2003. This brings the total number of users to 6943, an increase of 1.8% compared to 1.6% the previous year. It is expected the district will continue to grow at an increased rate in the next few years, with some of the larger developments coming on stream.

WEBSITE:

We again, remind you to visit our website located at bmid.org for other information about BMID.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

On behalf of all BMID water users, the Trustees and Administrator thank all District staff for their continued co-operation, dedication to their work, and overall for a job well done.

Respectively submitted,

Gord Ivans
Alf Kempf
Allen Kirschner
Heinz Koetz
Lawrence Petch