

JANUARY 2024 UTILITIES NEWSLETTER

<u>Sun Peaks Mountain Resort Municipality Water rate increases effective January 1, 2024</u>

The Municipality has undertaken some major projects to ensure we can meet the current water demands of the residents and visitors while providing clean water that meets Interiors Health's guidelines. The most significant project was the construction of the Municipal water reservoir at a cost of \$7.2 million dollars. A reservoir was required as our groundwater wells were not refilling at the anticipated rates and we were seriously stressing the aquifer wells. As a result of this borrowing, the water utility is operating with a large deficit. A number of funding models were presented to Council at the regular council meeting on January 23, 2024. Council approved the model with the smallest impact but a significant 21% increase for water customers effective Jan. 1, 2024. There will be no increase to Wastewater charges. This increase is effective as of January 1, 2024.

Meter Reading

Gas and Water Meters are read during the last week of each month by a municipal employee. The Municipality requires safe walking access to the meters. The gas tariff and water bylaw both have additional? fees that apply if access to the meters requires removal of snow or any other materials. Homeowners should know the location of both their gas meter and water reader touchpad prior and maintain clear access to both.

If the Municipality deems your property meters are not safe for employees access, the Homeowner will be requested to provide the monthly meter reading until the meter is safe to access once again. If the requested reading is not provided, the reading will be estimated for that month based on prior usage.



Keep it clear in winter

- Remove built-up snow from meters by hand, ensuring the regulator and shut-off valve on the gas meter are clear.
- · Maintain a clear path to each meter-take care not to shovel snow onto them.