



## Hupačasath First Nation

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# COMMUNITY NOTICE

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**Date: 13 January 2021**

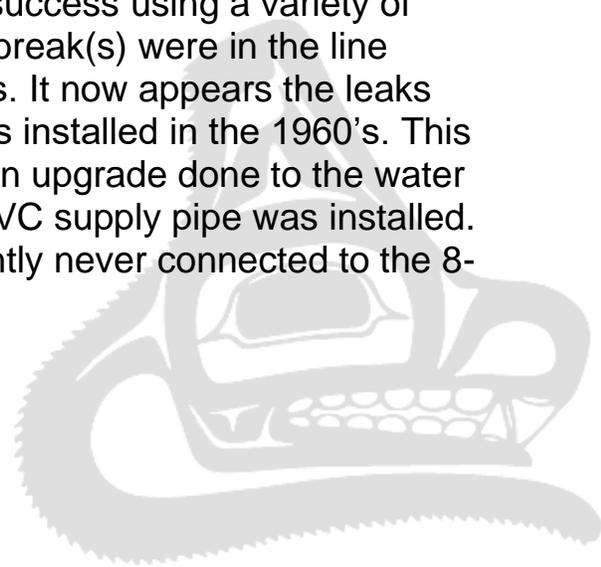
**Re: Kleekhoot Reserve – Water Issue**

Dear Member,

This is to inform you of the status of the water leak issue on the Kleekhoot Reserve. Yesterday, I met with Doug Neff, NTC Infrastructure Manager, who has been working with his team and Al McAnerin, HFN Housing and Assets Manager, on finding the leak and has intimate knowledge of the water treatment plan and infrastructure.

The normal daily consumption of water on the reserve is about 10 cubic meters. The system is currently losing about 19 cubic meters of water per day. This is a large amount of water, nearly twice the amount used daily, and can affect the water level of the reservoir. The water level of the reservoir is being monitored closely to ensure that it remains at a suitable level.

The intake pumps and the water treatment plant are working fine. The water is safe to drink and use. For the past few weeks, Doug Neff, (his team and Al McAnerin have been trying to find the leak with no success using a variety of testing methods. Initially, they had thought that the break(s) were in the line between Bob McCarthy and Ernie Michaud's homes. It now appears the leaks are related to break(s) in a 2-inch iron pipe, that was installed in the 1960's. This pipe runs down the middle of the road. There was an upgrade done to the water distribution system in the 1980's where an 8-inch PVC supply pipe was installed. The majority of the homes on reserve were apparently never connected to the 8-inch pipe, rather they remained on the 2-inch pipe.



In order to fix this problem, the services to the individual homes need to be moved from the 2-inch pipe to the 8-inch pipe. Then, the 2-inch pipe will be decommissioned. This will mean digging up parts of the road, a major undertaking.

Doug Neff is submitting a proposal on behalf of the Hupačasath to Indigenous Service Canada for emergency funding to undertake the repairs, as this is a health and safety issue.

As long as Kleekhoot residents are conscious of their water usage there will be no problem. In the meantime, the situation continues to be monitored closely. If additional measures or restrictions need to be imposed, the residents of the reserve will be informed.

The Sproat Lake Fire Department, in which the Kleekhoot Reserve is in their catchment area, is aware of the situation and will probably not use the 3 hydrants on the reserve in the event of a fire, rather they will bring in a tender to supply the water in the event of a fire.

We will keep you informed if there are any updates or changes to the issue.

Roger Nopper

Chief Executive Officer

