



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: November 8, 2017

### **Still Time to Provide Feedback on Proposed Water and Sewer Rates.**

Thank you to the close to 200 people who attended the City of Castlegar's Open House on November 1<sup>st</sup> to learn more and provide feedback on the proposed water and sewer rate structure from our City councilors, staff, and technical water expert.

"We answered a wide range of questions from all types of water customers, both high and low water users, and received some great feedback for consideration," says Mayor Lawrence Chernoff. "Thank you to everyone for taking the time to help us create a made-in-Castlegar solution to ensuring an equitable system that will encourage water conservation and extend the lifespan of our water and sewer systems."

Community input is important, and will be considered in the development of the proposed water and sewer rate. In addition, the commonly asked questions received at the open house will be used to update the Frequently Asked Questions on our website.

The open house is part of the community consultation to develop a consumption-based rate structure, also known as a user-pay system, for water and sewer rates. For the past year, homes and businesses with water meters have been receiving information on their quarterly utility bills showing how much water they've been using. The next steps include reviewing the feedback received and developing an equitable rate structure that encourages water conservation, and reduces peak demand to extend the lifespan of our water and sewer systems for years to come.

If you missed the open house, there's still time to learn more and provide your feedback. Simply visit [www.castlegar.ca/waterandsewer](http://www.castlegar.ca/waterandsewer) to read the newsletter and display panels, try our rate calculator, and fill in our Online Feedback Form, open until November 12<sup>th</sup>.

For more information on water conservation measures that will help you use less and pay less, please visit our website at [www.castlegar.ca/waterandsewer](http://www.castlegar.ca/waterandsewer)

#### **Media Contacts:**

**Mayor Lawrence Chernoff**

Phone: 250-365-7227

Email: [mayor@castlegar.ca](mailto:mayor@castlegar.ca)

**Chris Barlow**

Chief Administrative Officer

Phone: 250-365-7227

Email: [cbarlow@castlegar.ca](mailto:cbarlow@castlegar.ca)