

Deputy Mayors Report

Nov. 21 2019

Onoway Lagoon Effluent monitoring station Oct 21 2019-11-21

I attended a demonstration of the portable fluid monitoring system that was temporarily installed at the Onoway Lagoon. The process works with the truck and driver logging in and then hooking their discharge line into the system. The effluent is then pumped into a grinder, and then through a series of monitoring sensors that indicate the volume, H₂S gas, petroleum products and other. Upon sensing certain issues the system will shut down and no further effluent from that truck can be discharged. This test unit was from the oil fields and was expensive. There were several changes that they would have redesigned just for sewage use that would hopefully reduce the cost significantly. These stations can greatly improve and isolate problems that many lagoons are faced with. With the grinding of solids there is less need for dredging. A form of this system will likely be installed in most lagoons especially in conjunction with the proposed Transmission line.

Rural Crime public engagement Calihoo Nov 4 2019-11-21

This question and answer session with Justice Minister Doug Schweitzer was attended by close to 200 people in Calihoo. Over half in attendance had suffered from rural crime, primarily property crime. Quite a few more than once, especially businesses. Several police officers spoke on their concerns about the revolving door, (when they lay charges around a crime) and their frustration and stress levels. There was much concern in regards to the inability and even the lack of right to lawfully protect one's personal property. There are deep fundamental problems within society and changes that would need to be implemented to address these issues and not all are controlled by provincial governments. They are under Federal jurisdiction. However, the first steps that will be taken are the filling of 25 prosecutors that should be in position and the hiring of an additional 50. An overhaul of the information system (to relieve paperwork from police officers.) Address minor traffic disputes without having to tie up the courts. Establish 4000 addiction and mental health beds. (Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions.) Passing legislation that will not allow a criminal to sue a victim in regards to protecting property. I was able to question the minister in regards to the new police funding model and the concerns that small communities can be charged, but what guarantees will we get that there will actually be an improvement. He indicated that they would lay out specifics before new funding model is implemented.

Michael Harney