

*SUMMER VILLAGE OF*  
***GHOST LAKE***

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Box 19554 RPO South Cranston, Calgary Alberta T3M 0V4  
Phone (403) 510-8083 Fax (403) 206-7209 email [admin@ghostlake.ca](mailto:admin@ghostlake.ca)

Background

In 2017 the Bow River Working Group delivered its report to the Government of Alberta regarding flood mitigation options along the Bow River upstream of Calgary.

The Government of Alberta subsequently hired a Conceptual Assessment Study Team (private consultancy group)

The Conceptual Assessment Study Team then reconvened the Bow Valley Working Group and has narrowed the original 10 proposed projects down to 3 options.

One near Morley, one involving the Ghost Reservoir and one in the Glenbow area (between Bearspaw dam and Cochrane).

As part of the ongoing Flood Mitigation and Bow Basin Water Management planning both Bob Miller (representing the Ghost Watershed) and myself (representing the Village) have been involved with the Bow River Working Group.

Public Notification

The Conceptual Analysis team has now sent out its letters to the public as part of the public engagement process to potentially affected property owners.

You should have or will receive this letter in the mail

This includes a letter and an information brochure

In that letter they provide links to the Government website <https://www.alberta.ca/bow-basin-water-management-options.aspx>

An online questionnaire <https://talkaep.alberta.ca/POQ>

An online registration/ signup for future notifications <https://talkaep.alberta.ca/>

Contact phone number 403 355 2491

Contact email [aep.bowbasin@gov.ab.ca](mailto:aep.bowbasin@gov.ab.ca)

They will be hosting Public information sessions on the following dates:

Monday Sept. 30 from 4:00 to 8:00 pm at the Cochrane RanchHouse, 101 RancheHouse Road, Cochrane, AB

Thursday Oct. 3 from 4:00 to 8:00 pm at the Rock Point Church in Bearspaw, 255024 Lochend Road, Calgary, AB

Tues. Oct. 15 from 4:00 to 8:00 pm at the Rock Point Church in Bearspaw, 255024 Lochend Road, Calgary, AB

Your involvement

Your participation is very important as this is our best opportunity to influence the process and future of the Ghost Reservoir.

Please go online and look at the available information, fill out the questionnaire, signup for future notifications and attend as many of the Public information sessions as you can.

The Conceptual Assessment team will be using this feedback and it will have an important part in the report that they present to the Minister in January of 2020

In that report the Conceptual Assessment Team will be giving 3 options to Government

Government will then decide if it want to proceed with Feasibility Assessments for any or all of the 3 options.

The stronger the opposition to the Expanded Ghost Reservoir option, the more likely that one of the options will be chosen.

#### Expanded Ghost impact

Reasons to oppose the Expanded Ghost Reservoir include:

Potential flooding to 1193m elevation will impact blocks 1, 2 and 3 as well as the West-end environmentally sensitive area.

-We have no idea what measures may be suggested to mitigate the impact to these areas as that would be determined in the feasibility study.

Expanding the Ghost Reservoir to a larger area east of the existing dam, will increase the total size and capacity of the dam which means that it may have difficulty bringing it up to normal operating levels in the summer.

Specifically, we may end up with a Reservoir that is significantly lower in the summer and it might not be operated at a level which makes our marina and the village boat launch functional (1190.8m minimum).

If they elect to use this as the primary flood mitigation structure, they may be drawing the reservoir level down to 1177m, which is 8 m lower than the last year.

Again, this may result in delayed or reduced filling and a Reservoir that is significantly lower in the summer.

Any work including modifications for a lower outlet or Expansion of the Dam will likely result in many years of major disruption to operations and water levels (possibly 5 or more).

I suspect that there are other factors to consider and would appreciate you sharing them with me and making them public .

#### Further information

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions

[Councillor.walsh@ghostlake.ca](mailto:Councillor.walsh@ghostlake.ca)

403 554 5646

I will be available in the village Sept 13-15, Sept 20-22 and Oct. 4-6 to entertain any questions and provide more detailed explanation of what is being proposed.

John Walsh

Mayor, Summer Village of Ghost Lake

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