

## MESSAGE FROM THE CAO



2018 was a challenging year. Despite our success in obtaining a grant for replacement of the Harvey Creek Reservoir Tank, our primary water storage facility, along with a number of complementary related water system upgrades, we had been stymied by the prevailing construction market resulting in only one bid at three times the estimated cost. A great deal of time was spent reviewing and re-scoping the project, ultimately resulting in two smaller projects, with only the first, albeit the most important, tank replacement portion approved so far and moving forward in 2019. Grant approvals, and the next round of infrastructure grants, seem to be taking inordinately long to work their way through the upper government processes, but we have nevertheless continued to work away at numerous other projects and priorities.

A good deal of time was spent working through the details of a proposed licensing agreement which would see the construction of a cell tower on municipal lands above the Harvey Tank in order to address the poor cellular services we presently endure. Expect a public consultation process to begin in mid-2019. Public consultation in 2018 included extensive feedback from residents regarding proposed improvements to the Lions Bay Beach Park and as a result, a grant application was submitted for funding that would see the Municipal share reduced to about one quarter of the projected costs.

An educational campaign was rolled out around secondary suites and the need to have them registered and inspected for safety reasons. An inspection process was also implemented to enable the issuance of temporary use permits for short term rentals, which are otherwise illegal. Uptake has been low but applications are slowly working their way forward. Fully funded landscaping improvements around the Municipal complex were completed in 2018 as part of the relationship building we undertook with the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure in 2017.

Work commenced in 2018 on a grant funded Asset Management Investment Plan, to account for *all* Municipal assets, help guide maintenance of those assets and plan for their eventual replacement. This living document will be vital to planning for the future financial sustainability of the Village of Lions Bay. I look forward to working with Council, staff and residents toward ensuring the Village remains a special and viable community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter DeJong'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'P'.

Peter DeJong  
Chief Administrative Officer