

April 25, 2021

Mayor and Council of Salmon Arm:

My wife and I live at 1540 60th St. SE Salmon Arm on a small 10 acre parcel of land within the Agricultural Land Reserve. We have lived on these premises since 1992 and have raised our family of 4 children on this property.

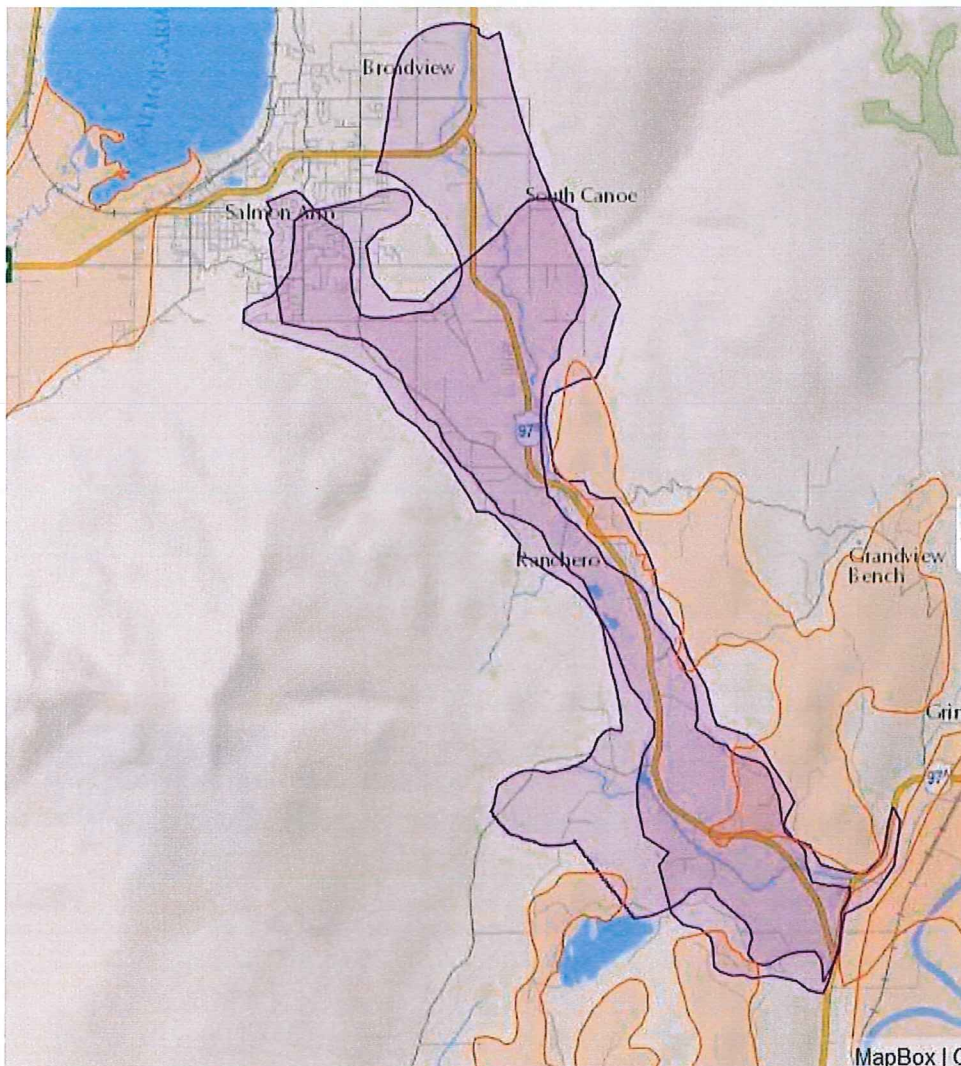
We wish to raise a number of concerns with the proposed water bottling facility in the industrial park.

1. In accordance with the Groundwater Licencing Requirements of BC, we applied to register our well last summer. Using the department's ground water calculator we made application for 13,650 m³/year for an area of 2.833 ha. which provided for irrigating our haylands , gardens, and lawns. After paying a bill for \$241.94 we were informed that because we were not currently irrigating our hay fields, our Conditional Water Licence would provide for 850 cubic meters per year at a rate not to exceed 0.2 per second, which was supposed to provide for our garden of approximately 0.2 hectares. " If you plan to irrigate a larger area in the future, you can apply for a new water licence" we were told.

Our concern is that firstly there is no grandfathering of any of our regions historical or potential agricultural requirements being considered in the current granting of licences, and secondly that we have been unsuccessful in having our current licence even moderately expanded, and thirdly, because both the "Bottling Works" and we are on the same Tuhok set of aquifers we will undoubtedly be competing with this

enterprise in the future, were we able to apply for additional water in our licence.

The 2 Tuhok aquifers are coloured in shades of purple



The characteristics of the 2 aquifers are in listed below:

Showing 1 to 2 of 2

| Aquifer number ↕ | Aquifer name ↓ | Descriptive location ↕ | Material ↕ | Litho stratigraphic unit ↕ | Subtype ↕ | Vulnerability ↕ | Size-km² ↕ | Productivity ↕ | Demand ↕ | Year of mapping ↕ |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|---|-----------------|------------|----------------|----------|-------------------|
| 109 | Tuhok Confined Aquifer | Highway 97B | Gravel | | Confined sand and gravel - glacial | Moderate | 27.1 | Moderate | Low | 2017 |
| 108 | Tuhok Unconfined Aquifer | 4 kilometres southeast of Salmon Arm | Sand and Gravel | | Unconfined sand and gravel - late glacial outwash | High | 25.4 | Moderate | Moderate | 2017 |

2. Our second major concern is with the potential effluent from this Bottling Facility.

In our experience, water from this Tuhok aquifers is very hard, has very high levels of manganese and iron as well as calcium carbonate. Our neighbours have reported that on recent tests that they conducted, it was also found to have maximum tolerable level for uranium. While we have found it possible to treat the water for household use with water softeners and iron filters, we have found it unsuitable for drinking. With our minimal household use, the back flushing from these treatments into our septic system has caused significant challenges. In fact, Saturday night, April 24, 2021 we found our pipes for discharging these wastes completely clogged with calcium and iron debris and overflowing into the nearby drain. The following photo shows a cross-section of that pipe.



If this enterprise in the industrial park is going to be successful in producing both palatable and potable water for sale, it will undoubtedly require a process, (probably reverse osmosis) to remove these minerals to a tolerable level. In our experience, pre-filtering and filtering this Tuhok water for reverse osmosis is difficult to impossible. In any case the water needs of this enterprise may almost double to provide for the backflushing requirements of this water processing.

We believe that while this company's withdrawal of water from this aquifer may be beyond the City of Salmon Arm's jurisdiction, the City does have a vested interest in determining the outcome of the bi-products of its water processing. The proposed huge quantities of water that this company plans to process has the potential to produce tons of manganese, iron and calcium carbonate wastes, that in the current configuration of waste and surface water drainage in the industrial park will make their way to the marshes near Highway 97 B and into Canoe Creek, a fish bearing stream. Were it to also contain significant quantities of uranium, this could become a significant ecological disaster.

We believe that it behooves the City of Salmon Arm to demand knowledge of how and from which aquifer this company plans to draw its water, to understand the water processes that are going to be used to prepare the water for sale, what will be the nature of any bi-products of its productions and how they will be disposed of, in a manner that does not compromise the integrity of our local environment.

We appreciate your attention to these matters,

Len and Jean Lazzarotto

From: Jan Derpak [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2021 8:29 AM
To: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Cc: greg.kyllo.MLA@leg.bc.ca
Subject: Urgent: Threats to the Water Supply in the Shuswap Region

Dear Honourable Minister Conroy,

I live in Salmon Arm, B.C., and I have just learned that there has recently been an application for a bottled-water-business permit here. This simply cannot and must not happen anywhere in the Shuswap region.

Why not:

1. Our “treated” residential water supply originates in Shuswap Lake, which is already threatened by an annual inflow of toxins coming in from rivers and creeks that pass through enormous and smaller dairy farms that have been increasing significantly in recent years in this region. Our water quality is already in danger of being seriously threatened by this situation, and people living here are dissatisfied with the apparent lack of necessary action needing to be undertaken to curtail such toxins from entering the lake. A commercial water-bottling business must not be added to the existing stresses affecting our water quality and availability. The people living here are already very concerned about our water.

2. As of last year, the water in the entire "Salmon Arm" of this lake—which provides treated water to this city and beyond— throughout Spring and Summer and into the Fall, was like pea soup: very cloudy, green, and not safe for ingesting. I saw, just yesterday, while walking on the wharf in Salmon Arm, that the algae bloom causing this significant problem has already begun this season. We don't know whether our water treatment/purification system is, in fact, still sufficiently adequate in its capacity to provide clean, safe, and de-toxified drinking water to our residents' homes. Many locals are very concerned about this, and it is not a good idea to be adding a bottled-water-business permit to the already challenging problems that exist.

3. We do not have another source of water, and if this permit/license were granted for a private bottled-water business it will only add, enormously, to such problems that we now have to deal with. It would only decrease the potential for saving our region's drinking water. It must be stopped. A permit *cannot be granted* for commercializing any water whatsoever in the Shuswap! We must find a way to stop this from happening.

4. Our water source for Shuswap Lake depends on the melting snow on the mountains surrounding this region. Should we have a mild winter without much snow, our lake's water will be reduced, which could be significant in amount. We simply cannot be risking having such a limited supply be taken by a commercial water business. *This is a very real risk that can't afford to be taken by granting such a permit.*

I believe strongly that you can help us. I ask that you please step in quickly to help curtail this permit application and block the possibility of such a permit/license being granted in this region.

Any potential for a commercial water-bottling business must simply be stopped, altogether, here in the Shuswap.

Thank you very much for your attention to this serious issue and to our citizens' genuine concerns for our water supply.

Yours sincerely,

Janice L. Derpak
Home owner on Shuswap Lake waterfront, for 30 years.

From: Margot [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 23, 2021 5:07 PM
To: Carrie.Koch@gov.bc.ca; Caylee Simmons <csimmons@salmonarm.ca>; greg.kyllo.MLA@leg.bc.ca; FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Subject: Do Not Sell Our Water

To All Concerned,

Please do **not** allow the groundwater license in Salmon Arm for the purpose of bottling water.

As the climate continues to grow warmer and the water levels in our region are not rising overall, not to mention the gross negative environmental impact of plastic water bottles, this would be irresponsible and unwelcome in the Shuswap.

Salmon Arm has its own agricultural and ecological water needs, and the huge amount of water requested in the license is ridiculous.

We are blessed to live in a region that can provide much of its own food needs, and to allow such a large volume of water to be taken away could greatly reduce our food and water security. It makes no sense for our region to then have to ship food or water here when we should have what is necessary.

Reducing our ground water availability could also likely increase our summer fire susceptibility.

Please do not force this decision through when the vast majority of Salmon Arm and Shuswap residents would be against it, and it would be detrimental to our region in so many ways.

Sincerely,
Margot Deveau
(Grindrod resident, Salmon Arm teacher)