

2025 Board of Trustees Report

New Policies

- **Leaks on homeowner properties:** Once a water leak has been discovered, SPID will hand deliver a notice to the property owner stating that, if the repair is not fixed within 72 hours, SPID will shut off the water at the service connection. If unable to repair the leak in 72 hours, the property owner should contact SPID immediately to discuss further action.
- **Waiver of Late Payment Fees:** The Board, at its discretion, can approve exceptions to the 15% charge for late payments of taxes and tolls.

Administration

- Almost all our accounts payable have been automated using electronic account withdrawal, payment by credit cards or e-transfers – the stress of finding two trustees to come to the office to sign cheques is a rarity now.
- Both our Water Operator and Fire Chief have SPID Visa cards with board approved limits.
- Our firefighters have Canco Xpress Fleet cards for the fire trucks.
- The computerized phone system is working well; messages are picked up daily via remote email.
- As a result of better tracking of secondary dwellings, there was an increase in annual water tolls revenue by approx. \$8,000 (from approx. 10 secondary dwellings in 2024 to 32 in 2025)
- The Google shared drive has been shut down and we are transitioning all our files to sync.com. Sync.com is a 100% owned Canadian company and all files are stored in Canada.
- Effective January 1, 2027, we will convert the SPID accounting system from Sage to QuickBooks Online (QBO); we are running parallel systems for 2026.

Technology

- In order to enable board meetings via Zoom, we added Apple TV to our display screen and purchased a camera and microphone.
- SPID completed a major upgrade to our pumphouse control system (see PLC project in the Water Technical Report)
- In November, the board authorized the purchase of SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition). SCADA is a software system that offers increased data flexibility resulting in better reporting and allows remote access to real-time pumphouse data and alarms. The installation will commence in 2026 with funds from the 2026 Water Operations budget.
- We purchased a new router for the office.

New Bylaws in 2025

Bylaw #	Name	Date Approved
131	Meeting Procedures	May 15, 2025
132	Capital Reserve and Renewal Fund Disbursement	Sep 10, 2025
133	Parcel Tax for 2026	Nov 12, 2025
134	Establishment of a Fire Protection Services Reserve and Renewal Fund	Nov 12, 2025

- Update to Bylaw 124 Water Conservation Regulations is on the agenda for the May 2026 board meeting.
- All active bylaws are posted on the SPID website www.spid.ca

Improvement Districts Denied Access to Infrastructure Grants and the Municipal Financing Authority

There were two initiatives in 2025 to address the issue. Kaleden Improvement District proposed a legal challenge. SPID pledged \$3,000 to the legal fund but the initiative ultimately failed for lack of financial support. Black Mountain Irrigation District proposed a petition demanding review of the policies. They have been in discussion with senior staff in the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs. Eighty-seven of the 180 ID's signed the petition including SPID.

Jackie Ainsworth
Chairperson, Board of Trustees