

*What will it cost, and who's going to pay for it?*

The cost of developing Phase 1 is estimated at just under \$1 million. The Town has already received a \$325,000 grant from the Province and is seeking further funding.

Although a portion of the project will be financed by the Town, all financing costs will be paid for by users of the system through connection fees, so there will be no impact on taxpayers.

*Fast Facts (Phase 1)*

- ❖ System cost: \$976,000.
- ❖ Average homeowners savings: 15% or \$160 per year.
- ❖ Greenhouse gas reductions: 272 Tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e.
- ❖ Total length of ground field pipe: 10.5 KM.
- ❖ Average ground temperature: 11.6<sup>0</sup>C.

For more information on this program, please contact:

Paul Gipps, CAO  
[pgipps@gibsons.ca](mailto:pgipps@gibsons.ca)

**OR**

Dave Newman, Director of Engineering  
[dnewman@gibsons.ca](mailto:dnewman@gibsons.ca)

Tel: 604.886.2274 Fax: 604.886.9735  
474 South Fletcher Road  
Box 340, Gibsons, BC V0N 1V0

## **TOWN OF GIBSONS**



## **UPPER GIBSONS GEO- EXCHANGE DISTRICT ENERGY UTILITY**

## *Upper Gibsons Geo-exchange District Energy Utility*

The Town of Gibsons is establishing a Geo-exchange District Energy Utility (GDEU) in Upper Gibsons. This project will significantly reduce Gibsons' carbon footprint, while reducing residents' energy bills and providing a long-term stable revenue stream to the Town.



### *What is it?*

Geo-exchange is a method of heating homes and buildings using heat captured from the ground. The earth maintains a relatively stable temperature that is warmer than outside air during the winter. This embedded heat can be extracted using a heat pump, and used to heat homes and businesses. Geo-exchange systems have been used in Canada for many years, and in recent years they have been installed in increasing numbers in B.C.

A geo-exchange district energy utility harnesses the energy in the earth and distributes it to a number of homes and businesses within a neighbourhood. Pipes buried in the ground will extract heat and distribute it to each home or building. The system will be owned by the Town of Gibsons and operated as a utility. Homes and businesses will be charged for connection to this system.

### *What are the Benefits?*

There are many benefits to the Town and its citizens in the establishment of a GDEU:

#### *Benefits to the Town:*

- ❖ Reduced environmental footprint through reduced community GHG emissions.
- ❖ A future source of long term, non-taxation revenue to the Town;
- ❖ Economic development as a result of infrastructure investment within the Town; and,
- ❖ Helping to promote energy and climate change action amongst Sunshine Coast residents.

#### *Benefits to homeowners and businesses:*

- ❖ Reduced utility costs for heating;
- ❖ Reduced carbon tax expenditure;
- ❖ Long-term energy cost stability; and,
- ❖ Reduced environmental footprint through reduced GHG emissions.