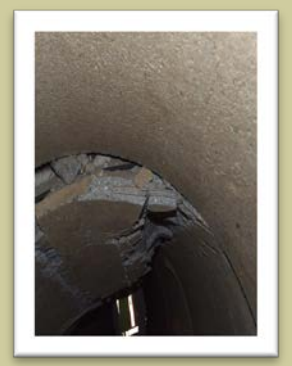
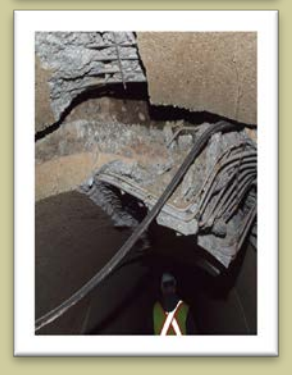
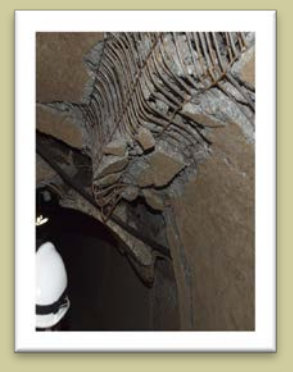
GALLAGHER LAKE ROCK SLIDE

March 14, 2016

Pictures







What happened and where?

On January 25, 2016 a significant rock slide occurred at Gallagher Lake which impacted a siphon on the canal irrigation system which provides irrigation water to the Town of Oliver, Electoral Area C (rural Oliver), and Osoyoos Indian Band. The break is near station 2+055 on the flume section at Gallagher Lake.

Current events

On Monday, March 7, 2016 Town of Oliver staff and engineers were able to enter the siphon through a coordinated effort with the rock scalers.

You can see from the pictures the damage is significant to the siphon; the roof has collapsed in one section as much as 2 feet or .61 meters.

Based on the visual analysis the best temporary option for repair is to insert 2 sleeves inside the siphon. This is a temporary solution for the irrigation season and cannot guarantee a 100% fix if there are more damages or settlement.

Rock scaling will shut down on March 18th to allow the engineers and Town staff to reassess and determine when and if scaling work continues.

The Town is also looking to a more permanent fix which will involve additional rock scaling in the irrigation off-season.

Communication with Provincial Ministries and agencies is ongoing.

Mayor and Council are lobbying the Province of British Columbia for funding assistance for this natural disaster.

Works Schedule

March 11 – 18	Additional scaling and work site safety
March 11 – 18	Coordinate materials and contractors
March 19 – 25	Contractor start works inside siphon (longer if necessary)
April 1	Open Canal (upper section only)
April 4 – 5	Inspect works
April 11	Fill system for irrigation turn on

Communication

All communications and updates will be through the Town of Oliver website www.oliver.ca, click on **Gallagher Lake Rock Slide – Quick Link** on the Home Page.

Background

This section of siphon was installed in 1997 to help minimize and eliminate damages to the existing canal system. It is a 1950 mm (78") diameter reinforced concrete pipe buried over with approximately 3 m of fill. It was engineered to withstand a great force if more debris were to fall. The fill was unable to withstand the force and direct damage occurred.