

Cold Spring Creek Public Information Meeting – October 29, 2020

SPEAKER BIOS

Kara Zandbergen, RDEK Engineering Technician

Presentation Focus: Fairmont Flood & Landslide Service Overview

Kara Zandbergen is the RDEK's Engineering Technician and will be the lead on Fairmont Debris Flow Mitigation Project. Kara has been a member of the RDEK's Engineering Services team for several years and has worked extensively on flood-related projects including the Fairmont Creek Debris Flow Mitigation project, Hill Road Dike and others. She was also one of our Incident Commanders this spring following the debris flow in Fairmont on May 31.

Dr. Mattias Jakob, Principal Geoscientist – BGC Engineering

Presentation Focus: 2020 Updated Cold Spring Creek Hazard Assessment

Dr. Jakob is a Principal Geoscientist with BGC Engineering. He is an internationally recognized specialist on the subject of geohazard and risk assessments, and one of Canada's leading experts in the hazard and risk assessment of landslides, especially debris floods and debris flows. He has completed assessments in over 100 creeks in Canada, Chile, Argentina, Ecuador, Bolivia, and Austria. Since obtaining his PhD from the University of British Columbia over 20 years ago, Dr. Jakob has been a full-time consulting geoscientist who has earned a world-wide reputation for his research work and rigorous application of the scientific method in fieldwork. Through his efforts, professional practice guidelines for landslides and flooding have been substantially improved in British Columbia, and are now being extended throughout western Canada and internationally. Dr. Jakob is the author of numerous well-cited publications and book chapters and is the co-editor of the 2005 text, Debris flow processes and related phenomena, for which he was awarded the Burwell Award of the Geological Society of America. In 2016, Dr. Jakob was awarded the 2016 Thomas Roy Award from the Canadian Geotechnical Society for his many achievements in the field of engineering geology.

Karen Prezelj, McElhaney Engineering

Presentation Focus: Phase 1 – Cold Spring Creek Debris Flow Mitigation Project

Karen is a civil and hydrotechnical engineer with McElhaney. She is based in their Fernie BC office and works across the East Kootenay. She brings local experience and practical understanding to her projects. Karen specializes in all components of river flood mitigation, including river hydrology, hydraulic modelling, hazard mapping, design and construction of mitigation measures, and emergency flood support. Her recent work in the area includes dike improvements on the Elk River in Fernie, flood mapping on Joseph Creek in Cranbrook, emergency flood support on Windermere Creek in Windermere, bank armoring on the Elk River in Sparwood and Cokato, and hydrotechnical culvert design on Fraling Creek near Spillimacheen. She also has significant experience working in southern Alberta on flood mitigation work following the 2013 flood.