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# News Release

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## **Abbotsford vs. Mission – Going for Gold this Summer**

**Abbotsford, June 22, 2010** – Today Mayor George W. Peary issued and accepted a challenge from Mayor James Atebe of Mission to “Go for Gold” this summer.

Through the months of July and August the City of Abbotsford and the District of Mission will compete for “Gold” bragging rights related to water conservation measurements. Water usage rates for both locations will be monitored and compared against last year’s consumption rates. The city with the greater amount of conservation over last year will accept the gold medal for water conservation from the opposing city.

“Even though the weather over the past few months has been cool and damp, the possibility of a water shortage this summer still exists,” said Peary. “Water demand doubles in July and August and it is essential that we plan ahead to ensure we have an adequate supply.”

“We will be monitoring the water usage rates for both Abbotsford and Mission during July and August,” said Atebe. “During this period we are encouraging all residents to step up their water conservation efforts and comply with the sprinkling ban.”

Beginning July 1, 2010 through to August 30, 2010 the following restrictions will be in place: lawn sprinkling is completely prohibited (hand-held vegetable and flower sprinkling allowed); spring loaded shut-off nozzles are required on all hoses; non re-circulating fountains must be turned off; wading pools should be filled only when required; and new lawn permits will not be available.

“This summer, the new green is gold when it comes to lawns,” exclaimed Peary. “It is crucial that we make every effort to reduce non-essential water use during the summer months.”

“Restricting our consumption over the summer ensures that we will have water available for what really matters,” said Atebe. “By being mindful of the small things, we can all contribute and make a big difference.”

The District and the City are also doing their part toward water conservation. All City/District owned parks and cemeteries comply with watering restrictions and some parks irrigate with water from other sources, such as wells. City crews are aware of outdoor watering restrictions and do their best to limit water use during their daily activities.

For more information on water restrictions and conservation tips, visit: [www.ourwatermatters.ca](http://www.ourwatermatters.ca)

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