
NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

MORE FLOOD PROTECTION MEASURES FOR PRINCE GEORGE AREA

PRINCE GEORGE – Gabion basket diking is the latest flood protection measure to be added to the Prince George region, Minister of Public Safety John Les and Prince George-Mount Robson MLA Shirley Bond announced today.

Les and Bond made the announcement at the site of the recently completed \$340,000 flood protection works on the Fraser River at the Shelley Town site.

“We have shipped nearly one km of gabion diking system to Prince George and it is here ready to be used as needed,” said Les.

Gabions are a quickly deployed system that uses foldable wire-mesh containers five metres long, one metre deep and one metre wide. They can be rushed to trouble spots, unfolded and rapidly filled with sand by front-end loaders, creating new dikes much more quickly than traditional sand-bagging.

“This cutting edge technology is a welcome addition to flood protection work already done in the region at the Shelley Town site,” said Bond. “During the recent high-water on May 4 and 5, the newly completed work performed exactly as it was engineered to and protected the bank and adjacent homes.”

The Shelley Town site project saw an 80-metre section of riverbank along Fraser River at the Shelley Town site fortified to mitigate the flood risk to homes and property in the area. Approximately 3,000 cubic metres of rock, the equivalent of 400 dump truck loads, was placed along the bank of river. The project is one of 87 around the province and part of the \$33-million flood mitigation package announced at the end of March.

The Province has also invested \$1.1 million in 9.5 km of gabion technology to date.

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A photo of local government crews in Mission assembling the gabion diking system is available at:
www.mediaroom.gov.bc.ca//DisplayEventDetails.aspx?eventId=372

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