



## The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Public Works & Environmental Services

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**From:** Phil Bartnik, Director Public Works & Environmental Services

**Date to Council:** February 9, 2021

**Report Number:** PWES-2021-08

**Subject:** Tecumseh (Water) Distribution System  
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
2020 Inspection Report

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### Recommendations

It is recommended:

**That** the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Inspection Report for the Tecumseh (Water) Distribution System, dated December 7, 2020, **be received**.

### Background

Under the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*, (Act) the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) carries out annual inspections of Municipal Residential Drinking Water Systems (MRDWS). The objective is to determine the compliance of MRDWS with requirements under the Act, associated regulations and MECP Certificates of Approval.

The Act includes a statutory standard of care for individuals who exercise decision-making authority over municipal drinking water systems. This duty of care applies to Members of Council. Justice Dennis O'Connor, in his Report of the Walkerton Inquiry, indicated that "given that the safety of drinking water is essential for public health, those who discharge the oversight responsibility of the municipality should be held to a statutory standard of care."

Town of Tecumseh Council are the Owners of the MRDWS and are responsible for ensuring that their drinking water systems:

- Provide water that meets all prescribed drinking water quality standards;

- Operate in accordance with the Act and its regulations, and are kept in a fit state of repair;
- Are appropriately staffed and supervised by qualified persons;
- Comply with all sampling, testing and monitoring requirements; and
- Meet all reporting requirements.

## **Comments**

The MECP carried out an inspection of the Tecumseh Water Distribution System on December 7, 2020. The inspection covers the period from January 1, 2020 to November 30, 2020.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the inspection was conducted remotely by the Provincial Officer – Water Inspector, Neil Gilbert and involved a telephone interview and email correspondence with Brad Dupuis, Manager Water & Wastewater and Overall Responsible Operator for the Tecumseh Water Distribution System.

## **Inspection Procedure**

The purpose of the MECP inspection is to confirm compliance with provincial legislation, associated regulations and MECP Certificates of Approval.

The MECP inspector reviewed the Town's records and documented findings of its inspections for the following:

- 1) Distribution System
- 2) Operational Manuals
- 3) Logbooks
- 4) Contingency/Emergency Planning
- 5) Security
- 6) Consumer Relations
- 7) Certification and Training
- 8) Water Quality Monitoring
- 9) Water Quality Assessment
- 10) Report and Corrective Action

In addition, the inspector reviewed Water Services Division standard operating procedures and conducted telephone interviews with Water Services Division staff. Based on the results of both the reviews and interviews, the MECP inspector prepared his final inspection report that was received by the Town on January 14, 2021.

## **Results of Inspection Report**

The Town's water distribution system did not have any non-compliance issues with regulatory requirements.

The Inspection Summary Rating Record (IRR), included in the appendix of the inspection report, provides the MECP, the system owner and the local Public Health Units with a summarized quantitative measure of the drinking water system's annual inspection and regulated water quality testing performance.

**The Town's inspection risk rating is 0.00% and the final inspection rating is 100.00%. Those ratings represent the best possible rating achievable.**

The Tecumseh drinking water system continues to achieve excellent inspection results with low Risk Ratings and high Inspection Ratings. These ratings are the result of the exceptionally dedicated and competent staff with the support of Administration and Council.

The Water Services Division communicates with our consumers on the state of Tecumseh's drinking water on an annual basis through our drinking water reports. Subsequent to Council's review of the MECP 2020 Inspection Report, a copy of said report will be posted on the Town's website.

## **Consultations**

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

## **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2019-22 Strategic Priorities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Make the Town of Tecumseh an even better place to live, work and invest through a shared vision for our residents and newcomers.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ensure that Tecumseh's current and future growth is built upon the principles of sustainability and strategic decision-making.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Integrate the principles of health and wellness into all of Tecumseh's plans and priorities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steward the Town's "continuous improvement" approach to municipal service delivery to residents and businesses.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrate the Town's leadership role in the community by promoting good governance and community engagement, by bringing together organizations serving the Town and the region to pursue common goals.

## Communications

Not applicable ☐

Website ☒ Social Media ☐ News Release ☐ Local Newspaper ☐

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

Cheryl Curran, BES  
Project Technician

Reviewed by:

Brad Dupuis, C. Tech.  
Manager Water & Wastewater Services, O.R.O.

Reviewed by:

Phil Bartnik, P.Eng.  
Director Public Works & Environmental Services

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Attachment  
Number**

**Attachment  
Name**

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Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Tecumseh  
Distribution System Inspection Report, dated December 7, 2020