



## The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Public Works & Engineering Services

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

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

**Date to Council:** February 27, 2024

**Report Number:** PWES-2024-14

**Subject:** Tecumseh Water Distribution System  
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 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 February 12, 2024, **be received**.

### Background

One of the most important tools for helping to ensure the delivery of high-quality drinking water is regular monitoring and inspection of regulated drinking water systems. Ontario sets stringent limits for contaminants in drinking water. Most are based on Health Canada's [Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines](#) and are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that they reflect new information when it becomes available. The [Ontario Drinking Water Quality Standards Regulation](#) under the [Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002](#), sets out standards for microbiological, chemical and radiological parameters.

The primary focus of inspections conducted by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) is to confirm compliance with Ministry legislation as well as evaluating compliance and conformance with related permission, policies and guidelines.

The MECP conducted an inspection of Tecumseh's Water Distribution System from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 and was onsite to complete the inspection on January 5, 2024. The final inspection report, dated February 12, 2024, provides an assessment of compliance and conformance based on observations and information available during the inspection review period (see Attachment 1).

## Comments

The inspection report contains a summary of compliance inspection ratings, non-compliance items and best practice recommendations.

The results of the 2023 Inspection Report found that the Town's distribution system had one non-compliance with regulatory requirements and zero best practice recommendations.

The non-compliance identified in the inspection report defined in SDWA section 31 (1) indicating that "the owner did not have evidence that required notifications to all legal owners associated with Drinking Water System had been made during the inspection period". This is specifically related to the installation of a municipal watermain through a Development Agreement with the Town.

To gain compliance, Administration will now include a copy of the Town's Drinking Water Works Permit along with the Municipal Drinking Water License within Development Agreements for legal owners of the drinking water infrastructure. Once reviewed by the Town solicitor, a Corrective Action Report will be submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) for review and consideration.

To measure individual inspection results, the MECP has established an inspection compliance risk framework based on the principles of the Inspection, Investigation and Enforcement Secretariat and advice of internal/external risk experts.

The **Inspection Summary Rating Record** provides the MECP, the system owner and the local Public Health Unit with a summarized quantitative measure of the drinking water system's annual inspection and regulated water quality testing performance. The Town's municipal residential drinking water system achieved an **Inspection Summary Rating Record of 98.37%**.

There was **one instance of non-compliance** and **no best practice recommendations** noted, and the **Town's inspection risk rating is 1.63%**.

Water Services staff is commended for their efforts and dedication to protect the Town's water distribution system.

## Consultations

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

## Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	<a href="#">2023-2026 Strategic Priorities</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Growth: Achieve prosperity and a livable community through sustainable growth.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community Health and Inclusion: Integrate community health and inclusion into our places and spaces and everything we do.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Experience: Enhance the experience of Team Tecumseh and our citizens through responsive and respectful service.

## 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:

Dana Reid  
Public Works & Engineering Services Assistant

Reviewed by:

Brad Dupuis, C. Tech.  
Manager Water Services

Reviewed by:

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

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP  
Chief Administrative Officer

<b>Attachment Number</b>	<b>Attachment Name</b>
1	MECP Tecumseh Water Distribution Inspection Report
2	MECP Inspection Summary Rating Record