

**Report To:** Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer

From: Don Giberson, Environmental Services Director

Date: January 21 2019

**Report:** ESD.19.02

**Subject:** Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

2018 Inspection Report South Huron Water

Distribution System

#### **Recommendations:**

**That** South Huron Council receive the report from Don Giberson, ESD Director RE: Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks 2018 Inspection Report South Huron Water Distribution System.

# **Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to notify Council of results of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks inspection of the South Huron Drinking Water System and to protect the liability of those in an oversight role by ensuring that all Members of Council are fully informed.

## **Background and Analysis:**

Under the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) carries out annual inspections of municipal drinking water systems. The Ministry carried out an inspection of the South Huron Water Distribution System on December 14, 2018 and met with Director of Operations and Infrastructure and the Water/Sewer Foreman. This inspection covers the period from December 29, 2017 to December 14, 2018.

Members of Council should be aware that the Standard of Care provision of the Safe Drinking Water Act creates obligations for individuals who exercise decision-making authority over municipal drinking water systems. In order to protect your liability, Members of Council should be informed about the drinking water system. This would include requesting a copy of the annual inspection report and reviewing the findings. Further information about Standard of Care can be found in "Taking Care of Your Drinking Water: A guide for members of municipal council" found on the Drinking Water Ontario website at <a href="https://www.ontario.ca/drinkingwater">www.ontario.ca/drinkingwater</a>

The focus of this recent inspection was to confirm compliance with Provincial Legislation, as well as evaluating conformance with Ministry drinking water related policies and guidelines during the inspection period. The Ministry has a rigorous and comprehensive approach to inspection of drinking water systems that focuses on source, treatment and distribution components of the system as well as management practices. The South Huron inspection report is based on a stand-alone distribution system that receives treated water from another regulated system, the Lake Huron Primary Water Supply System. The report contains all of the elements required to assess compliance issues and to ensure that the system was being properly operated and managed.

The Municipality received the final inspection report on January 11, 2019. The report noted the Exeter Water Tower upgrades and the resulting improved chlorine residuals in the distribution system. The report also noted that a lot of documentation is still a paper version and suggested that we should be moving towards digital records, such as an electronic work order system and the use of laptops or tablets.

The South Huron Water Distribution System was found to be in full regulatory compliance. There were no non-compliance issues, no best practice issues noted and no follow up action required.

A copy of the inspection report is attached and a copy has been posted for public viewing on the Municipal Web site.

In order to measure individual inspection results, the MECP has established an inspection compliance risk framework based on the principles of the Inspection, Investigation & Enforcement Secretariat. The Inspection Rating Record is included as an appendix to the inspection report. This provides the Ministry, the system owner and the local Public Health Unit with a quantitative measure of the drinking water system's annual inspection and regulated water quality testing performance. IRR ratings are published (for the previous inspection year) in the Ministry's Chief Drinking Water Inspectors' Annual Report. The following is a summary of ratings for the South Huron Water Distribution System inspection:

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks - Inspection Summary Rating Record (Reporting Year 2018-2019)

Inspection Risk Rating: **0.00%** Final Inspection Rating: **100.00%** 

The South Huron Drinking Water System continues to achieve excellent inspection results, with low Risk Ratings and high Inspection Ratings. This is the tenth consecutive year that South Huron has achieved the highest percentile inspection rating (top 5%) and the eighth time that South Huron has achieved a 100% inspection rating.

These results are only possible with very dedicated staff and the continued support of Council.

## **Operational Considerations:**

This report is provide for information purposes and there were no alternatives considered.

## South Huron's Strategic Plan:

Section 6.2.2 of the Municipality of South Huron 2015- 2019 Strategic Plan identifies key objectives that are reflective of the collective perspectives of the strategic planning process.

The recommendations and actions outlined in this report are reflective of the following strategic objectives:

Administrative Efficiency and Fiscal Responsibility

<u>Increased Communications and Municipal Leadership</u>

Transparent, Accountable and Collaborative Governance

<u>Dedicated Economic Development Effort</u>

## **Financial Impact:**

There are no financial implications for the Corporation resulting from the proposed recommendation.

# **Legal Impact:**

There are no legal implications for the Corporation resulting from the proposed recommendation.

## **Staffing Impact:**

There are no staffing implications for the Corporation resulting from the proposed recommendation.

## **Policies/Legislation:**

- 1. Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002, S.O. 2002, c. 32
- 2. Ontario Regulation 128/04 Certification of Drinking Water System Operators
- 3. Ontario Regulation 169/03 Ontario Drinking Water Quality Standards
- 4. Ontario Regulation 170/03 Drinking Water Systems
- 5. Ontario Regulation 188/07 Licensing of Municipal Drinking Water Systems

#### **Consultation:**

Water/Sewer Foreman and Drinking Water System "Over-All-Responsible Operator" was consulted and contributed information to this report.

#### **Related Documents:**

1. Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks SOUTH HURON DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM Inspection Report #1-ICSTQ

Respectfully submitted,

**Don Giberson, Environmental Services Director**