



Maritime Provinces Water & Wastewater REPORT

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NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

Todd Richard
Chairperson of the MPWWA

Another summer has come and gone. As we head into the fall season the MPWWA continues to prepare for another round of training workshops and for our 2014 Training Seminar. This leads me to the theme of my column—"Being Prepared."

We have all heard the references made to the importance of being prepared and many of us have compiled operations manuals, SOP's, contingency plans and emergency procedures. Most of these documents were derived from risk assessments done on operations. All vulnerable areas are looked at and a practical procedure is developed for a plan "B" scenario.

I have been involved in all of the above areas and know the amount of work that goes into preparing these documents, training staff, implementing procedures and reviewing and updating these documents. And I will confess it has crossed my mind the occasional time about whether they are really worth it.

My question was answered this year when our utility experienced its first ever (to my knowledge) "Boil Water Advisory."

Sitting in my office one afternoon catching up on some paperwork after returning from a couple weeks vacation I received a call from our lab indicating we had one sample come back with a presence for Total Coli-form and—to my surprise—a presence for E-coli. After asking several times, "Are you sure, E-coli?" she responded, "Yes I am sure." At this point I knew we had to immediately implement a Boil Water Advisory, start the notification procedure and implement our contingency plan for possible water supply contamination.

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Construction officially began July 2 on the new wastewater treatment facility in Saint-André, New Brunswick. The federal, provincial and municipal governments are each investing close to \$1.9 million in the project. In the photo are: Tobique-Mactaquac MP Mike Allen, Saint-André Mayor Alain Desjardins and the NB Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour Minister Danny Soucy. (Photo: Communications New Brunswick)

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Municipal leaders discuss making new regulations

■ BY JOSH PENNELL
THE TELEGRAM

Municipal leaders from across Canada will be in St. John's (Newfoundland & Labrador) this week (Sept. 5) for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) national board of directors meeting.

A top priority of the FCM, according to its president Claude Dauphin, will be addressing new wastewater effluent regulations brought in by the federal government earlier this year.

These regulations require that a secondary level of treatment be implemented for all wastewater systems in Canada. This requires an upgrading of infrastructure in many municipalities and nowhere is this more true than in this province where there are between 40 and 70 municipalities that will require some type of upgrading.

Across the country as a whole, about 25 per cent of municipalities require a significant upgrade to meet the federal regulations.

"It's a priority for the FCM to make sure we get funds for the wastewater regulations programs," Dauphin told The Telegram.

"We have to make sure that this wastewater regulation is not only a priority, but the money will be accessible as soon as possible to make sure we can comply with those regulations."

The federal government has established a 20-30 year timeline to bring all municipalities up to code. Those systems posing the highest risk to the environment will be upgraded in the first 10 years followed by the medium-risk systems within 20 years and lowest-risk systems to be done with the 30-year window.

In the last federal budget, there was a 10-year, \$14-billion infrastructure program announced. The FCM is having its meeting just ahead of the federal and provincial governments getting together to decide on matching funding agreements as they design how to use the \$14 billion fund.

The FCM will ensure that \$14 billion is prioritized and used efficiently for the regulation time-

line to be met across the municipalities, Dauphin said.

Dauphin stressed that it's fine and good to make new regulations regarding wastewater that have to be met, but it's imperative to ensure the funds are there to make it happen. Such upgrades are costly, especially for municipalities with few people and little money, he said.

"Newfoundland is the place where there is the most need in terms of that new regulation with the wastewater system," he added.

Next in line is Quebec. When the federal government first proposed the regulations several years ago, 185 of 186 municipalities in this province would have required upgrading.

The FCM brought the federal government up to speed on how impossible this was and the regulations were then modified to exclude extremely small communities that posed little risk to the environment compared to the financial investment it would take to bring them up to regulation status.

Work on new Charlottetown water source starts in fall

■ BY DAVE STEWART
THE GUARDIAN

The chair of Charlottetown's water and sewer utility committee says the (Prince Edward Island) city will be developing a new water source later this fall.

Shovels are expected to be in the ground in the Miltonvale area by November.

"This is a big step," said Coun. Edward Rice. "It shows, first of all to everybody involved who had doubts after years of waiting and waiting, that we are finally moving forward."

Craig Walker, manager of the utility, said the multimillion-dollar project will be completed in phases as federal and provincial dollars become available.

"We're hoping, perhaps in November, to be on the property to finish well drilling," Walker said. "We're (also) hoping to be in the field doing the next piece of the construction that's involved."

Altogether, the property is going to have five new wells on it. Pumping will be set up so that only three of them will be required at any one time to meet the daily demand on the system. The other two wells will be rotated in and out as the city carries out typical maintenance or if problems occur.

"It allows a little redundancy to deal with any problems or maintenance that we have to do going forward," Walker said.

When the water begins to flow from the wells in Miltonvale, the city will have access to a total of 18 wells. It currently draws water from the Winter River-Tracadie Bay watershed via 13 wells — four at its Brackley location, five at the Union station and four at Suffolk.

"The number of wells aren't as important as what

we can pump from each of them."

Right now, the city is pumping 3,050 imperial gallons of water per minute. Once the new well field comes online in 2016, the city will be able to pump 4,100 imperial gallons per minute. That's more than 18,600 litres per minute.

"When (the new well fields) are in place they'll supply a quarter of the capacity."

The initial round of funding came through from both the federal and provincial governments last week (early September) to make the first phase of work possible.

The project also calls for a giant water tower, similar to the ones that rise above the trees in Stratford and Cornwall. Walker said Charlottetown's tower will be slightly larger and will have the capacity to carry a little more than two million gallons. The city does have storage capacity now but that infrastructure is aging and no longer adequate to cope with a growing municipality.

The new water source will also supply the homes in Miltonvale, including the trailer park. It's part of an agreement for allowing the city develop the new well fields in their community.

Rice said the project is going to create jobs.

"It means that we'll be able to create employment for the contractors over the winter, which is always great."

Rice added that residents in Charlottetown are to be commended for their patience and for following the city's water conservation guidelines the past two years.

"We took a giant step forward. (Residents) recognize the value of water and have taken ginormous steps."

The Guardian

Note from the chair

Continued from cover

This is where the importance of developing our procedures and the time spent doing so really paid off. After contacting our regulator (NSE) my next step was to pull our operations manual off the shelf. The procedures outlined in the binder allowed for a seamless process of what to do; who to contact; press releases; populations at risk; action plans and the method to remove the order once the situation was corrected. The procedures were vital to ensure steps were completed in a timely manner with no confusion. With all that information staff followed directions and performed the tasks outlined in the SOP. This kept us focused on the plan during the stressful time.

Luckily all the repeat sampling came back clear and by

all accounts we were able to determine it was a false-positive test. However, the Advisory allowed us to put our plan in action and critique how things went. Of course we found ways to improve the plan and discovered things we should do differently. Regardless, without the written plan of action we might have been scrambling and perceived as unprofessional.

I now look at the red binder on my office shelf a little differently and encourage everyone responsible for public health to "Be Prepared" and have these types of documents updated and ready to go if ever needed.

Todd Richard
Chairperson for the MPWWA

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“We can fix it” — Chris Chelli remembered

■ BY HEATHER JONES

(Christopher John Chelli (Chrisco), 62, of Bridgewater, Nova Scotia died suddenly June 5, 2013 while vacationing in Guelph, Ontario.)

Chris Chelli was “a very easy person to work with” says former Bridgewater Town Engineer Harland Wyand Peng who worked with him for 22 years.

“Chris was the Chief Operator of the Bridgewater Wastewater Treatment Plant and associated pumping stations. He was a very pleasant guy. Hardworking. Basically, he took responsibility; whenever a problem came up, he’d come up with a solution. If not he’d speak with me and we’d come up with an answer.

“He was very, very capable mechanically,” Wyand says. “Every challenge was fun for him. He took it as a challenge but was always positive—knew he always would be able to handle it.

“He had the same positive attitude towards life. I’ve never seen him upset. Frustrated yes but not upset. ‘We can fix it,’ he’d say.”

“There’s always a way around it’ or ‘There’s always a solution to the problem’ is how Mike Arenburg CET describes Chris’ attitude. “I always admired that.”

Arenburg, a Wastewater Operator at the Cookville Wastewater Treatment Plant (near Bridgewater) worked indirectly with Chris for 11 years and they travelled in the same circles for almost two decades.

One of his memories is travelling on the road from a conference or a training seminar in Halifax.

“We all wanted to get home afterwards in the evening, as opposed to staying at a hotel. Well, a freak wintery storm made the highway sheer ice. Thinking back on it we should have kept our rear ends at a hotel, but we took a vote and we decided to make our way home... slowly.

“Let me tell you that was the worst weather I ever drove in to this day! But Chris was like that calm older brother and kept myself and Tim calm and cool. Even though we wanted to just about panic when that 18-wheeler got too close behind us, Chris kept that calm and cool swagger that he always had during a crisis. Yup, I bet Tim still remembers that trip!”

Mike and others will miss Chris at training seminars and safety courses, hearing his jokes and sharing his laughter. “Chris would start with a smile and a ‘hello’ and sooner or later he got around to asking that work-related question that was on his mind, like ‘How’s that automatic sampler working out you guys have?’ or something along those lines. He was always getting the inside scoop on new equipment that others had to see how it was working out. But a lot of times he just wanted to share some friendly banter between friends and peers. One thing I never heard from Chris during any of our conversations was negativity or complaints about anything.”

“Chris was interested in safety; very knowledgeable about it but not obsessed with it. He liked the technology of safety equipment like fall gear,”

Wyand says. “He was always looking for training opportunities. He was in the Reserves and did a lot of training with them. He used various skill sets in his town work.

“Chris was the first operator at the plant (that was built in 1990) so he basically had to work out the bugs. And there’s always bugs (in a new facility).

“He made sure he understood how the plant worked. And over the years he had to replace a lot of the mechanical parts. He did a lot of repairs in the last 10 years. He had a good attitude towards repair and maintenance although his housekeeping was sometimes untidy. His orientation was with mechanical work he’d put the paperwork on

“In a wastewater treatment facility there are quite a few specific parts—stuff that mechanical contractors aren’t familiar with. Chris had good connections with other operators in the province. He’d call them and see if they’d had a similar problem. He had a problematic approach to problems—he could make anything work. ‘We’ll get it fixed.’”

Arenburg remembers, “Chris always wanted to expand his knowledge. He was eager to learn new things and always finding that one more certificate to hang up at the treatment plant. Anyone who visited his treatment plant would remember all those certificates that pretty well lined the walls like wallpaper. It’s been a few years since I last saw those walls, but I’m pretty sure the certificates ran at least

something or gearing something up to make things better. If somebody had to go down in the wet well, it was usually him that I saw being lowered down as I drove by.”

“He did a lot of adventurous things,” Wyand says. “He was an adventurous soul, saw every day as an adventure. He was very positive and he got along with everybody. Chris was focused. (If he lacked knowledge about something) he’d search it out and get the benefit of that person’s knowledge.”

Arenburg says, “He was always a positive person who was there to help solve a problem, provide valuable input to things like the new PSC water plant design, or to develop new strategies to make something almost impossible work like a charm.”

Wyand notes, “At the Celebration of Chris’ life at the Bridgewater Fire Hall there was a row of uniformed firefighters on one side and a row of uniformed 14 Wing Air Force personnel on the other. He was well respected in the fire department for his approach to work and for solving problems.”

“Chris was greatly respected by all members of the fire department,” Wayne Thorburne concurs.

The retired Bridgewater Fire Chief says Chris joined the department in November 1997. He was “level 1 certified and a member of the Ladder 2 truck.

“He was also a certified diver. His passion was our Rescue boat and he was always coming up with innovative ways to make it more efficient.”

Wyand says Chris was very proud of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and was very good at giving tours. “He could take the mechanical, chemical and biological factors and relate them so the average person knew how the plant worked. The mayor said at the end of two tours he understood it.”

Mayor David Walker says Chris was a pleasure to be around. He told CKBW, Chris “was very professional in his job, very easy going. I think as long as I’ve been in council here with Chris under our employ, I never had the day where I’d look at Chris and say he was unhappy about something.

“He always seemed to be very happy, very contented and contributed a great deal to the town,” Walker stated.

Arenburg “enjoyed listening to Chris talk about the various foreign places he went to while in the Reserves. He always liked to share his experiences with other people whether it was the Reserves, the fire department, or other day-to-day stuff. But anytime I asked about the family, no matter what they were doing, or where they were, you could tell by the smile on his face that Chris was a proud father and happy husband.

“I’m honored and glad to have known Chris for the outstanding person he was ambitious, dedicated, honest, hard working—and for his accomplishments, goals, professionalism, and his friendly manner,” Arenburg says. “Chris has left large and deep footprints behind for many who knew him even briefly. He will be missed by many.”



Chris Chelli.

the back burner.

“When we had a consultant come in Chris had his facts in order,” Wyand says.

“Fixing things? Basically he could take anything apart and he could fix it. If he couldn’t find a replacement part he’d have one made. He would find a way to make it work.

“He was respected and he was respectful of other people’s opinions. He did question some technical opinions (but he respected them). ‘It would be easier to put in another pump.’ He’d think that way, he’d make it more practical for an operator.”

The former Bridgewater Town Engineer says,

halfway down the hallway.

“He always encouraged new operators and acquaintances to obtain training whether through the Maritime Provinces Water & Wastewater Association or others. He was never happy with status quos, always trying to improve himself and find a better and cheaper way to resolve those daily challenges, problems and projects he always had on the go.”

The Cookville Wastewater Operator says Chris was “definitely a do-it-yourselfer whether it was painting the siding on his building, repairing the plumbing at the house, or working at the drill press at the treatment plant. Seems he was always fixing



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Flood prevention projects taking shape

[Truro, NS]— Flood prevention work throughout Truro (Nova Scotia) is becoming a reality this month (July).

Andrew MacKinnon, director of public works, confirmed with the Truro Daily News that a number of short-listed projects that were announced at public meetings in the winter and spring are now getting underway.

“We are putting in a storm water retention pond and piping on Harris Drive that will benefit nearby neighbourhoods as well. It will take a couple of months but will be finished before schools starts,” said MacKinnon, adding that project will cost about \$320,000 and should begin within a few weeks.

Also to begin this summer, said MacKinnon, is

the installation of a rain garden on Havelot Street in between the two parking lots. Dalhousie AC students will do a study on the rain gardens as well and the test site will “show the benefits of water going in the ground and being cleaned before it goes into the storm system and brooks,” said MacKinnon. This project is estimated to cost \$25,000.

In progress now (Public Works) are erecting a control gate in the town’s reservoir to “help with the flow of Lepper Brook (in Victoria Park) and to help (resolve) flood issues in the Elizabeth Street area.”

Also, the Truro Farmers’ Market recently became a test site for permeable concrete.

“There were positive results with how water ab-

sorbed into the ground with it ... more test sites will be done,” said MacKinnon.

Other projects include working on the dike by Cobequid Educational Centre in “a few weeks,” surveying the river bed of the Salmon River “hopefully in the next few weeks” and looking at implementing a storm drainage system for the CEC football field, which would also help deal with flood issues in the backyard of Normandy Avenue residents. The town anticipates working with the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board for this project to proceed.

Town Coun. Raymond Tynes was eager to hear the updates, especially relating to the north end of town, such as Normandy Avenue.

“We are half way through the summer ... people

only believe in what they see. I’ve been getting lots of questions from people especially in the north end of town. ‘When are we going to see action?’ said Tynes at Monday’s (July 8) town council meeting.

MacKinnon also told this paper that the town is about to ask some residents on Harris Drive and Coburg Crescent if they are in support of having French drains put in their yards.

“The town would pay 50 per cent of (the) work on the private property. It would stop runoff from saturating yards, driveways and going down the sidewalks,” said MacKinnon, adding it would affect about a dozen homes on each street, and those are the homeowners who the town will approach for consent.

MacKinnon said although it takes time to implement a variety of flood mitigation projects, residents should be hopeful.

“I don’t see other municipalities taking the action the way Truro is,” he told the Truro Daily News.

The County of Colchester is also getting busy on flood-related projects. Colchester County Mayor Bob Taylor, chairman of the regional joint flood advisory committee, said work is “progressing.”

One of the major projects regionally is conducting a study of flood areas through mapping.

“It’s important to do this before other work. Flood zones have changed since the 1980s maps and new ones will show topography and upgrades and the watershed areas, which will help us with decisions going forward,” said Taylor.

Truro Daily News



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Wastewater pipes coming to Chain of Lakes

■ BY HALEY RYAN
METRO HALIFAX

Starting this fall, the Chain of Lakes trail will be closed for almost two years as a new wastewater corridor is installed.

After a long debate over shutting down seven kilometres of such a popular trail, regional council approved the \$20-25 million project on Tuesday (July 30).

Staff said the Beechville-Lakeside-Timberlea treatment facility is nearing capacity, and the need for service is expected to jump this coming year as developments like Brunello Estates come online.

They had to do it,” said Coun. Linda Mosher after the meeting. “There wasn’t an option of ‘Yes do this project, or not.’ It was, ‘We have to do this project, which option is it?’”

Mosher said it’s “unfortunate” that the trail has to be dug up, other options would have cost taxpayers more.

She said because the Beechville treatment plant empties into a lake, and the environmental codes don’t allow it, the waste had to be pumped back into Halifax – or a \$50 million facility had to be built in Timberlea.

Coun. Jennifer Watts said extending waste service was “absolutely concerning” and council should have considered increasing density on the peninsula before agreeing to develop an outlying area...

Editor’s Note:

Regional developers will pay most of the \$25 million tab for the Chain of Lakes Trail sewer project.

Water and sewer upgrades for six Island communities

BY ANDY WALKER

A number of Prince Edward Island municipalities will be upgrading their water and sewer systems under the Building Canada Fund – Communities Component.

The program sees the federal, provincial and municipal governments share the cost equally.

Tignish will receive \$208,688 (\$69,563 from each government) to a replace an older concrete pipe that has settled and is now in danger of contaminating groundwater.

Community Administrator Karen Gaudet-Gavin said the project was just winding up at the end of September. “We just have some landscaping left,” she said. “We have been working to replace our old sewer pipe and this is another piece of the puzzle.”

Just a few kilometers down the road, there’s a similar problem on Kent Street in O’Leary.

Community Chief Administrative Officer Beverley Shaw said an older pipe had settled and could contaminate area homes that still have on-site water wells.

Shaw said the work should be completed by October 15. Each level of government will contribute \$49,667 for the \$149,000 project.

Stratford, the largest town in the province, has added 40 homes to its residential system in the Victoria View Lane to Langley Subdivision.

Stratford has also decommissioned a small water system in that area. Installed in 1995 when five smaller communities amalgamated, the system has experienced contamination.

“We have had continuing problems with find-

ing e-Coli in that system for the past couple of years,” Joe Driscoll explained.

The Supervisor of Public Works and Utilities for the town of close to 6,000 said, “Now, they are connected to our main system and they are better protected.”

The total cost of the project is \$145,000—\$48,333 from each level of government.

The Resort Municipality, which includes the Cavendish area made famous by Lucy Maude Montgomery and her red-haired Anne of Green Gables, will spend \$139,149 to upgrade its pumping station.

Each level of government will contribute \$46,383 to help install a generator to provide emergency power to the pumping station to prevent sewage overflows into the Hope River. Transfer switches will also be installed at five smaller stations. A spokesman for the municipality said the work was expected to be completed by late October or early November.

North Rustico is connecting seven homes to the Riverside Drive water main and creating a loop at the end of the system.

Allan Nesbit explained that the current dead end system is more prone to contamination.

The Community Maintenance Supervisor said, “It is harder to keep fresh water in the line and we have to flush it out on a regular basis. It is only a short section but things should work better once it is on a loop.”

Nesbit said the work was expected to be done in early to mid-October in conjunction with paving in the same area. Each government will contribute \$44,560 for the \$133,680 project.



Prince Edward Island politicians shared a toast in Alberton in August after several Island communities received funding for water projects. In the photo are (from left): Fisheries and Oceans Minister Gail Shea, Alberton Mayor Michael Murphy, PEI Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal Minister Robert Vessey, and Infrastructure, Communities and Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Denis Lebel. (Photo: Provincial Photographer Brian Simpson)

Like its neighbours in the western part of the province, the Town of Alberton had an older concrete pipe in its sewer main on Main Street that had settled and could have contaminated nearby homes with private wells.

“We should be finished in a week or so,” Susan

Wallace-Flynn said in late September.

The Town Chief Administrative Officer noted, “It was a fairly small project and we estimate it should take about three weeks in total.”

Alberton will receive \$26,840 from each level of government for the \$80,520 project.

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THMs and HAAs still exceed permissible levels in Stellarton water

■ BY CHRISTOPHER CAMERON

THE NEWS

[Stellarton, NS] – The results are in. They still exceed permissible levels.

At Monday's (Aug. 12) Stellarton (Nova Scotia) water advisory committee meeting, town engineer Tony Addis presented their second quarter test results, which showed the THMs and HAAs continue to exceed the permissible limits. It wasn't a complete shock as the town continues to work alongside Dalhousie University and CBCL on the Dal research project, which is looking for a solution to the problem.

Addis said they are progressing in the research and the project. He said there are infrastructure upgrades being made at the water treatment plant to get them on track with the research project.

The upgrades include installing new raw water sample pumps and a pH meter. The pumps that were in place were giving the town trouble so they weren't getting a continual raw water sample, but these new pumps are expected to help them better monitor the raw water turbidity.

The pH meter will be installed in the entrance to the clarifier.

"The reason we're just purchasing one (pH meter) is to ensure we get one that is suitable to our water," said Addis.

"Once we get a confidence in the fact that we can control pH as it's entering the clarifier at determined set point then we're going to start re-injecting alum as a coagulant."

At that point the town would be watching whether the alum was fouling the membranes.

"I've got my doubts about alum being the answer, but meanwhile Dalhousie are researching the

best coagulant for us, which is probably going to be polyaluminum chloride," said Addis. "They've been establishing the best dosage for us, so if the alum doesn't work for us we will empty the alum tanks and bring in some coagulant as recommended by Dalhousie."

Ron Marks, a former mayor and member of the water advisory committee, said that the town used alum with success for over 20 years. He made the point that the town should start testing whether it will work as a coagulant now as there is no date when Dalhousie will be ready to start testing alum

as a coagulant.

"From where I sit I prefer we do it (put alum back in) sooner rather than later," said Marks.

Mayor Joe Gennoe questioned it, putting faith in the research team.

"Do you think it would be wrong to override Dalhousie University – we're running safe," said Gennoe. "We're proven safe. If I was a consultant I wouldn't want people second guessing me."

Marks believes that the problem will be solved, but there needs to be more urgency.

"Mr. Chair, I agree that the water is safe, but I

also ask the question, 'how safe is safe?'" said Marks. "You get cancer or I get cancer and we have no idea what causes it – so what we do is we have something in our water that we know causes cancer. It's not a guess; we know it happens. It's over the limit."

"We continue to drink the water, but we don't know how it affects us, we just don't know. What I'm saying is that there needs to be more urgency that we meet the specifications that are outlined so we don't have to worry about that anymore."

Call for Presentations

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Town chooses site for sewage treatment facility

■ BY CHRISTY BOYD

THE PILOT

[Lewisporte, NL] — Step one of a sewage treatment facility for Lewisporte (Newfoundland & Labrador) has been completed. After reviewing seven possible sites for the facility the Town has revealed that it will be located at the south end of Woolfrey's Pond. Mayor Brian Sceviour spoke with the Pilot last week (July 31) about the preliminary project details.

"Each site we looked at had drawbacks, but this was the one with the least amount (of drawbacks)" he said. "It is quite a distance from any residential properties and has only brush and trees."

The construction and operation of the sewage treatment facility would happen in several phases over the next few years, but with the selection of the site, engineers can begin to study the area and make plans to proceed.

Mayor Sceviour explained that this project has been in the works for quite some time, but there are two main reasons to move ahead now.

"The federal government has implemented new regulations that makes it mandatory for towns to have sewage treatment in place. The second reason being we want to stop sewage from ending up in Lewisporte Harbour," said Mayor Sceviour.

The Town of Lewisporte is promoting the marina, harbour and recreational boating more than ever and with expansion of the marina planned for the future Mayor Sceviour said the issue of sewage needs to be addressed.

The Town has received funding from the provincial government for the engineering work and once the cost is determined they will continue to apply for funds to start the construction of the facility. The

Mayor is hopeful work can begin within the next couple of years on the facility.

In order to get the facility operational there is an extensive amount of work that will need to be completed throughout Lewisporte. The work will begin at King Street and then fan out from there until it is done. One of the biggest obstacles will be in areas where the storm and sewage drains are combined. This means the facility will receive material from

both drains as opposed to single sewage drains.

TYPE OF FACILITY

The Mayor explained that there are several types of sewage treatment plants with a wide range of costs.

Mayor Sceviour said, "We want to keep the operation as economical as possible for residents."

The Town has chosen an Abydoz system which has a lower annual operating cost than other plants

available. Glenwood and Appleton also use this system for their sewage treatment facility.

This option is environmentally friendly because it uses a system of plants to filter the wastewater. As the wastewater is absorbed by the plants this purifies.

Although the final product requires time to reach completion Mayor Sceviour said, "It will be worth the wait in the end."

NS commits funding for pumping stations

■ BY STAFF: CAPE BRETON POST

[Arichat, NS]— The province announced \$150,000 in funding for upgrades to 10 pumping stations in Richmond County through its provincial capital assistance program.

The money will be used to replace control panels at the pumping stations that, according to Richmond County, are "obsolete and no longer

reliable."

The Nova Scotia government handed out a total of \$3.5 million Friday (Aug. 2) to assist municipalities in upgrades to municipal water and wastewater systems.

There were 11 successful applications in the bid for the limited program funding.

Richmond County was the only municipality in Cape Breton that received funding.

Applications were ranked according to factors such as the problems the project addresses. Requests for projects that eliminate serious environmental and health problems get priority, John MacDonell, the minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, said in a release.

He said investing in municipal infrastructure keeps communities vibrant and healthy and helps ensure a better quality of life for families.

Construction on Corner Brook Water Treatment Facility

Construction of Corner Brook's new water treatment facility was underway in September.

This new facility, which will serve the city and the adjacent communities of Massey Drive and Mount Moriah, will use a process combining UV

and chlorine treatment with a Dissolved Air Flotation process. These new treatment methods will help ensure access to safe, clean and reliable drinking water throughout the area.

The governments of Canada and Newfoundland

and Labrador are each contributing up to \$12 million toward eligible project costs through the Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund. The City of Corner Brook will cover the remaining costs of the \$49.6 million project.



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Stratford council allocates money for two major projects

■ BY MITCH MACDONALD

THE GUARDIAN

[Stratford, PEI]- Council here (Stratford, Prince Edward Island) has decided to put \$150,000 of provincial infrastructure funding towards two major projects, an upgrade of the town's sewer treatment plant and a new RCMP detachment.

Councillors unanimously passed a resolution during Tuesday night's (July 9) meeting to allocate funding to both projects, each receiving \$75,000.

However, the actual amount ultimately going into each upgrade could change depending on which routes the town chooses.

"A final allocation (is) to be done when more detailed costs are known and a decision is made on each of these projects," said Coun. Dianne Griffin while reading the report.

Griffin said council has received a report from the RCMP with various options on upgrades.

The town is also conducting an assessment of

the treatment plant to determine how the facility can be improved until it's eventually replaced.

The money allocated for the sewer project is to upgrade the current treatment plant so it remains viable until council decides on the future of the town's waste.

Cooper said town staff are in discussions with Charlottetown to see if there is a possibility on eventually shipping its waste to the city.

Another possibility for the future of the treatment plant is to eventually build another one in Stratford.

"There could even be a third option come down the road," said Cooper.

During the allocation resolution, Coun. Steve Ogden said it was important to note the infrastructure funding was money that would have previously been given back to the town as a GST credit.

In the former revenue sharing system, council could use the credit money for whatever purposes were deemed necessary.

Since the implementation of HST, that funding has to go towards infrastructure projects that meet the province's criteria.

"Now it's a grant application," said Ogden. "That wasn't what we were looking for in terms of revenue sharing."

The change to the revenue sharing system has been a bone of contention between the province

and its municipalities.

Cooper said he understands the fund is in place for a one-year period, while the province reviews the system and adapts to the new HST.

He said the finance committee will be challenging the province on revenue sharing during the next set of budget talks.



City of Corner Brook staff was busy in July when a sinkhole between 10 and 12 feet deep appeared on Country Road. They discovered that the storm pipe running under the road had deteriorated and that a waterline in the area was leaking. (Photo: Diane Crocker/Western Star)

Potable Water Dispensing Units

The Newfoundland & Labrador government believes Potable Water Dispensing Units are an effective way to provide high quality drinking water in its smaller communities. It is also an affordable solution for communities that have experienced long-standing boil water advisories.

The small-scale water treatment systems pump and treat water from the municipal supply, store it and allow residents to manually collect the water from a small shelter.

The province has invested in 13 units for: Fox Roost-Margaree; Isle aux Morts; Lawn; Leading Tickles; Makkovik; Mary's Harbour; Point May; Postville; Rigolet; Seal Cove, Fortune Bay; Wabana and White-way.

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High lead levels in Acadia University water

BY WENDY ELLIOTT

REGISTER/ADVERTISER

Water quality issues at Acadia University do not impact off-campus residents of Wolfville (Nova Scotia), the town says.

University spokesman Scott Roberts confirmed this week students, faculty and staff have been told not to drink the water in several buildings due to lead contamination.

The town's public works director Kevin Kerr says the lead problem identified on campus is not originating at the town source.

"As part of our approval to operate the water utility, we sample quarterly for lead among other things," he said Sept. 11. "We sample at the source (wells) and a representative site in the distribution system (town hall).

"Our lead levels have consistently been below the maximum acceptable level identified by Health Canada's Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality. Based on our test results we consider the potable water provided to be safe," Kerr said.

Roberts said the campus problem first arose in May when 350 taps and fountain were tested by an independent lab and 31 had higher than acceptable levels of lead.

Visitors on campus have observed signs this summer that warned: "water at this location is for hand washing only."

A QR code on the sign directs people to a website explaining the problem.

Last week, the university received new information.

Roberts said Acadia has found that the problem is not older plumbing because high lead levels have been picked up in relatively new buildings.

The timing of the tests, during the summer

when flow rates are very low and water lies for quite some time in many pipes and fixtures, likely contributed to the higher readings, he said.

Lead in drinking water can be influenced by both alkalinity levels and water temperature.

The university is following accepted protocols: installing filters on drinking fountains and posting warning signs. Flushing the water lines appear to reduce the lead levels significantly.

During the testing, faucets ran for 10 minutes and a second sample was taken. About 91 per cent of the second tests showed acceptable lead levels. The Federal-Provincial-Territorial Committee on Drinking Water set that level at 10 micrograms per litre.

Roberts said the higher tests were likely from faucets that are rarely used.

Not all buildings on campus have been tested.

Taps are being flushed daily in residence buildings and in food preparation areas in Wheelock Dining Hall, he said.

Meanwhile the cause of the problem has not been determined. Roberts said faculty members with high levels of knowledge have been volunteering their assistance and Acadia has set up a committee to examine the problem.

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Maccan has spoken

[Maccan, NS] – After petitioning 115 residents in the Maccan (Nova Scotia) area, a narrow majority are in favour of using a proposed water extension.

Of the 115 who received the mail out petition, 59 were in favour while 33 elected 'no.' A total of 22 ballots were unreturned and one came in after the Friday, August 2nd deadline.

The percentage in favour worked out to 51.3 per cent.

“As a majority of the eligible properties have signed in favour, the Municipality, together with the Amherst Water Utility, will move forward with the project,” the Municipality of Cumberland County stated in a release. “It is expected the detailed design will be completed early in 2014 and the project will be put out to tender shortly thereafter.”

Cumberland News Now

Water System Study for Elliston

Funding for a \$40,000 study on the water supply system in the Town of Elliston was announced in late August.

In recent years the water supply system in the Newfoundland & Labrador town has deteriorated and it has experienced significant loss of pressure and leakage. The project will involve a comprehensive study to identify issues and recommend corrective action to secure the system.

“This study will provide the town with information and recommendations on improvements for the water system,” said Bonavista South MHA Glen Little. “This initiative will mean a great deal to residents of my district, and the work will give council a sense of next steps as they review their water distribution system.”

Funding for the project is cost-shared, with the province providing 90 per cent and the town covering the remainder.



A storm sewer was installed on Somerset Street and Wellesley Avenue in Saint John, New Brunswick this summer. (Photo: Carmel Vivier)

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Utilities jump into the weather business

How can you accurately control, if you don't have precise input? In the face of increasing cost penalties for the inaccurate predicting of power and gas requirements, many local utilities are asking themselves that very question. With weather posing one of the more significant factors in predicting demand at any given time, an increasing number of utilities now opt to rely on their own industrial-grade weather stations that monitor conditions on a very local level, saving themselves significant money in the process.

Enabling this micro control are modern industrial-grade stations that not only monitor weather parameters to exacting standards, but now act as sensors to provide analog or digital input directly into a utility's business/operating system to provide greater control.

"Accurate weather monitoring has a direct economic impact," affirms Dr. Luis Z. Cabeza, a power systems consulting engineer for Austin Energy, the eighth largest community-owned electric utility in the United States. "It's very valuable to your engineering approach."

"On August 7, Electricity consumption reached a new record for 2013 with 67,180 megawatts of load in the 5 p.m. hour." So reported an opening paragraph in the Dallas Business Journal two days later, citing figures from the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT), the system operator for the state's bulk transmission grid.

No matter the cause, global warming's impact on utility operations can no longer be ig-

nored. System operators need to carefully and continuously monitor climactic conditions in order to keep tight rein on apportioning system demands.

"ERCOT allows dynamic ratings for transmission lines, depending on temperature," continues Cabeza. "Before 2010 we only had to worry about zones. But now we must focus on critical transmission lines, congestion rights and nodal analysis to determine power losses, and weather comes into play."

Avoiding such financial hits requires far more localized monitoring than the nearest TV station or Weather.com can provide.

"When clouds come, they block the sun in that particular area of the city and the difference in solar penetration shows up in your generation demands," notes Cabeza. "Or we might notice that in one part of the city that the temp dropped down to 85. What happened? But you look at your data from your own weather station and realize there was an isolated rain shower there. Things like that help you understand what's going on and even help predict power demands."

Whether too hot or too cold, meteorological micro analysis can only be achieved through high quality industrial grade monitoring stations. Covering all the parameters requires a complement of sensors that monitor wind speed, wind direction, temperature, barometric pressure, humidity, rainfall and even solar radiation. All must deliver unerring accuracy and be durable enough to stand up to harsh conditions without failing in the field.

Dallas-based Texas Electronics, Inc. has been a pioneer and innovator in the field of quality meteorological instrumentation since 1956. The company offers individual gauges or complete weather stations that utilize high quality, research-grade sensors protected by corrosion resistant enamel coatings all warranted to last three years and all meeting National Weather Service requirements.

"We used to feel comfortable working with transmission line ratings based on a temperature variance of five degrees F," says Cabeza, "but the goal is to be more stringent in the future. We installed Texas Electronics weather stations at six of our substations to more closely monitor conditions at each location. Additionally, we are an ISO9000 certified company so our work needs to be calibrated and certified every year. We must maintain accurate instrumentation."

Aside from the high quality of data gathered, industrial-grade sensors now allow seamless integration into existing utility digital control systems. Standard industry outputs include 4-20 mA, but signal conditioners allow interface to virtually all data acquisition systems.

"Our weather station incorporates an internal interface to automatically convert its SCADA data to feed directly into the DNP3 protocol we use at our utility," says Cabeza.

(For more information contact Texas Electronics, Inc.; 5529 Redfield Street; Dallas, TX 75235; (214) 631-2490; Fax (214) 631-4218; or visit www.texaselectronics.com.)



Aside from the high quality of data gathered, industrial-grade sensors now allow seamless integration into existing utility digital control systems.



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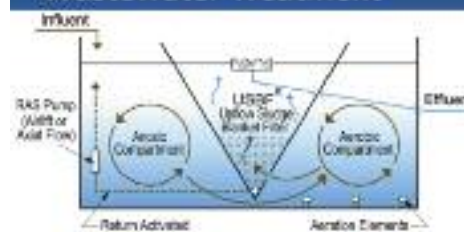
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DEMON® sidestream deammonification system/Dissolved Air Flotation

World Water Works, Inc., a leading designer and manufacturer of wastewater treatment solutions and Virginia utility Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD), received the American Association of Environmental Engineers and Scientists (AAEES) Honor Award for Environmental Sustainability, for implementation of the first DEMON® sidestream deammonification system in North America. The efficient and ecofriendly DEMON® process had previously been used only in Europe.

HRSD's York River Treatment Plant proved a perfect candidate for the system because its existing sequential batch reactors (SBR) and equalization tanks could be easily retrofitted for the process. This allowed simple and inexpensive installation of DEMON® in less than 4 months. Successful operation has continued since early January.

DEMON® removes ammonia from wastewater in a biological process that features ammonia oxidizing bacteria (AOB), which convert half the ammonia to nitrite. A second anaerobic biological process uses Anammox bacteria to convert the combination of nitrite and remaining ammonia directly into nitrogen gas. This system reduces energy requirements by 60 per cent compared to traditional nitrogen removal processes, eliminates the need for all chemicals, and produces 90 per cent less sludge. The system also features a low carbon footprint.

The process is seeded with Anammox bacteria, which aids in a quick start up of a system rather than cultivating bacteria from scratch. This factor has proven to be an obstacle for other deammonification technologies. To retain the Anammox bacteria, a unique patent pending separation device provides enrichment of the specialized slowly growing Anammox biomass. The device enhances process robustness and treatment capacity and provides resilience despite changes in wastewater quality.

DISSOLVED AIR FLOTATION

World Water Works, Inc., has also introduced its new www/RESOURCE DAF, a next generation dissolved air flotation (DAF) system with significant performance and cost advantages.

The www/RESOURCE DAF system handles flows from 5-8000 gallons per minute (gpm) and is ideal for industries ranging from food processing, to desalination pretreatment, to textiles, to petroleum, and beyond. Pilot treatment plants are available and thorough bench testing and pilot treatability studies are conducted to guarantee results.

With a high total dissolved solids (TDS) and saltwater tolerance, www/RESOURCE DAF provides the flexibility to not only outperform traditional DAFs, but also ensure longevity. Heavy duty durable polypropylene construction allows operation over

a wide temperature range and pH range of 2-13, so the system offers tremendous treatment flexibility. The system's robust patent pending design guarantees low operational and maintenance costs. Consistent and reliable performance ensures compliance with government regulations.

One important feature of the www/RESOURCE DAF system is the DAG™ (Dissolved Air Generator) technology, which allows the removal of even the finest insoluble materials by generating 5-12 micron bubbles, the finest in the industry. The DAG system also achieves saturation efficiencies that approach 100 percent at low energy consumption. This performance has been documented through upgrades of existing systems that show the new DAG technology improves performance while reducing energy costs by more than 50 per cent.

In addition to the system's performance benefits, the www/RESOURCE DAF minimizes the need for chemical coagulants and flocculants. Fewer chemicals, combined with low utility requirements translate into significantly lower operational costs.

(For more information about World Water Works and its products, contact the company at 4000 SW 113th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73173, at 800-607-7873, or visit their website at www.WorldWaterWorks.com.)

Bridging the gaps in containment systems

Water and wastewater treatment facilities are exposed to hazardous and costly leaks – unless containment vessels have linings that will “bridge” structural cracks and resist harsh chemicals.

There is a solution to the combined threats of various chemical and chemical challenges to water and wastewater containment facilities, an engineered elastomeric lining system that can be applied to primary and secondary containment structures. The engineered elastomeric lining is noteworthy for its long service life, ability to “bridge” joints and cracks in concrete, imperviousness to UV light and harsh chemicals, and ease of installation.

The Elasti-Liner system from KCC (Houston, TX) is a leading line of engineered elastomeric lining products that is applied by brush or roller to concrete substrates and directly over expansion and control joints.

Soil remediation is extremely expensive, but is normally unwarranted if you use a crack-bridging elastomeric lining. Plus, the crack-bridging property does not affect, in any way, chemical resistance of the lining. If the lining is resistant to the intended chemicals then it will also bridge moving concrete cracks to 1/8” and larger.

For more information, contact KCC Corrosion Control, 4018 Trey Road, Houston, TX 77084; Phone 281-550-1199, 800-395-5624; Fax 281-550-9097; Email kcc@kcccontrol.com; or visit www.kcc-control.com.



The ongoing integrity of many water and wastewater containment structures depends on the abilities of the containment system linings—such as the Elasti-Liner system from KCC—to provide protection against leakage over time. The photo shows a containment area for sulfuric acid.



Clarifiers used in wastewater treatment are often designed with metal sidewalls resting on a concrete base. In an attempt to prevent leaks when the concrete base cracks, a unique elastomeric liner is used that “bridges” structural cracks up to one-eighth of an inch and resists harsh chemicals used in wastewater treatment.

Biowater biofilm technology overcomes seasonal wastewater issues

Earlier this year Biowater Technology, a leading provider and manufacturer of advanced biological wastewater treatment processes and equipment for municipal and industrial facilities globally, was awarded a contract by The Village of Bloomingdale, Michigan, USA (municipal) to supply its Complete Mix Fixed Film (CMFF®) biological treatment process.

Bloomingdale's existing wastewater treatment plant has unique challenges associated with seasonal fluctuation from regional school and food processor discharges. The existing lagoon could not meet new ammonia limits, and cold wastewater temperature exacerbates the problem.

The municipality selected Biowater's CMFF® which is

based on the MBBR (Moving Bed Biofilm Reactor) concept in which biofilm are fluidized in the bed and remove organics and nitrify ammonia and TKN.

“The best solution to overcome the challenges with seasonal fluctuations and cold temperatures was to design a three-stage aerobic CMFF® process followed by gravity clarification,” said Biowater Technology US, LLC President Laura Marcolini. The cold weather in Bloomingdale has a significant impact on wastewater treatment efficiencies. Removing contaminants like BOD, TSS and other nutrients from wastewater is necessary no matter the weather conditions. Biowater Technology's CMFF® process provides an added benefit in

extremely cold weather conditions because of its robust biofilm. This technology was developed in Norway and has significant benefits over traditional wastewater treatment processes like Activated Sludge, MBR, SBR, and Lagoon processes.

“Biowater and their biofilm process were pre-selected to bid on this project during the design phase because of their qualifications, expertise, and solution to the seasonal challenge we faced. The delivery met our expectations with no change orders. Start-up, training and initial system performance has met the demands posed”, said Project Engineer Cary Bond of Fleis & VandenBrink Engineering, Inc.

NL invests in water projects

Newfoundland & Labrador has funded a number of water and sewer upgrades across the province this summer:

- \$580,000 – Town of New-Wes-Valley to complete work on the local water distribution system. The upgrades will eliminate ongoing issues as a result of the use of old, private sewer systems.
- \$56,000 – Centreville-Wareham-Trinity for upgrades to the existing sewage pumping station.
- \$42,000 – Centreville-Wareham-Trinity to replace the existing water main valves.
- \$250,000 – Town of Dover to complete upgrades to two sewage lift stations in the community.
- \$619,000 – Town of Eastport to fund water and sewer upgrades. This includes the installation of sections of water main and sewer main and construction of a lift station.
- \$145,000 – Town of Burgeo to replace 250 metres of steel water main.
- \$170,000 – Town of Channel-Port aux Basques for sanitary and storm sewer upgrades;
- \$212,000 – Town of Channel-Port aux Basques to fund the completion of water

treatment plant upgrades;

- \$44,000 – Town of Channel-Port aux Basques for engineering design work for the sewer system.
- \$375,000 – Town of Grand Bank for water and sewer upgrades.
- \$229,000 – Town of Belleoram for repairs to the storm sewer system.
- \$295,000 – St. Alban's to fund the replacement of two sewage lift stations.
- \$217,000 – Deer Lake for upgrades to the lift station.
- \$161,000 – Town of Hampden to complete upgrades to the timber bridge that provides access to the chlorination building.
- \$305,000 – Town of Arnold's Cove for road upgrades and the replacement of an aging water line.
- \$185,000 – Town of Chance Cove for a new well to increase water capacity.
- \$120,000 – Swift Current for upgrades to the well system in the community.
- \$154,000 – Town of Millertown to cover improvements to water and sewer services on Beothuck Street and Main Street.

Shelburne water rates to take major hike

BY GREG BENNETT

COAST GUARD

After a water rate study showed its utility would be almost \$1-million in debt within two years, the Town of Shelburne (Nova Scotia) is applying to the provincial Utility and Review Board for major water rate increases.

The increase would see the annual charge for an average household rise more than 70 per cent ...from \$820 to \$1400 a year.

CAO Dylan Heide said town councillors and staff have struggled with what to do about the financially struggling utility. A water rate study was commissioned earlier this year to examine the options.

All municipal utilities in Nova Scotia are expected to operate self sufficiently. But without a major increase in rates, the water study painted a bleak fiscal picture for Shelburne's water utility. That study, commissioned earlier this year and prepared by G.A. Isenor Consulting, has recommended a series of rate increases over the next three years, the largest of which would take place on Jan. 1.

The study recommends increases in base charges and water usage charges ranging from 50 per cent to more than 70 per cent for all users.

Another smaller rate increase (7.5 per cent for average users) would take place on April 1, 2014. An increase of 3.6 per cent for average users is projected for April 2015.

The utility posted a deficit of nearly \$200,000 last year because water consumption has declined while still dealing with major debt servicing costs from the Water and Mowatt Street line extension project.

That 2011 water line extension could have potentially added 120 customers to the system. The project was initially launched based on projections that 84 new customers would hook up.

Problems arose with the water line extension from the beginning as tenders came in \$1-million over budget.

Then, after the project was complete, efforts to convince new potential customers to hook up were a dismal failure and as yet (Oct. 1) only 21 new users have been added because of the extension.

While there are hopes that rates can be decreased in the future if more large industrial customers come on board, Heide says the rates must be set based on today's reality.

"We can only go with what the situation on the ground is right now," said Heide. "We do have the option to modify the rates in the future."

The CAO noted that the increase could be a burden for some within the town and he noted that council was examining options for helping lower income property owners in the future.

The application for the increase in rates was made to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board last week (late September) after a special meeting of Council.



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Sinkhole damages Garlands Crossing sewer line

BY CAROLE MORRIS-UNDERHILL

HANTS JOURNAL

A developing sinkhole in Garlands Crossing is creating some headaches for West Hants Public Works employees.

Rick Sherrard, the (Nova Scotia) municipality's director of public works, informed council of the issue at their committee of the whole meeting Aug. 23. The sinkhole has been developing for about a year near the Oulton's Card Lock Fuel Station.

Due to significant "sub-surface settlement," the bottom of the sewer main has been split, Sherrard told councillors.

"Our estimate at this point is it'll take about five days and \$60,000 to repair it. That's without digging it and you don't know what you're going to find when you start digging," said Sherrard.

The public works staff are in the process of putting together a work plan. Sherrard said when they open up the area, they will have to provide 24-hour traffic control.

"It's going to be a significant project," said Sherrard. "There is about six to eight metres of pipe that will need to be replaced. Beyond that, we won't know until we get it opened up."

Warden Richard Dauphinee, who is the councillor for that area, asked if the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) was involved with the repair.

Although the developing sinkhole issue lies within the TIR right-of-way, Sherrard said the problem is the municipality's to fix as it is their sewer main that is split.

"I understand we need to fix our sewer line... but where it's their property and it's a sinkhole and it's getting bigger, wouldn't they have to be part of it?" asked Dauphinee.

Sherrard said the sinkhole is not located in the road and is not impacting traffic safety.

He noted that if the municipality fixes the sewer line but TIR doesn't address the sinkhole, the sewer line could get broken again.

Deputy Warden Gary Cochrane said he felt TIR should be involved with the repair and also noted



According to Municipality of West Hants, a sinkhole has been developing for about a year near the Oulton's Card Lock Fuel Station.

concerns over the sinkhole by Meadow Lake.

"They keep patching that one out by Meadow Lake. That's going to be a major one, one day," said Cochrane. "I think you can almost feel it waving when you drive across it sometimes. I think that... is really going to show up on the front page of the paper someday."

The warden was asked to contact the TIR department to see if he could get the issue addressed

with top officials so the repair can be made quickly.

"Right now our work plan looks like the third week of September is the earliest we can get at it anyway," Sherrard said.

Coun. Victor Swinamer asked if the sewer is currently leaking, to which Sherrard said the bottom of the pipe was broken right out. They surveyed the situation using a video camera.

"So in the real world, this can't be put off for too long," said Swinamer.

Sherrard said they don't want to see it put "off for months and months" but "addressed within a reasonable period of time."

An update on the situation was anticipated to come forward at the next meeting.



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Water Tower paint job delayed

BY GREG BENNETT

THE COAST GUARD

Although the Town of Shelburne (Nova Scotia) has given the go-ahead for an expensive paint job on one of its water towers, the project may be delayed for months because a request for tenders was not detailed enough.

CAO Dylan Heide said the problem with the tender documents was expected to lead to a delay that with the approach of cold weather, could reach into the spring. The town had planned to open tenders for the work last week (mid-August).

The painting of the Town's Rodney Lake Road water tower, a required maintenance of the tower was approved by a previous council last year but was delayed due to staff changes. The painting job could cost as much as \$250,000.

The decision to move ahead with a tender on the project was made at a special meeting of council on Tuesday, July 23.

Costs would be paid for through the water utility's reserve funds.

The 105-foot tower, holding 250 thousand imperial gallons of water, is complicated enough to paint because of its size but there are also the many cross braces lining the structure.

The inside of the unit will need to be sandblasted on the inside and out and primed and painted with a special coating safe for water, giving the structure corrosion protection.

The tower is at risk of becoming corroded and needing replacement if the problem is not fixed.

A new paint job is expected to last 25 years.

The Town is also looking over a draft version of a water rate study that is expected to lead to increased water rates for users.

Fixing a leak

BY JEFF ELLIOTT

NORTHERN PEN

Little by little, the elevated water tank in Hawke's Bay (Newfoundland & Labrador) has been leaking its contents for nearly a year and the town is now hopeful that a full repair is just around the corner.

Installed to provide adequate and uniform pressure to the distribution system in the small community, it was expected that the tank -- which is supported by a steel tower -- would have lifetime expectancy, but the unexpected maintenance issues left committee members in need of a fix for the tiny perforation, said Town Mayor Lloyd Bennett.

As part of their capital works program for 2013, the town applied to receive funding from the Department of Municipal Affairs to aid in the tank's rehabilitation.

Government officials recently acknowledged the request.

"According to their response, the government is willing to fund

an initial study to assess the stability of the tower before they decide to invest in it completely," said Bennett.

He estimates that the repair would cost upwards of \$500,000.

"This is quite sensible on behalf of the government," added Bennett. "They're going to have a look around while conducting the study, and then determine whether it is structurally sound and worth putting that amount of money into it."

He said that the study would also determine whether or not the structure is needed at all, in terms of providing function to the town.

According to Bennett, all of the required documents have been signed and returned to the appropriate departments so that the study can officially take place.

He is hopeful the project will be underway very soon.

If after the study is conducted and it is determined that funding would not be granted, Bennett said the council would reconvene to discuss further action.



The painting of the Rodney Lake Road water tower in Shelburne, Nova Scotia may be delayed until next spring. (File photo: The Coast Guard)

MPWWA Maritime Provinces Water & Wastewater **REPORT**

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