

COMMUNICATION 137014

Received From: Guy Bourgon, Director of Public Works
Addressed To: Committee of the Whole
Date: March 10th, 2026
Topic: Carleton Place Drinking Water System 2025 Annual Report

SUMMARY

The Ontario Clean Water Agency has provided the 2025 Annual Report for the Town's Drinking Water System. The report is a regulatory requirement of O. Reg. 170, which must be prepared prior to March 31st of the following calendar year. Council, as the Owner, is required to review and accept this report and then make it available to the Public.

BACKGROUND

The report contains:

- a system process description;
- a summary of non-compliance and Ministry inspection findings;
- a summary of quantities and flow rates including comparison of this information to rated capacity;
- results of drinking water samples taken over the year; and
- identification of maintenance activities that occurred over the year.

COMMENT

There were no adverse water quality issues in 2025. There were two (2) recommendations provided by the Ministry during their inspection in 2023: the Town should initiate a backflow prevention program to better safeguard the system; and Public Works staff should formalize the program for the inspection and exercising of valves. Both of these recommendations have now been addressed by staff. The latest inspection in 2025 yielded a perfect score of 100%.

In 2021, Council approved the Water Control By-law 63-2021 which implemented restrictions on morning lawn watering in the month of July due to excessive water usage. The Town also created a water widget which was posted on our website and shared through social media and the CP Scoop to advise residents whenever water consumption began to spike. Further public education on water conservation and proper lawn watering practices was distributed to residents with their water bills and also posted on our website. A rebate program also continued for rain barrels to harvest rainwater for outdoor watering activities.

The July morning watering prohibition was once again successful in keeping July consumption in check, with June coming in with the highest peak flow followed by August. Total annual flow for 2025 was slightly higher than in 2024, likely due to less rainfall experienced in the months of June and July than the year before.

Although blue-green algae blooms were discovered on Mississippi Lake in 2018, there were no blue-green algae blooms identified in the source water by MECP in 2025; therefore no additional sampling was required to be undertaken by OCWA.

Test results for all parameters of drinking water produced at the Carleton Place Water Treatment Plant in 2025 were within acceptable levels.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council accept the Carleton Place Drinking Water System 2025 Annual Report as information; and

THAT the report be made available to the Public via the Town's Website.