

# MEMO

Date: April 9, 2024

To: Emily Yeo, Town of The Blue Mountains

From: Jane Wilson, J.L. Richards & Associates Limited

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Subject: Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) for Drinking Water Storage and Supply  
Deficiencies in the Town's East Pressure Zones  
Public Information Centre No. 2 – Summary Memorandum (R0)

JLR No.: 31000-003

## **1.0 Public Information Centre Summary**

The second Public Information Centre (PIC) for the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) for Drinking Water Storage and Supply Deficiencies in the Town's East Pressure Zones was held virtually on March 20, 2024 starting at 5:00 p.m. The purpose of this PIC was to present the preliminary preferred alternative (Alternative 2A – Build a new WTP and storage facility on Arrowhead Road near Highway 26) and gather input from stakeholders, rightsholders, and residents.

A Notice of PIC was prepared by the consulting team and distributed prior to the PIC. A copy of the PIC Notice is provided in Appendix A. The Notice was issued via the following means:

- Placed on the Town's website the week of February 26, 2024.
- Mailed and e-mailed to review agencies, developers, Indigenous communities, and other stakeholders the weeks of February 26 and March 4, 2024.
- Placed in two (2) issues of the local newspaper (Blue Mountains Review) starting the week of February 26, 2024.

During the PIC, a presentation was held explaining the project (refer to Appendix B). A question-and-answer period was held following the presentation and representatives from the consulting team and Town staff were available to answer questions through the duration of the PIC. The PIC, including the question-and-answer period was recorded and is available on the Town's project webpage.

Both verbal and written comments received from attendees prior to, during, and following the PIC were noted by the consulting team and are summarized in Section 2.0 of this memo.

## **2.0 Public Information Centre Comments**

The tables below provide a summary of verbal and written comments received prior to or asked during the second PIC. Refer to Appendix C for a copy of any written correspondence received from the second PIC.

**Table 1. Public Stakeholder Comments Received Prior to and During Public Information Centre 2**

Comment No.	Project Component	Comment	Answers and Follow up Required/Action
Public Commenter 1	Future Development	Inquired when water will be supplied to the developments of Castle Glen, Osler Bluff, and Swiss Meadows.	Water is currently supplied to the Swiss Meadows development. Servicing of Osler Bluff and Castle Glen is dependent on developer timelines, however these developers were incorporated into the MCEA under build-out conditions.
Public Commenter 2	Future Development	Noted concerns on the impact of the Castle Glen development on springs. The commenter also inquired if pipes built to service Castle Glen will cross private property.	A Class Environmental Assessment Addendum for the Castle Glen Development is being undertaken by others; these comments will be relayed to the consultant undertaking this work.
Public Commenter 3	Future Development	Inquired on how the future water supply requirements for proposed developments were incorporated into the study.	The growth projections considered future areas reserved for draft plan approvals, are on Official Plan Designated Lands with application, or are Official Plan Designated Lands without an application. Growth projections were based on the best available information – changes to estimated growth projections were closely monitored throughout the study and updated as required.
Public Commenter 4	Preliminary Preferred Alternative	Inquired on if the new intake pipe will cross through Craigeith Provincial Park.	The routing of the proposed intake pipe will be confirmed during the subsequent Schedule C EA.
Public Commenter 5	Preliminary Preferred Alternative	Raised concerns about the water quality and impacts of runoff and erosion at the proposed Craigeith intake location.	<p>Additional studies will be conducted prior to the selection of a new intake if Alternative 2A is selected and advanced (e.g., water quality sampling, bathymetry surveys, ecological assessment, intake protection study to inform future source water protection work, etc.).</p> <p>In addition to intake studies, archaeological, and ecological field studies would be conducted for the new Craigeith WTP site. Archaeological, cultural heritage, and ecological studies may also be required for the existing Thornbury WTP site before upgrades are undertaken.</p>
Public Commenter 6	Preliminary Preferred Alternative	Inquired on how the Town will regulate ski hill runoff in Craigeith.	The new Craigeith WTP will require a Source Protection Plan, which will dictate what activities are allowed within the Intake Protection Zone (IPZ) surrounding the new intake. Activities within the IPZ that can

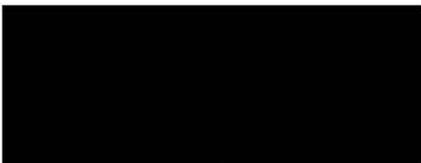
Comment No.	Project Component	Comment	Answers and Follow up Required/Action
			impact the intake and drinking water may be mitigated or restricted. Additionally, water quality sampling will be conducted prior to the location of the intake being selected.
Public Commenter 7	Preliminary Preferred Alternative	Inquired on how issues of high turbidity in the water system will impact the cost of water.	The intake pipe will be offshore and is anticipated to be less impacted by high turbidity following rainfall events and instances of runoff and erosion. The WTP can be equipped to treat for high levels of turbidity; the type of technology implemented at the WTP will be confirmed during the subsequent Schedule C MCEA. If membrane technology is selected as preferred, high turbidity events may require the membranes to require cleaning; if high turbidity events happen frequently this could increase the cost of cleaning chemicals used to clean the membranes.
Public Commenter 6	Preliminary Preferred Alternative	Questions were received regarding the breakdown of project costs.	The commenter was referred to the cost breakdown outlined in the presentation. Additional details on costing are provided in the Draft Project File Report posted on the project webpage: <a href="https://www.thebluemountains.ca/planning-building-construction/current-projects/municipal-infrastructure-projects/east-side-water">https://www.thebluemountains.ca/planning-building-construction/current-projects/municipal-infrastructure-projects/east-side-water</a>
Public Commenter 7	Preliminary Preferred Alternative	Inquired on the annual costs of running two WTPs.	There may be a need for additional staffing to run and maintain a second WTP, however, additional operations staff will be required as the Town grows regardless of the number of plants.
Public Commenter 8	Alternative Evaluation	Suggested that a regional water supply that considers the existing agreement between the Town of Collingwood and the Town of The Blue Mountains be considered.	As part of this study, the Town investigated a regional water supply through Alternative 3C – Increase Supply from Collingwood and worked with Collingwood to investigate the opportunity for a regional supply.
Public Commenter 9	General	Inquired on the timelines of sewage and drinking water infrastructure upgrades.	The capacity of both the sanitary and drinking water systems are actively monitored, however they are not currently built to the same scale. Depending on the area, there will be different system constraints in the water and sewer systems.

**Table 2. Agency Stakeholder Comments Received Prior to and During Public Information Centre 2**

Stakeholder	Project Component	Comment	Answers and Follow up Required/Action
MTO	Preliminary Preferred Alternative	Inquired on if the preliminary preferred alternative crosses the Highway 26 right-of-way (ROW).	The routing of the proposed intake pipe will be confirmed during the subsequent Schedule C MCEA, however the intake will be required to cross the Highway 26 ROW. JLR will continue to engage with MTO as this project progresses.
Town of Collingwood	Alternative Evaluation	A representative from the Town of Collingwood inquired on if project phasing for the preliminary preferred alternative was considered.	Additional information was provide to the Town on phasing by the consultant for discussion with the Town of Collingwood.
MNRF	Environmental Impacts	The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) provided information and relevant policies and legislation to guide the identification of natural features and resources in the project area.	These comments were noted by the project team.

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Prepared by:



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