

October 16, 2017

Motion to lift watering restrictions

Colleagues,

Conservation is a fashionable idea that has various real and imagined consequences. For Londoners purchasing water, it provides the paradox of having to pay more for less since they must cover the capital and operational budgets of our treatment plants regardless of how little water they use.

Since we have an abundance of capacity within our water system, and since there are no negative environmental effects for making use of that capacity, I believe it would be to the benefit of our citizens if we were to release the restrictions on watering lawns. An increase in water usage would have a downward pressure on the unit price. This would result in poor families paying slightly less to bathe their children while wealthy individuals made up the difference by purchasing more water to green their lawns.

Watering on alternate days can still remain on the books, as our plan for conservation should it ever become necessary.

While I realize that there is tremendous inertia in the romantic notions surrounding the word “conservation”, there are situations where conservation is simply not necessary and this is the case for London, Ontario. For that reason I hope you will support the following motion:

That staff be directed to lift the restrictions on watering lawns.

Thanks,

Michael van Holst