

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING ON FEBRUARY 5, 2019
FROM:	KELLY SCHERR, P.ENG., MBA, FEC MANAGING DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER
SUBJECT:	2018 MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT, CONSERVATION AND PARKS INSPECTION REPORT FOR THE CITY OF LONDON WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

RECOMMENDATION

That on the recommendation of the Managing Director – Environmental & Engineering Services and City Engineer, this report regarding the findings of the 2018 Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Inspection of the City of London Water Distribution System **BE RECEIVED** for information.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER
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“2016 Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change Inspection Report for the City of London Water Distribution System”, Civic Works Committee, February 7, 2017, Agenda item #8.

“2017 Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change Inspection Report for the City of London Water Distribution System”, Civic Works Committee, February 6, 2018, Agenda item #12.

2015-2019 STRATEGIC PLAN

This report supports the Strategic Plan in the following areas:

- Building a Sustainable City: robust infrastructure; strong and healthy environment; responsible growth.
- Strengthening our community: healthy, safe, and accessible City.

BACKGROUND

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to outline the results of the 2018 MECP City of London Water Distribution System inspection, which was conducted in December, 2018.

Context

Municipal drinking water systems in Ontario are held to very high standards. The Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) ensures that these standards are met by requiring municipal water systems to conform to the Province’s Drinking Water Quality Management Standard and through annual inspections. The MECP performs inspections to ensure that municipalities are operating water systems in compliance with all applicable legal requirements. Water system

operations are governed by provincial regulations and by the conditions prescribed in MECP-issued Drinking Water Works Permits and Municipal Drinking Water Licences.

DISCUSSION

MECP inspections can be in the form of rigorous “detailed” inspections, or less stringent “focused” inspections. For 2018, the MECP conducted a focused inspection in London, and explained the decision as follows:

“This system was chosen for a focused inspection because the system’s performance met the ministry’s criteria, most importantly that there were no deficiencies as identified in O. Reg. 172/03 over the past 3 years.”

O. Reg. 172/03 defines a deficiency as a violation that poses a drinking water health hazard. MECP inspections include staff interviews and facility inspections, as well as a review of operating procedures, water analysis reports, operational records, and staff certification and training records. Where an Inspector finds that the water system operators did not properly comply with the applicable requirements, these are recorded as non-compliance incidents.

The results of the annual MECP Inspections are used to generate Drinking Water System Inspection Rating Records. Each incident of non-compliance results in a subtraction from a possible score of 100%. Each year, these rating records (or “report cards”) for Ontario drinking water systems are compiled and made available to the public.

On January 9, 2019, the MECP issued the *City of London Distribution System Inspection Report* for the 2018 inspection. After completing the inspection, the MECP identified one incident of administrative non-compliance. The non-compliance was related to a requirement to contact the Medical Officer of Health within 24 hours of receiving a report of a lead exceedance in a water sample. These results from London’s residential testing program were received by the City of London on December 28, 2017. London’s residential testing program provides scheduled sampling of older homes that are known to have lead water service pipes. City staff provided the results to the MLHU on January 3, 2018. As detailed in the Inspection Report, the results were not provided within 24 hours of being received.

The MECP deemed this single incident of administrative non-compliance to have a Risk Rating of zero, and the City of London received a Final Inspection Rating of 100.00% for 2018.

The following summarizes London’s Final Inspection Ratings for the last 5 years:

- 2014 – 98.98%
- 2015 – 100.00%
- 2016 – 96.05%
- 2017 – 84.06%
- 2018 – 100.00%

The complete 2018 *City of London Distribution System Inspection Report* has been included as Appendix ‘A’: Inspection Report, and is also available at:

www.london.ca/residents/Water/Water-System/Pages/Summary-and-Annual-Reports.aspx

CONCLUSIONS

The Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) performs rigorous annual inspections to ensure that municipalities are operating water systems in compliance with all applicable legal requirements. The MECP recently completed the 2018 inspection of London’s drinking water system, and outlined the findings in the *City of London Distribution System Inspection Report*.

London received a final inspection rating of 100.00% for the 2018 MECP inspection.

Acknowledgements

This report has been prepared with input from Dan Huggins, Water Quality Manager and QMS Representative.

PREPARED BY:	REVIEWED & CONCURRED BY:
JOHN SIMON, P.ENG. DIVISION MANAGER, WATER OPERATIONS	SCOTT MATHERS, P.ENG. DIRECTOR - WATER AND WASTEWATER
RECOMMENDED BY:	
KELLY SCHERR, P.ENG., MBA, FEC MANAGING DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER	

Attach: Appendix ‘A’: Inspection Report

CC: Martin Hayward – City Manager
 Aaron Rozentals – Division Manager, Water Engineering
 Dan Huggins - Water Quality Manager