



## Staff Report

**Report Title: Waste Management September 2023**

**Prepared By: John Yungblut, Director of Public Works**

**Department: Public Works**

**Date: Sep. 6, 2023**

**Report Number: PW-2023-09-49**

**File Number: C11 PW 23**

### **Attachments:**

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### **Recommendation:**

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report No. PW-2023-09-49, prepared by John Yungblut, Director of Public Works.

### **Background:**

#### MECP Inspection

The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) conducts annual inspections of the Huron and Kinloss Landfill sites, which typically results in several action items of areas that are not in compliance with our Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA).

The Ministry conducted an inspection of the Huron Landfill on July 25, 2023 and found several items that were deemed to be out of compliance:

1. Disposal operations not being adequately or continually supervised.
2. Waste not compacted twice per day.
3. Daily cover not applied adequately (Provincial Officer's Order)
4. Stormwater Management Plan not fully constructed, and leachate collection tank not included in ECA. (Provincial Officer's Order)
5. Burning of brush and leaf and yard waste disposal area while open to the public.

#### Kinloss Landfill Shelter

Township staff have been investigating options for providing shelter for our Landfill worker that supervises the Kinloss Landfill when we are open to the public. A temporary shelter

was set up this summer, however, we continued to look for a more permanent structure. We were recently able to partner with the Women in Carpentry program to construct a small shed for the site. The shed will be 8 feet by 6 feet with a porch measuring 8 feet by 4 feet.

## **Discussion:**

### MECP Inspection

Item 1 is a result of some garbage collected by our waste collection contractor being disposed of late in the afternoon beyond the normal Landfill staff working hours. Township staff have previously discussed compacting bagged garbage at the end of the day with the Ministry, but it appears have become an issue once again.

The Township does not have sufficient Landfill staff in place to provide supervision Monday to Saturday, so further dialogue with the Ministry will be required to find a solution to this problem.

Item 2 is a result of our existing Landfill compactor that does not have functioning air conditioning and the machine will overheat. Garbage is currently compacted in the morning when the air temperature is cooler. This problem will be resolved when the new compacted arrives Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>.

Item 3 is a long-standing issue that we have not been able to resolve to the satisfaction of the Ministry. We are able to spread some cover material with our compactor and wheel loader, but the compactor has poor traction as a result of the worn wheel tips, so it is not able to spread material properly. The other issue is removing the daily cover material at the start of each day, which is nearly impossible with the equipment we have on site.

Township staff have been investigating two solutions that should satisfy the Ministry's expectations. One option is to apply an alternative cover material as a spray similar to hydroseeding. A second option is to purchase a tarp system that can be applied and removed with our compactor. The tarp system is expected to be considerably less expensive than the alternative cover solution, however, Township staff are concern that the additional weight on the compactor could result in the machine becoming stuck in wet areas of the working face.

Item 4 will require more discussion with engineers and the Ministry. The Stormwater Management Plan was approved by the Ministry in 2021, however, it was intended to be completed in several stages, so it is not clear what work is expected to be completed now. Township staff installed a leachate collection tank along the east side of the approved landfill area as an experiment to see if it would improve the issues we were having with leachate runoff. It has been effective, so we would prefer to keep it. Now that the Ministry wants to incorporate this into an ECA amendment, we will have to determine if there are any improvements that we should consider.

Township staff discussed options for addressing Item 5 and decided that the only practical solution is to close the leaf and yard waste depot while burning is underway and only burn during the hours that the Huron Landfill is open to the public. This will ensure that anyone attempting to access the leaf and yard waste depot while it is closed will still be able to dispose of their material.

We will be retaining the services of an Engineer/Consultant to assist in complying with the Provincial Officer's Order.

#### Kinloss Landfill Shelter

Public Works is pleased that we were able to partner with the Women in Carpentry program and provide protection from the cold wet weather in spring and the heat of summer for our staff.

#### **Financial Impacts:**

It is unclear if daily cover and ECA amendments will be covered in the Operating Budget because we don't have estimates at this time. More information will be brought forward at the appropriate time.

There is no cost to the Township for constructing the shed except for transportation and some minor site preparation, which will be covered by the Operating Budget.

#### **Strategic Alignment / Link:**

We are an environmentally conscious community that is a good steward of our natural environment by using our resources wisely, and by being aware and taking responsibility.

#### **Respectfully Submitted By:**

John Yungblut, C.E.T., Director of Public Works

#### **Approved By:**

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer