

June 15, 2022

## **ODOUR UPDATE - REGIONAL SEWER TREATMENT PLANT NEW MINAS**

Manager of Public Works Aaron Dondale and Chief Administrative Officer Scott Conrod attended a Village Commission meeting in New Minas June 13 to provide an overview of the issues contributing to the recent waves of problematic odours coming from the Regional Sewer Treatment Plant in New Minas.

The Municipality thanks the Village of New Minas, a partner supporting the operation of the Regional Sewer Treatment Plant, for giving Aaron ample time to take questions and comments from the public while sharing a slideshow presentation highlighting the following topics:

- Regional partners supporting plant operations (Municipality of the County of Kings, Town of Kentville, Village of New Minas and PepsiCo)
- The size, location and intake of the wastewater collection system
- Various odour components requiring different treatment approaches
- An overview of actions taken to reduce the severity of the odour noted this spring
- Suggestions from a subject matter expert who recently toured the facility
- An overview of how wipes, face masks, hygiene products, and other inorganic debris that is not biodegradable can contribute to odour-related issues at treatment facilities if said materials are flushed down drains and toilets

The full slideshow presentation shared with the Village Commission and meeting attendees on June 13 can be found <a href="here">here</a>. A community update mailed out to residents of the New Minas area on June 7 can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

The Municipality is currently reviewing recommendations from the subject matter expert who toured the treatment plant earlier this month, and combining this new information with existing knowledge to identify the most effective next steps for upgrades and purchasing equipment.

In the meantime, members of the public can help be a part of the solution by keeping inorganic materials that are not biodegradable, such as disposable wipes, face masks, and hygiene products, out of drains and toilets. If it's not coming from your body, and it's not toilet paper designed for wastewater systems, it should not be flushed. The Municipality is working on a broader public education campaign to help raise awareness of how the accumulation of wipes and other inorganic debris negatively



impacts the treatment process and, as a result, contributes to the development of problematic odours.

Phone: 902-678-6141 or 1-888-337-2999 Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. inquiry@countyofkings.ca The Municipality is committed to drastically improving odour management practices in the regional wastewater collection system. Municipal staff wholeheartedly agree that our communities deserve better. As requested by members of the public in attendance at the June 13 meeting in New Minas, the Municipality will share timelines and an overview of the next steps once a concrete plan is in place. Related news will be shared online through <a href="https://www.countyofkings.ca/regionalsewerupdates">www.countyofkings.ca/regionalsewerupdates</a> as more information becomes available.



The Municipality sincerely apologizes for any inconveniences members of our residential and business communities have experienced. Residents with questions, concerns, or comments are encouraged to reach out as needed.

## **Contact:**

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