

Drew Cowern

From: Sandy Currie <mrpoapresident@gmail.com>
Sent: November 18, 2013 8:58 PM
To: Sandy Currie
Subject: Various Items: High Water on Moon River, Water Management Resolution from TML and Clip from CTV News in Barrie and Lost & Found Item

Nov 18, 2013

Greetings to All MRPOA Members

Water Levels

Water levels remain high on the Moon River from Bala to The Moon Chutes. Beyond The Moon Chutes waters are very low in order to create a suction effect to speed up the lowering of the high water levels.

On Sunday, Mayor Murphy and I were interviewed by CTV Barrie for their 6:00pm news broadcast. Here is the link should you care to watch the news broadcast:

<http://barrie.ctvnews.ca/flood-watch-for-parts-of-muskoka-1.1547491>

In addition, the Township of Muskoka Lakes has passed a resolution that seeks a review and update of the Muskoka River Water Management Plan. The resolution, passed on Friday, November 15 reads as follows:

Whereas the Muskoka River Water has experienced extremely high water levels in 2013;

And Whereas the high water levels in 2013 created excessive flood conditions in the spring of 2013 and near flood conditions in the fall of 2013 in the Township of Muskoka Lakes;

And Whereas the subject high water levels have caused damage to personal property, critical infrastructure and have placed the safety of residents and visitors at risk;

And Whereas such damage to personal property and critical infrastructure is generally not covered by compensating insurance;

And Whereas due to the lack of compensating insurance coverage, repairs to personal property and critical infrastructure must be paid directly by property owners and property taxes;

And Whereas harm to residents and visitors in any form should be prevented;

And Whereas the Muskoka River Water is managed by the Muskoka River Water Management Plan;

And Whereas the Ministry of Natural Resources (Bracebridge) is responsible for the implementation of the Muskoka River Water Management Plan;

And Whereas, starting in the spring of 2013, Council members of the Township of Muskoka Lakes requested specific information from the Ministry of Natural Resources (Bracebridge) on how the Muskoka Water Management Plan has been used to address the high water levels and the concerns of residents and visitors;

And Whereas the requested specific information relates to the impact of the present low and high water zones used to administer the Muskoka River Water Management Plan;

And Whereas the requested information has not been provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources (Bracebridge);

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Township of Muskoka Lakes requests that the Ministry of Natural Resources (Bracebridge) conduct an impact study of the high and low water zones contained in the Muskoka Water Management Plan and that it focus on the benefits of an overall lowering to those zones especially during the periods of October to May annually;

And Further that the Ministry of Natural Resources be requested to present to the Council of the Township of Muskoka Lakes, an analysis of the actions taken during the flooding in the spring of 2013 and the high water levels in the fall of 2013 including but not limited to specific dates and quantities of logs (water flow restriction systems) utilized at each facility controlled by the Ministry of Natural Resources throughout the system;

And Further that if the Ministry of Natural Resources is unwilling to undertake the above noted study or provide the above noted analysis then the Township of Muskoka Lakes is prepared to request an amendment to the Muskoka River Water Management Plan, through the amendment process with the details of such an amendment to be developed if and when necessary.

Lost & Found

With the water very high we are starting to see debris floating towards the Moon and Ragged Rapids Dams.

This morning I received the following picture from Bill Niess.

Bill has retrieved what appears to be a section of the top surface of a dock from the river. It is quite new as the picture shows. It is about 5 feet high and 30 inches wide. If you recognize this as being from your property call Bill at 705.762.2870. The item is up away from the water and will drift no further.



Weather Report

It has now stopped raining and is becoming very cold. In addition, the high winds have returned which is giving rise to snow squalls around the area.

That is all for tonight.

Sandy Currie
President

Send all replies to: sandycurrie@sympatico.ca