



# Corporation of the Municipality of Brockton

## Report to Council

**Report Title:** Lake Rosalind and Marl Lake Water Sample Testing  
**Prepared By:** Sonya Watson, CAO/Clerk  
**Department:** Administration  
**Date:** April 23, 2018  
**Report Number:** CAO2018-08 **File Number:** C11AD, E14 Water Sampling  
**Attachments:** [Lake Rosalind and Marl Lakes Inland Lake Development Study 2004 Motion Regarding Lake Rosalind and Marl Lakes Water Testing](#)

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### **Recommendation:**

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report CAO2018-08 Lake Rosalind and Marl Lake Water Sample Testing for information purposes.

### **Report:**

#### **Background:**

Councillor Adams gave Notice and requested that the attached Motion be brought forward regarding Brockton paying for water sampling to test the blue green algae affecting the waters of Lake Rosalind and Marl Lakes. The motion has been provided on the agenda and the following report has been prepared for Council's consideration regarding this matter.

#### **Analysis:**

The Municipality completed a Lake Development Study in 2004 for Lake Rosalind and Marl Lake Inland (as attached). The analysis identified that:

“The water quality of Lake Rosalind and Marl Lake has not been substantially impaired by shoreline development. The water quality reflects the input of groundwater containing high levels of dissolved solids. The source of this groundwater is unknown and it is critically important to the long-term health of the lakes that this recharge area is identified and protected from inappropriate development. It is equally important to ensure that appropriate land use standards are established for the development and redevelopment of existing lots in order to protect water quality and the other values identified in the study.”

Seven recommendations were made in the study to improve stewardship approaches and ongoing education and communication.

The CAO/Clerk and Deputy Mayor Gieruszak contacted Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) to discuss the request from residents to pay for testing on the blue green algae affecting the

waters of Lake Rosalind and Marl Lakes. Staff inquired as to whether SVCA could provide assistance, whether there was an availability for private testing of lakes under Saugeen Valley's jurisdiction, and whether they had received requests in the past from residents, and their suggestions of how to assist residents with the required testing.

General Manager/Secretary Treasurer, Wayne Brohman, responded with confirmation that SVCA does not conduct private water tests in the watershed, and are not aware of tests being completed in previous years. An option was provided to send water samples from several lake locations to the SGS Canada Inc. laboratory. Wayne also responded to Deputy Mayor Gieruszak, attaching the Lake Rosalind and Marl Lake Inland Lake Development Study from 2004, and presenting the option that SVCA staff could assist Brockton with sampling, but advised that the testing would come with expense as outlined here.

Shaun Anthony, SVCA Water Quality Specialist suggested that:

"...samples be taken once a month in May, June, Oct and twice a month in July, Aug, Sept. That would be a total of 9 sampling runs." He further suggests that samples be taken at more than one site – 4 sites around the lake would be recommended. It seems that the main element that people are interested in having sampled is microcystin (a toxin produced by algae). The lab we use (SGS Canada Inc.) has indicated a cost to analyze for microcystin of \$50 per sample. Additional costs would be for staff time, travel and courier to get the samples to the lab.

At this point a ball park estimate for one sample run of only one sample and testing only for microcystin is about \$175 which covers SVCA costs. That would increase to about \$350 for a sample run where 4 samples are taken. So for 9 sample runs the cost could range from \$1,600 (9 x \$175) to \$3,150 (9 x \$350) depending on how many sample sites there would be per run. If Brockton wanted to test for more than just microcystin then the cost would increase due to increased lab costs."

SVCA was clear that SVCA staff would not be providing any form of advice with respect to the sample results – that is not their responsibility.

Staff also contacted Drinking Water Source Protection to inquire about possible funding available to test Brockton's inland lakes. Drinking Water Source Protection Project Manager, Carl Seider, responded with confirmation that water testing is not an eligible expense under the Source Protection Municipal Implementation Fund.

The CAO/Clerk also reached out to a number of area municipalities regarding the municipality paying for the testing of private lakes. I am not aware of any local municipality paying for the water testing of private lakes.

Mayor Inglis has been in contact with the Walkerton Clean Water Centre regarding the potential for water testing. They have indicated it is not within the Provincial mandate to conduct testing on any private well systems or private lakes. They would provide some further assistance and consultation on water testing options as required.

This report has been prepared for information purposes. We seek Council's direction.

## Sustainability Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Sustainable Strategic Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance? (More detail is available in the Sustainability Checklist on file and appended to this report.)

- Do the recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision? N/A
- Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Cultural Vibrancy? N/A
- Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Prosperity? N/A
- Do the recommendations contribute to Environmental Integrity? N/A
- Do the recommendations contribute to the Social Equity? N/A

## Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? N/A

The water testing for Lake Rosalind and Marl Lake has not be included in the 2018 budget.

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## Respectfully Submitted by:



**Sonya Watson, CAO/Clerk**