

MEMORANDUM

TO: Environmental Services Committee

FROM: Erin Mahoney, Commissioner of Environmental Services

DATE: October 10, 2012

RE: **2010-2011 Ontario Chief Drinking Water Inspectors Annual Report
Summary**

Each year the Ministry of the Environment publishes the Ontario Chief Drinking Water Inspector's Annual Report. Through this report, information about the quality of Ontario's drinking water and the results of Ministry of the Environment inspections of drinking water systems are made available to the general public. Annual inspections of municipal residential drinking water systems help the Ministry determine how well these systems are operating when compared to the Province's strict regulatory requirements. A risk-based inspection rating process allows inspection results to be quantified on a scale of 0-100 per cent.

The Ministry of the Environment has a rigorous and comprehensive inspection program for municipal residential drinking water systems. For the 2010-2011 reporting period, York Region achieved a 99.82 per cent compliance score on the Ministry of the Environment inspections, resulting in a second place ranking compared to other Greater Toronto Area (GTA) municipalities. This result represents an improvement in the overall inspection rating performance compared to 2009-2010 as summarized in Table 1. In regards to the percentage of samples meeting provincial water quality standards, York Region achieved a tie with the Regions of Halton and Peel for first place among GTA municipalities with a score of 99.98 per cent.

Table 1
York Region Inspection Ratings Compared to Other Greater Toronto Area Municipalities

Municipality	2009-10 Inspection Rating (%)	2010-11 Inspection Rating (%)	2009-10 Drinking Water Quality (% Tests Meeting Standards)	2010-11 Drinking Water Quality (% Tests Meeting Standards)
Durham	99.71	99.70	99.92	99.95
Halton	99.39	100.00	99.95	99.98
Peel	97.07	96.15	99.96	99.98
Toronto	100.00	99.15	99.91	99.88
York	99.71	99.82	99.99	99.98

In both 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 there were two samples taken with adverse results. In all four cases resampling was conducted and proved the water was safe and that the adverse results were likely false positives. The difference in percentages between 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 shown in Table 1 is due to slightly fewer samples overall being taken in the 2010-2011 reporting period.

Results of the 2010-11 report ratings reinforce Council's commitment to providing high quality drinking water and demonstrate a continued upward trend in performance improvement.

Erin Mahoney, M. Eng.
 Commissioner of Environmental Services

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