



BUSINESS PERFORMANCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY MEMORANDUM

TO: MAYOR J. LEHMAN AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM: S. BRUNET, B.SC. MANAGER OF BUSINESS PERFORMANCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

D. JEFFERY, ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER

NOTED: A. MILLER, RPP GENERAL MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT

M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: 2021 WEST NILE VIRUS CONTROL PROGRAM

DATE: JUNE 14TH, 2021

The purpose of this Memorandum is to provide Members of Council with information regarding the status of the annual City of Barrie West Nile Virus (WNV) Control Program for 2021. Ontario Regulation 199/03, Control of West Nile Virus (WNV) empowers the Medical Officer of Health to determine if there is a need to reduce the risk of exposure to WNV and if so, to compel municipalities to take action. The Medical Officer of Health will notify a Municipality of any required actions through a 'Notice to Larvicide'.

Background

The 'Notice to Larvicide' for the City of Barrie (City) was issued on May 19th, 2021 requiring that municipally owned catchbasins receive larvicide application during the summer months for 2021. Larviciding of municipally owned catchbasins will commence late June.

Municipally owned catchbasins located on private property will not be scheduled for larvicide application and will be managed on a request only basis by the landowner to the Business Performance & Environmental Sustainability (BPES) Department. A consent form must be signed by the landowner prior to treatment.

The City currently has a Standing Agreement for Larviciding with G.D.G. Canada-Kersia Group (G.D.G) (FIN2017-144Q) and the required funds are included in the approved 2021 Business Plan (QC 1290-670700). The Municipal/Provincial cost sharing arrangement for expenses directly associated with the application of the larvicide will entail 30% of the cost borne by the City and 70% covered by the SMDHU. G.D.G. has obtained the required pesticide permit (Permit Number 3430-C37HBY) from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and will perform the larvicide application on behalf of the City with an approved treatment period from June 21st, 2021 to October 31st, 2021.

The SMDHU WNV Surveillance Program includes monitoring of, but not limited to, municipal catchbasins, stormwater ponds, and natural sites, for mosquitos and conduct adult trapping. The Surveillance Program is scheduled to commence in mid to late June and is performed by SMDHU Staff.

The *Culex pipiens/restuans* species of mosquitos typically breed in catchbasins and are a major contributor to viral infections in birds. The larvicide, when applied to the catchbasin sumps, will disrupt the mosquito's life cycle and adult mosquitos will not emerge. By reducing the adult *Culex* population, amplification of WNV is reduced and the risk of exposure to WNV in the human population is reduced.

The SMDHU will provide public awareness materials to the City for distribution at several City facilities. Due to COVID-19, this will not occur this year. Provincial regulation requires that public notification related to



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the larvicide application be provided which will be satisfied through detailed posting on the City web page and in the local newspaper.

Next Steps

BPES will coordinate with G.D.G to ensure that the terms outlined in Pesticide Permit 3430-C37HBY are adhered to, and that all program related duties are completed as scheduled through field audits and follow-up measures.

The SMDHU WNV Program is scheduled to commence in mid to late June and will be performed by SMDHU Staff on a weekly basis. City Staff will be accompanying SMDHU Staff at specific monitoring sites to ensure City health and safety protocols are followed.

The SMDHU is the lead agency for WNV control; all questions and concerns from the public should be directed to the SMDHU. A hyperlink has been established from the [City's website](#) to the [SMDHU website](#) to assist the public with access of information related to WNV.