

HOWSON DAM & CITIZENS POND COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER

MAY 16, 2020

Finally, we are getting some warmer weather and many people are itching to get outdoors and do their thing. Many people have asked me and other committee members what is happening with the Howson Dam and why have the stop logs not yet been installed.

Traditionally the stop logs for the Dam start being installed the Wednesday before the May long weekend and are completed by the Friday. This year, because of fewer staff, the logs have not been installed to date. However, Mr. McGhee (town works manager) said that the stop logs will be installed this coming week.

The Committee of Council (C of C) is ready to make some “positive” recommendations concerning the rehabilitation of the Howson Dam structure. However, these recommendations will not go forward until North Huron Township is open for business again.

In the past there have been grants to refurbish and decommission dams in Ontario. Over the past four weeks we have contacted Lisa Thompson's office (provincial), Ben Lobb's office (federal), the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and the Ministry of Natural Resources. None of these agencies have any grants to repair, replace or decommission a dam. So, we must be mindful of this when the North Huron Council moves forward. One of the recommendations of the C of C is to do something. Doing nothing is not an option as another council or generation would eventually have to deal with the problem.

As you have heard during the last few months, stay safe and mindful of other people who might be walking, biking, fishing or doing water sports on the pond. Make the best of a bad situation. Have a wonderful summer. Thank you for your continued support.

Rennie Alexander, Chairperson HD & CPC