

Nearly \$80K to be spent on Howson Dam safety assessment

NEWS Jun 15, 2017 by [Kelsey Dunbar](#) Wingham Advance Times

WINGHAM — The results of the request for proposals (RFP) for the Howson Dam — Dam Safety Assessment were presented to council at the June 5 meeting.

As recommended by Jeff Molenhuis, director of public works, the township of North Huron voted to award the RFP to a Mississauga company — KGS Group Consulting Engineers — at a total estimated fee of \$79,592. The recommended proposal came in under budget, as \$100,000 was estimated in the 2017 capital budget for a dam safety assessment. Molenhuis wrote in his report that, “following award, the consultant will meet with staff and then commence field work to complete a site review and survey. This may require a short period of removal of the stop logs to bring the water level down enough for someone to access.”

The RFP was circulated to the same seven firms who provided proposals for the environmental assessment in February 2016. Formal responses were received from three and assessed by township staff.

Staff used a scoring tool to rate the proposals, with the proposed fee being the most important factor, followed by approach and methodology. The fees of the proposals received varied from \$79,592 (the recommended proposal) to \$99,099.

“KGS was the highest scoring proposal submitted, had a comprehensive work plan relative to the scope of work anticipated for this project and was the lowest bid,” Molenhuis wrote in his report.

A four-phase work plan was provided. Phase 1 includes dam hazard classification and inflow design flood analysis, while Phase 2 will focus on a breach analysis. Provisional costs for Phase 3 and Phase 4 were included for the township to assess the desire to move forward with the last two phases, depending on the results of the first two phases. “It should be noted that Phase 1 and two costs on the recommended proposal are approximately \$35,000. So, should the township decide not to proceed with the remaining phases, the cost would be limited to around \$32,000,” Molenhuis wrote in his report.

Phase 3 and Phase 4 include preliminary stability analysis; concrete coring and foundation structural sampling; and rehabilitation scope and feasibility.