March 21, 2007

Subject: Support for Resolution 2007-117 regarding Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (OWQMS)

The Council of the Municipality of Powassan, at their regular meeting of March 20, 2007, passed the following resolution regarding the Drinking Water Quality Management Standard under the Safe Drinking Water Act 2002 under the Ministry of the Environment.

WHEREAS in November 2006, the M.O.E. released the final Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (OWQMS) under the Safe Drinking Water Act 2002; and

WHEREAS under this Act, owners of Municipal drinking water systems will be required to obtain a Municipal Drinking Water Licence; and

WHEREAS to do so, they will be required to have among other things, an "Accredited Operating Authority" and an approved "Operational Plan" for each of their systems; and

WHEREAS the implementation of the OWQMS will have costs associated with the ongoing third-party audits, which may range from $3,000 to $7,000 annually based on system size and geographic considerations,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Powassan calls upon the Honourable Minister of the M.O.E. not to approve the implementation of "third-party audits" considering the clear mandate of an Accredited Operating Authority including other policies, programs and guidelines already in place or proposed to insure that health and safety of our water systems remains at the forefront; and

FURTHER that copies of this resolution be circulated to all municipalities across the Province of Ontario with water systems with the request that they pass similar resolutions of support.

The Municipality of Powassan requests that all letters of support be forwarded directly to the Provincial and Federal representatives.

For further information, please contact Roger Labelle, CAO-Clerk, at 705-724-2813 or email rlabelle@powassan.net.

Thank you.