

Bluewater Shoreline Residents' Association



GMB 411, RR 1
Zurich ON, N0M 2T0

2007 June 20

Mayor Bill Dowson
Box 250
14 Mill Ave.
Zurich ON N0M 2T0

Dear Mayor Dowson:

The Board members of the Bluewater Shoreline Residents' Association wish to draw the enclosed "Water Quality Report" to your attention. We request that your councillors and administrators read our report and respond to us.

As you know, in recent years our members have become very concerned about the pollution of the surface water, both in the near-shore waters of Lake Huron and in the many short streams that flow into the Lake in our area. Our deeply felt concerns have frequently focused on the number of days that the beaches on Lake Huron are unsafe for swimming. Last summer, the manure spill into the Pergel drain/St. Joseph's stream which resulted in a significant fish kill made the visible level of pollutants flowing into the lake very obvious. This event served as a catalyst for the alarm of local residents and tourists, and caused our organization to intensify our work on the enclosed report. We have consulted many people in the process of refining this paper. We continue to believe the situation is urgent and that our attached paper merits your attention and more action on the part of all levels of government.

We recognize that there are many environmental issues facing Bluewater Council (as well as county, provincial, and federal government). We also recognize that the causes of surface water pollution can vary from one area to another. But we strongly believe that this issue must be addressed at all levels of government, and that the time has come when much more effective and coordinated effort must be placed in correcting the problems.

Many federal and provincial departments will have to be involved in solving the problems. But so will the county and municipalities. The time for action is now. Our

recommendations, which we believe are actually quite modest relative to the size of the problems, are listed on pages 5 and 6 of our paper. Please ask the appropriate administrators in Bluewater to report back to us. We await Council's response to this paper and its vigorous action on helping to clean up Lake Huron.

Thank you.

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Enclosure: Water Quality Report (www.bsra.ca/wq_report_ref_doc/20070527_BSRA_W_Q_Spill_Report.pdf)

c: Dave Johnston, Deputy Mayor
Jim Fergusson, Councilor at Large
Bill MacDougall, Councilor Hay West
George Irvin, Councilor Stanley West
John Becker, Councilor Hay East
Peter Walden, Councilor Stanley East
Marg Deichert, Councilor Zurich
Tyler Hessel, Councilor Bayfield
Kay Wise, Councilor Hensal
Janisse Zimmerman, Chief Administrator/Clerk