



Report to Municipal Council

Meeting Date: December 11, 2024	Report Date: December 4, 2024
Reason Before Council: Financial Approval	Priority: Normal
Department: Parks & Recreation	Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting

Report Title: Sawmill Bay Park - Approval of Additional Cost to Complete Environmental Study

Recommended Resolution:

Where Council wants to reduce the likelihood of further delays in the construction of the Sawmill Bay Park boat launch, that Council agrees to an upset limit of \$5,500.00 for the completion of an environmental study to facilitate the boat ramp construction.

Analysis & Background:

In 2023, Council passed a Resolution to include a boat ramp and / or beach. As such, this required a change to the Work Permit from the MNR. The CAO was told that because we are working near and in water that additional requirement / permission from the Department of Fisheries (DOF) and Ministry of Environment (MECP) would be required. Staff applied for such and the DOF permit was received in June 2024. The MECP staff (who was newly assigned to the position) response was delayed. The permit application to MECP was applied at the same time as the DOF permit. The original Environmental report that was prepared by staff and a volunteer that was acceptable in the first application required additional reviews of a few more species. This information was received by staff in October, with the intent of completing the missing information and resubmission. Not being an environmental specialist and even though we are more than seven (7) months away from construction (July 15) I cannot guarantee that the resubmission of the document will meet the expectation of MECP or incur additional delays.

We had budgeted \$20,000 in 2024's budget from a donation from the International Plowing Match event which is recommended to be forwarded to 2025 budget. With the cost of the environmental study, additional funds will have to be considered for the completion of the boat ramp.



Therefore, the retention of a consultant is recommended to meet the construction deadline. **** Please note that if any concerned species-at-risk are determined to be present, this may incur additional delay or costs i.e. fencing off areas.

A preliminary estimate from a current consultant which we use for the landfill site puts the cost of the study at +/- \$4,500.00 with possible additional cost to resubmit "Updated IGF" and / or "Avoidance Alternatives Form" of up to \$1,000.00.

Attachments:

- Council Resolution 2023-230

Prepared By: Denis Turcot, CAO