

**IZAAK WALTON  
FLY FISHING CLUB**



**Mayor Allan Ails,**  
9560 Wellington Rd. 22  
P. O. Box 283  
Erin ON N0B 1T0

18<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Mayor Ails,

You must be congratulated for the service you have provided to Erin Township. Your commitment has been unwavering, and you have exhibited dogged determination over your tenure.

Sleepless nights are sometimes the only reward for your intense adherence to the goodwill that you offer to your constituents.

Upon fully understanding the conflicts that you face, may I bend your ear on some concerns?

As the dedicated spokesperson and executive member of the Izaak Walton Fly Fishing Club I would like your personal attention to our following concerns.

The West Credit River is the most pristine cold water spawning ground for native Brook Trout in the Credit River watershed.

This sensitive cold water habitat will be decimated by the effluent from the proposed Erin Waste Water Treatment Plant.

The Izaak Walton Fly Fishing Club has for the past 49 years advocated conservation and remediation of our aquatic environment.

As part of this mandate we are actively engaged in restoration of degraded Brook Trout habitat. We are a not for profit organization and have volunteered many years in these efforts.

With this in mind, we strongly urge the Town of Erin to incorporate the recommendations made by the Ontario Rivers Alliance to mitigate the effects of the Waste Water Treatment Plant plan. It is prudent to prospectively **PREVENT** rather than retrospectively to **REPAIR** environmental damage.

We note that the proposed discharged effluent flow has been increased more than threefold since the plan's inception. (Initially 2.1 million litres/day and now 7.2 million litres/day).

LOW flow rates are essential to the reproductive capacity of the Brook Trout. HIGH flow rates are counter productive.

The natural restorative diurnal/nocturnal temperature cycle of the river will be obliterated by this overburden of discharge. Brook Trout need clear, cold spring-fed water with stable flow and temperature, preferably below 17 degrees centigrade. Global warming magnifies the issue here.

We note that the temperature issue was initially recognized, but this is now being ignored. ("Monitoring" temperature of the effluent is a far cry from "controlling" it).

When one adds the overburden of sporadic storm surges and run off, this is compounded.

The recent report from the Ontario Rivers Alliance, (which you are fully aware of), underlines this issue.

In addition, we challenge the assumption that an installed bio-filtration system will be effective in deprecating toxic discharge. All waste water treatment plants eventually fail and there appears to be no satisfactory contingency for this.

Our concerns are also echoed by an increasing number of groups including Trout Unlimited Greg Clark Chapter, Belfountain Community Association, West Credit River Watch, and the Ontario Headwaters Institute.

We are not only advocating for this sensitive environmental bio-marker, but also for our future younger generations to enjoy a cleaner outdoor Ontario.

Please do not throw the Brookie away with the bathwater.

We are fully apprised of all the recent reports and the political advancements that have been achieved to date with the project and we respectfully request a more targeted approach to the Plan that would address these concerns.

I am looking forward to meeting you in person in the near future to discuss any and all modifications that might be employed.

In the interim, please feel free to respond initially by email, until this pandemic is under control.

Yours respectfully,

Dr. David Williams M.D, M.B./Ch.B (Dundee), LRCP.(Ontario)

on behalf of the Izaak Walton Fly Fishing Club