

NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

TransAqua / Greater Moncton Wastewater Commission AGM highlights 2020 achievements

RIVERVIEW, N.B. – TransAqua – the Greater Moncton Wastewater Commission (GMWC) – held its 2020 annual general meeting (AGM) today at the Dieppe City Hall Council Chamber.

The Commission froze the 2021 Unit Rate at \$210, the same rate since 2017. Ratepayers have seen an average annual rate increase of \$4.71 since 2005. The Commission ratified the TransAqua - City of Dieppe - Greater Moncton Roméo LeBlanc International Airport Tri-Party Glycol De-Icing Fluid Agreement, Supply of Power and Energy Agreement with NB Power and a 4-year Collective Agreement with CUPE Local 5217. The Commission approved the new IT/OT Strategic Plan and amendments to various policies.

TransAqua's Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade and Modernization Project (Project) construction activities in 2020 included the commissioning of Phase 3A (Bioreactor), 3B (Blower Building), 3C (4th secondary clarifier) and 4 (Sludge Handling Building). At the December 2020, TransAqua was meeting the federal effluent regulations for Total Suspended Solids and for Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD₅) in mid-January 2021. The pandemic closed the construction site for 3 weeks while the GMWC Pandemic Policy and Site and Contractor Pandemic Protocol was developed and implemented. Despite the pandemic, the construction milestones could still be met.

TransAqua continued to raise its community profile in 2020 and increase public awareness of its purpose and operations. Digital advertising campaigns for compost, Win your Water and Sewer Bill up to \$1,000 contest and the Three P's (Pee, Poo and Toilet Paper), four new brochures (Composting Biosolids for a Greener Future, Grease - Keep it out of our Sewers, Garburators – There's a Better Way and Household Wipes – Why you should not flush "Flushable Wipes") and unveiled a new Public Information Booth. The 2020 GMWC Public Survey showed that 30% of respondents know who TransAqua is and what we do, up from 10% in 2016.

Progress continues to be made in other areas of TransAqua operations. The Compost Facility reintroduced over 9,315 tonnes of compost into the community. This is the best year ever! The Wastewater Heat Recovery Feasibility Study was completed by staff in 2020. TransAqua met its 2020 Safety Goal by resolving more than 76% of reported safety issues. Safety in the workplace is a high priority of the Board and staff and efforts

are continuous in this area to ensure that TransAqua provides a safe work environment for everyone.

As of December 31, 2020, equipment and construction contract awards have been issued for the Project in the total amount of \$80,680,016 with a total capital spend of \$75,195,261 at the end of 2020.

There is \$5,616,388 in the Capital Reserve Fund, \$5,717,417 in the Operating General Reserve Fund and \$12,804,731 in interest-bearing operating accounts. Infrastructure Canada's full funding contribution (\$22,601,944) is expected to be fully utilized by the end of February 2021. TransAqua can claim up to \$5,461,023 in remaining funds from the NB Regional Development Corporation. TransAqua is required to fund the remainder of the WWTF Upgrade and Modernization Project.

At the end of the 2020 AGM, a separate Commission meeting was held to elect the new Executive Officers. "I want to welcome the 2021 GMWC Executive Officers, Chair Michel Desjardins, Secretary Brenda Dore Kidney and Jean-Pierre Ouellette as Treasurer" said Chair Michel Desjardins. "I would also like to thank Past Chair David Muir for representing the Town of Riverview and Bryan Inglis for representing the City of Moncton on the GMWC Board of Commissioners. The GMWC Board welcomes Brenda Dore Kidney as the new representative for the City of Moncton and Gerald Lundquist as the new representative for the Town of Riverview joining the GMWC Board in 2020."

TransAqua / Greater Moncton Wastewater Commission (www.transaqua.ca) was established in 1983 to support the wastewater collection and treatment needs of the Dieppe, Moncton and Riverview tri-community. Since then, it has developed a 34.2-kilometre collection network and a treatment facility to best deliver on this mandate. It has also become a leader in the reuse of biosolids through the generation of type 'AA' compost (the highest grade currently achieved in Canada) as opposed to disposal in a landfill site.

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