



**June 6, 2012**

## **City Council Committee Report**

**To: Mayor & Council**

**Fr: Bruce Graham**

**Re: DWQMS Accreditation Body Selection**

### **Recommendation:**

That council enters into an agreement with QMI-SAI Global to be the Accreditation Body for our Drinking Water Quality Management System.

**Background:** When the Municipal Drinking Water Licensing Program was implemented, the Ministry of the Environment entered into an agreement with the Canadian General Standards Board to be the Accreditation Body for the operating authorities in the various municipalities in Ontario. As of June 30, 2012, this agreement is ending. The Ministry of Environment has designated two new accreditation bodies under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002; NSF International Strategic Registrations, and QMI-SAI Global. It is up to each municipality to decide which of these bodies they wish to use to provide accreditation services to their operating authority. Both NSF International and QMI-SAI Global are headquartered in Southern Ontario but we have learned that QMI-SAI Global has an auditor located in Thunder Bay which should result in lower travel costs for auditing activities. We have also been in contact with other municipalities in Northwestern Ontario (Fort Frances and Dryden) to see which accreditation body they are using, with the thinking being that if we all use the same one there should be some savings available because we should be able to coordinate audit activities. Both Fort Frances and Dryden have indicated that they are going with QMI-SAI Global.

**Budget:** The DWQMS is included in the current budget.

**Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:** A Transfer Accreditation form needs to be completed and sent to QMI-SAI Global by June 22, 2012.