



ONTARIO  
RIVERS  
ALLIANCE



Izaak Walton  
Fly Fishing Club



Trout Unlimited Canada



Greg Clark Chapter

31 July 2021

Mayor Allan Ails  
Town of Erin  
5684 Trafalgar Road  
Hillsburgh, ON  
N0B 1Z0

By email: [Allan.Ails@Erin.ca](mailto:Allan.Ails@Erin.ca)

Re: Proposed Erin Wastewater Treatment Plant  
13 July 2021 – Meeting Summary

Dear Mayor Ails:

I am writing on behalf of the Coalition for the West Credit River to thank you and Nick Colucci for meeting with Mark Heaton and myself to bring us up to date on the status of the Erin Wastewater Treatment Project, and to discuss the possibility of a collaboration between the Town of Erin, Town of Caledon, Credit Valley Conservation and the Coalition on a comprehensive water quality monitoring program.

I have prepared a brief Meeting Summary, based on the tape recording you were so kind to allow, to cover key highlights of our discussion.

The Coalition looks forward to further discussion on creating a collaborative water quality monitoring program to protect Brook Trout in the West Credit River.

Respectfully,

Judy Mabee  
President, Belfountain Community Organization  
Chair, Coalition for the West Credit River

Cc: Nick Colucci, Director of Infrastructure Services, Town of Erin – [Nick.Colucci@Erin.ca](mailto:Nick.Colucci@Erin.ca)

## Town of Erin & Coalition for the West Credit River Meeting Summary

Town of Erin Municipal Building  
13 July 2021 – 3:00 pm

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Present: Mayor Allan Aalls, Nick Colucci, Mark Heaton and Judy Mabee

The meeting was recorded by Judy Mabee with permission from Mayor Aalls, and these meetings are a summary of key discussion points. The tape recording can be accessed [here](#).

1:45 – Colucci: award construction contract in about a month (middle of August)

2:19 – Aalls: heard today that there is a grant possibility from the feds/province (no guarantees yet)

3:15 – Aalls: modular plant, not all built at once, will let us know the quality of effluent including temperature

3:45 – Aalls: Solmar is the only one that can go ahead now, because of LPAT

4:14 – Aalls: Solmar have sold the first 500 homes in 5 days

5:56 – Aalls: we had experts involved, Hutchison did the Trout studies, accept at face value, we paid for it.

6:24 – Aalls: golfing at Osprey a few months ago, met a fly fisher who showed him 5 beautiful trout, so the water can't be too bad downstream of the Orangeville WWTP

7:44 – Mark: we come here in the spirit of cooperation, and we want to work with you

9:40 – Aalls: Charles Street dam and downstream behind Woolen Mills Lane, friend Rob Bell took water samples and came back "extremely bad bacteria and some E. coli", could be geese but can show us where septic are leaking into the water - e.g. "overwhelming smell of septic" in area where former Mundell Lumber (he was with Deborah Martin-Downs)

10:30 – Aalls: Hopefully we're going to help the stream (ie. Eliminate septic systems)

12:25 – Mark: fisheries temperature impact analysis – author "doesn't know squat about BT as they will never adapt to 24C", describes BT using summer refuges of cold water to survive

15:05 – Colucci: biosolids will be turned into fertilizer pellets and will provide income for Town

16:10 - Mark: "are you aware of federal regulation for sewage effluent", Colucci says yes

18:50 – Colucci: Mark's name came up as he had a meeting with TUC and CVC re. removal of Hull dam (owned by Town)

20:00 – Mark describes how IAAC response defines temperature as a deleterious substance under the Fisheries Act, "How are we going to work with you to address this temperature concern?"

20:30 – Colucci: we are working with CVC as they already have existing temperature monitors and are in the process of putting more in upstream and downstream of "this location", we will be monitoring influent and effluent temperature "during construction." Colucci also mentions another two upstream dams of the

Hull dam that would help the temperature regime in the whole tributary. Taking the dams offline will reduce the temperature of the river.

22:38 – Mark: dam removal is good for that reach but 22C coming out into Caledon is not going to be helped by dam removal – Alls: “no, no” (he agrees!); Mark: so this is where we need caps and triggers if temp. >19C for a week and 7Q20, “what do we do?”

23:15 – Alls: describes how they are spending \$1.5 million extra to run pipe to Winston Churchill as there are lots of downstream of 10<sup>th</sup> Line; Mark says that all the river from Shaw’s Creek to upstream is all the same, so “you could save a million and a half by relocating to 10<sup>th</sup> Line”. “you didn’t count all the redds, didn’t go more than 100m downstream of WC”.

28:06 – Mark: asks whether they read the IAAC Analysis Summary Report - Colucci – “probably just skimmed it”. Mark shows them the Town’s commitment to 19C. Alls and Colucci – “we made no commitment, we have no effluent requirement” Colucci – “**recommended, doesn’t mean we have to adhere to 19**”, “**will confirm with WSP about that**”. Alls - “didn’t come out of my mouth, I never said that, I know that”.

30:50 – Mark: we know you have to do an adaptive management framework, “so let’s work together”, “asking that 19C be respected” **The BT are at risk, the ToC and CVC back that up, let’s work together.**

31:21- Alls: “my only issue will be how much does it cost and who’s going to pay for it”, “if it happens, we’ve already basically said we’ll deal with the temperature”, “we don’t want to kill the trout”

33:00 – Mark: “looking for a commitment to work together with Coalition, Town of Caledon” Alls “**I don’t see why we would not**” and repeats at 37:20 “**I don’t see why we couldn’t work together**”

44:50 – Judy asks whether an Addendum made to ESR, Alls “ahhh, no.” Alls: Two sites were identified, we wanted the preferred site. We didn’t have to pay for it, \$2 to acknowledge the transaction.

46:20 – Alls referring to Benny “I, excuse my language, shit all over him for what he did”, discussed with Deborah Martin-Downs and Benny will have to restore”, “I do have a bit of an axe over him so that makes it a little easier

47:30 – Alls: “I wouldn’t want him to have an axe over me”

48:00 – Colucci: on status of **Addendum** “from the best of my knowledge, it was determined that we don’t need one because we picked the preferred site. *So, from our discussion with MECP, we don’t need one.*” and was discussed with MECP, Mark asks whether correspondence in the project file can confirm that – Colucci “**I’m not sure, I’ll have to check**”

50:50 – Mark: asks for commitment Coalition being engaged with the adaptive management strategy/framework which will be required in the ECA,

51:43 - Colucci “I don’t think we can...MECP is the approval body.”

52:14 – Colucci: part of outfall in CVC regulated area and working to obtain approval, Colucci will talk to consulting team “**to see if there is a possibility to have some review of that process with you guys...and I’ll have to get back to you**”.

52:50 – Mark: asks for commitment that 19C would be seen as a threshold and if it’s exceeded there’ll be action, but Nick interrupts and says, “we’re not willing to agree to 19C as a threshold” “your idea and our

consultant's idea of the temperature requirements are different" Colucci: we could participate with a community group in discussion

54:08 – Colucci: identifies two other plants that WSP are working on that have a temperature requirement

55:40 – Colucci: Mark identifies that 19C would be the trigger for something to change and Colucci: "we can't commit to anything right now." Mark and Colucci disagree on what is a protective temperature

58:18 – Mark: in response to Alls info. from CVC that temps can get to 24C, so how do BT live? Explains about small tributary refuges. Alls "get those marked and go fishing there".