

# Town of Erin could add water cooling measures for effluent later, say staff, consultants

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News

## Region of Peel, environmental groups share concern for fish living downstream in Caledon, call for water monitoring

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After the Region of Peel agreed to call for water monitoring in the West Credit River, downstream from the future Erin wastewater treatment plant, staff and consultants came to council.

Nick Colucci, Erin's director of infrastructure, spoke to Peel councillors about the plans to build a wastewater treatment plan for the small town just northwest of Brampton.

He was accompanied by Michelle Albert, from WSP Consulting, which has been hired by the Town of Erin to assist with the project.

Peel Region is echoing the calls from a local citizens group, Coalition for the West Credit River, which wants to see CVC water monitoring downstream from where the Town of Erin plans to release treated

effluent into the West Credit River, which will run into Caledon.

Residents and experts with Ontario Streams are concerned about the temperature and oxygen saturation of the effluent impacting the brook trout population.

Colucci and Albert said that the Town of Erin is undertaking a Receiver Monitoring Plan, which will be examining the fish population.

“There will be a significant amount of monitoring undertaken,” said Albert, explaining that the plant would reach a full build out decades from now, releasing 7.2 million litres of effluent daily. “This is a key part of sustainable growth for the community.”

Colucci said that there are measures embedded in the design of the project to keep the effluent from heating up in processing.

He also said that the temperature of the river itself currently exceeds 19 degrees Celsius from time to time.

“There’s a difference of opinion,” he said, of the Town of Erin’s experts, and the environmental experts.

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Colucci said that chillers can be installed at a later date, structures can be built on the roof of the holding tanks, as well as other mitigation measures.

“Everything is ready to be implemented if it’s needed,” Albert said. “We think that some of this data is needed before implementing some of these measures.”

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