

York examines water supply in Nobleton

By Angela Gismondi

Nobleton may need more water supply and storage in the future.

Council received an update on York Region's Water and Wastewater plan at the March 21 town council meeting.

Stephen Fung, director of infrastructure asset management, told council that while water storage is adequate in the community, the Region may have to increase the permit to take water from the existing well. If that's not feasible, a new well may need to be constructed. An expansion of the Water Resource Recovery Facility will also be necessary to support the growth in the community, which is expected to hit 9,500 people.

“Option one is to increase the permit to take water, option two is to construct a new well,” explained Fung. “In order to accommodate the 3,000-person increase . . . we can upgrade the well and the amount of water we can take. There is the possibility that we may have to build another well. We will also have to expand the plant to accommodate growth.”

Councillor Debbie Schaefer pointed out that a new well was recently constructed Nobleton. That is why the Region will apply for the permit first, Fung said.

“We have built a structure and we want to maximize the use of it,” he noted. “We don't want to waste money or do something unnecessary.”

Fung said approval of the permit will depend on the availability of water.

“We will have to demonstrate to the Ministry that we are capable of pumping at that rate on an ongoing basis,” said Fung. “We have to prove to them that we can produce the water in a sustainable manner. We need to do tests to see if it's feasible.”

The Region expects to have a report on the matter next month.