



## **Ma-Me-O Beach Wastewater Project December 2020 Update Questions and Answers**

The wastewater system in Ma-Me-O Beach will be shut down over the winter 2020-2021 season. Residents who are connected to the system will receive an e-mail advising them of the dates when our operator (THS Septic and Civil Solutions) will be in the Summer Village to cycle and shut down pumps.

THS will also be removing material from the line to reduce freezing and speed up the spring start up.

### ***Why is the system shutting down this winter? What actions has the Summer Village taken to correct this problem?***

The Summer Village has a shallow buried wastewater system. The wastewater lines function the same way as other Summer Villages. However, because the Ma-Me-O Beach lines are shallow buried, they are impacted by freezing temperatures. This is why the heat tracing system was installed. Unfortunately, the heat tracing system is not operating as designed. This means that the lines will freeze over the winter causing an emergency shut down. To better manage the situation, the Summer Village is shutting the system down prior to freeze up.

The Summer Village is investigating with an independent consultant to determine the cause of the failure and identify what needs to be done to repair the system.

### ***What are the next steps?***

The results of the investigation and the related scope of work will be the basis for the tender package. This package will be prepared and issued over the winter so that heat tracing repairs can begin in the spring once soil conditions are suitable.

### ***How much is this all going to cost residents?***

The Summer Village is working with legal counsel to prevent the repair costs from being borne by the Summer Village. .

### ***What about people who are connected to the system and have to pump out over the winter?***

Residents who are connected to the system and need to pump out holding tanks over the winter, are asked to please provide copies of their paid invoices to the Summer Village Office for reimbursement.

### ***When will the system be started up again?***

The system will be started up again in the spring once it is clear of any freezing. The wastewater lines are functioning properly and the work on the heat tracing system will not delay the re-start of the wastewater system.