

# STAFF REPORT

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBOURG



<b>Report to:</b>	Mayor and Council Members	<b>Priority:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Low
<b>Submitted by:</b>	Teresa Behan, Deputy Director, Community Services tbehan@cobourg.ca	<b>Meeting Type:</b>  Open Session <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed Session <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	July 19, 2021		
<b>Report No.:</b>	Community Services-051-21		
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**Subject/Title:** A Policy for water quality testing of Public Beaches and Recreational Water Facilities within the Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

## RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council receive for information purposes.

### 1. STRATEGIC PLAN

The Town of Cobourg Strategic Plan Components (2019 – 2022) includes the following Strategic Actions: People: The Town supports and cares for the social and physical wellbeing of its citizens and guests.

### 2. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

This policy is placed on the agenda ten days in advance of the council meeting.

### 3. PURPOSE

To advise Council on the Provincial Standards with respect to E coli. This policy sets clear expectations and standards to inform and reduce risk to users.

### 4. ORIGIN AND LEGISLATION

Under the Health Protection and Promotion Act. (Provincial) the Local Health Unit has the authority to eliminate health hazards and risk to the public.

## **5. BACKGROUND**

The Town of Cobourg tests along the shores of known swimming and recreational water use areas (i.e. beach, harbour and the west beach)

Further; the Health Unit also tests Victoria Park Beach.

From time to time, the waters in these areas will test above the Provincial Standard for E.coli (Escherichia coli) which fall within the yellow or in the red area as per the posted signage.

When notified of Yellow or Red readings town staff must follow the appropriate rules.

Failure to follow the rules, may result in an order issued to the Town of Cobourg from the Health Unit. This order may result in a fine.

## **6. ANALYSIS**

The policy would ensure that the Town of Cobourg remains transparent and in compliance with provincial standards and that waterfront users remain informed and safe.

## **7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/BUDGET IMPACTS**

Minimal – Editing existing signage and/or adding small signs in pertinent areas.  
Promotion and Education - through social media and web pages.

## **8. CONCLUSION**

That Council endorse and approve the attached policy for Public Beach and Recreational Water Testing