



September 10, 2024

Resolution No. 273/2024

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCGARRY  
P.O. BOX 99  
VIRGINIATOWN, ON. P0K 1X0**

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR Francine Plante

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR Annie Keft

**WHEREAS** the Ontario Auditor General's annual report on public health from December 2023 indicates that Public Health Ontario is proposing the phasing-out of free provincial water testing services for private drinking water; and

**WHEREAS** free private drinking water testing services has played a pivotal role in safeguarding public health, particularly in rural communities, that rely predominantly on private drinking water; And;

**WHEREAS** the removal of free private drinking water testing could lead to a reduction in testing, potentially increasing the risk of waterborne diseases in these vulnerable populations; And

**WHEREAS**, the tragic events in Walkerton, Ontario underscored the critical importance of safe drinking water.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township of McGarry hereby request that the province reconsider and ultimately decide against the proposed phasing-out of free private drinking water testing services.

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that this resolution be sent to all Ontario municipalities, Minister of Environment Conservation and Parks, Minister of Health, Timiskaming Public Health Unit, and Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP.

Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ / Carried Bonita Culhane  
Mayor Mayor

Recorded Vote Requested by \_\_\_\_\_

YES NO

Mayor Bonita Culhane  
Councillor Louanne Caza  
Councillor Elaine Fic  
Councillor Annie Keft  
Councillor Francine Plante

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