

Subject: Drinking Water Compliance and Water Wastewater Quality

Management System Endorsement **Report to:** Public Works Committee

Report date: Tuesday, March 7, 2023

# Recommendations

- That information for Standard of Care requirements and training opportunities for members of Regional and Area Municipal councils BE RECEIVED;
- That the Water Quality Management System Operational Plan and the Wastewater Quality Management System Operational Plan BE APPROVED and ENDORSED; and
- 3. That the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to sign the Operational Plans on behalf of Council as evidence of Council's endorsement.

# **Key Facts**

- The purpose of this report is to provide Council with details of programs that support the Water and Wastewater Services Division's continued compliance with provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002, and the Clean Water Act, 2006. Through this report, the Water and Wastewater Services Division also seeks endorsement of the Water Quality Management System (QMS) Operational Plan and the Wastewater Quality Management System Operational Plan.
- Niagara Region owns and operates five (5) drinking water systems and has held Municipal Drinking Water Licences for each of these systems since 2009.
- Continued accreditation to the Drinking Water Quality Management Standard is required as a condition of issuance of the Municipal Drinking Water Licence.
- Under the Water Quality Management System, Council is identified as the "Owners" of the region's drinking water systems; selected staff of the Water and Wastewater Division are identified as members of the "Operating Authority".
- Standard of Care Provisions under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002, are applicable to Council and may result in an offense under the Act if provisions are not met.

Standard of Care training is available to members of Regional and Area Municipality
Councils on March 7, 2023 and March 29, 2023 virtually; in addition, the Water and
Wastewater Services Division provides Council with a variety of reports at specified
intervals so that Council can continually assess Niagara's drinking water systems
and ensure the Standard of Care Provisions are met.

# **Financial Considerations**

A total of approximately \$27,000 (including non-recoverable HST) in quality management system program costs were incurred in 2022; these routine costs include annual maintenance and support fees for the software, EtQ Reliance, used in support of the QMS, as well as consulting fees for an off-site, third-party audit of the Water QMS. This was reported to Council in Report PW 33-2022, through the annual Water QMS update report. A similar allocation is anticipated for 2023 and is included in the approved 2023 operating budget for Water and Wastewater Operations.

# **Analysis**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with details of programs that support the Water and Wastewater Services Division's continued compliance with provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002, and the Clean Water Act, 2006. Within this report, the Water Quality Management System Operational Plan and Wastewater Quality Management System Operational Plan are also presented for Council endorsement. Endorsement of these plans is a legislative requirement.

# **Municipal Drinking Water Licencing Program**

The Municipal Drinking Water Licencing Program (MDWLP) was developed in response to several recommendations of the Part II Report of the Walkerton Inquiry. The MDWLP requires every Operating Authority of a municipal residential drinking water system to hold a licence to operate the subject system. Without valid licences, Niagara Region is unable to operate its five (5) drinking water systems. A licence includes conditions of operation for the subject system; these may include details of additional sampling and maintenance requirements, relief from regulatory requirements, and administrative procedures related to the MDWLP.

Niagara Region will be renewing municipal drinking water licences in 2024. Under the MDWLP, there are five (5) requirements to obtain a drinking water licence:

- Financial plan;
- Drinking Water Works Permit;
- Permit to Take Water;
- Documented quality management system (QMS) operational plan; and
- Accreditation of the Operating Authority's QMS.

These requirements are discussed in more detail below.

#### **Financial Plan**

Ontario Regulation 453/07 prescribes requirements for the development of a Water and Wastewater Financial Plan (Financial Plan). Under this regulation, municipalities must prepare a Financial Plan that demonstrates financial sustainability of their drinking water systems for the duration of the term of the municipal drinking water licence.

The 2019-2028 Financial Plan was prepared based on the proposed 2019 water and wastewater operating budget and the proposed 2019-2028 water and wastewater capital budget and forecast. It was approved by Council in January 2019, through Report PW 4-2019. To align with the MDWLP renewals, the Financial Plan will be prepared and submitted to Council in 2024.

# **Drinking Water Works Permit**

Niagara Region holds drinking water works permits for each of its five (5) drinking water systems. A permit contains an overview of the major infrastructure that is installed and in use within the subject system. Permits also specify the types of infrastructure additions, modifications, replacements, or extensions that a municipality is preauthorized to complete, versus those that require approval from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).

#### **Amendments**

To make any additions, modifications, replacements or extensions to a drinking water system, changes must be either approved through a Schedule C amendment to the associated drinking water works permit or pre-authorized through a condition in the Drinking Water Works Permit.

In 2017, the signing authority for specific provincial and federal environmental compliance instruments, including Drinking Water Works Permit amendments and Permit to Take Water renewal applications, was delegated to the Water Compliance Program Manager and the Water and Wastewater Compliance and Enforcement Supervisor through Report PW 56-2017. Quarterly memoranda summarizing sign-off activity will continue to be provided to Council as part of weekly correspondence.

### **Source Water Protection**

As mandated by the *Clean Water Act, 2006*, the drinking water sources for Niagara's drinking water systems are protected under the Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Plan (the SPP). The SPP is a locally-driven, collaborative, prevention-based plan that is based on science. In the SPP, drinking water sources are assessed, vulnerabilities are determined, and identified drinking water threats are managed via approved policies.

On July 1, 2018, Ontario Regulation 205/18 under the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*, came into effect. This regulation requires municipalities to assess vulnerable areas and threats to source water before placing a new or altered drinking water system intake into service. Additional source water protection resources can be found on the <a href="Niagara">Niagara</a> Peninsula Source Water Protection website (http://www.sourceprotection-niagara.ca), and in Appendix 1 to this report (Drinking Water Source Protection Primer: For Municipal Councillors).

# **Water Quality Management System**

The MDWLP requires those organizations who operate municipal residential drinking water systems to develop, implement, and maintain a QMS that is accredited to the requirements of Ontario's Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (the Standard). The QMS must be documented in an Operational Plan and accredited through an audit process by a third-party accreditation body that is approved by the MECP. Niagara Region has maintained accreditation to the Standard since 2009.

Niagara Region's Water QMS Operational Plan describes various operational, maintenance, testing, monitoring, administration, and oversight processes that have been implemented in support of the Water QMS. Elements of the Standard that may be of particular interest or importance to Council include risk assessment; roles, responsibilities, and authorities; infrastructure review, maintenance, rehabilitation and renewal; internal auditing; and Top Management Review.

The Water-Wastewater Quality Management Specialist provides Council with an annual Water QMS Update that summarizes the status of the Water QMS, including updates relating to the above-noted elements of interest, key QMS activities, and relevant milestones.

# **Wastewater Quality Management System**

The Water-Wastewater Services Division has developed and implemented a quality management system for wastewater operations. While a Wastewater Quality Management System is not presently required by law, the division has implemented the Wastewater QMS as a best management practice. The division has committed to the Wastewater QMS as a tool for internal control and continual improvement.

# QMS Roles and Responsibilities

Several key roles and responsibilities have been defined in the Water and Wastewater QMS Operational Plans. These roles include but are not limited to the following:

# **System Owner**

Council represents Niagara Region as the Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems Owner. Owner responsibilities include:

- Owning and endorsing the respective Operational Plans;
- Ensuring the drinking water system is operated by an accredited operating authority<sup>1</sup>;
   Monitoring the QMS and providing resources in support of the QMS; and
- Ensuring compliance with the MDWL and its components<sup>2</sup>.

# **Operating Authority**

Niagara Region (specifically, selected staff of the Water-Wastewater Services Division) acts as the Drinking Water System Operating Authority. The responsibilities of the Operating Authority include:

- Maintaining the QMS;
- Maintaining accreditation of the QMS;
- Communicating with the Owner about the QMS and resource requirements; and
- Ensuring compliance with the MDWL and its components<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Accreditation is not applicable for wastewater, since the Wastewater QMS is not legislatively required.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The licensing program applies to water only.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Same as previous.

# **Top Management**

Top Management of the Water QMS includes the Commissioner of Public Works; the Director, Water and Wastewater Services; the Associate Director, Water Operations and Maintenance; the Associate Director, Water-Wastewater Engineering; and the Associate Director, Water-Wastewater Integrated Systems.

Top Management of the Wastewater QMS includes the Commissioner of Public Works; the Director, Water and Wastewater Services; the Associate Director, Wastewater Operations, Maintenance, and Laboratory Services; the Associate Director, Water-Wastewater Engineering; and the Associate Director, Water-Wastewater Integrated Systems.

# Top Management's responsibilities include:

- Ensuring that a QMS is in place that meets the requirements of the Standard;
- Participating in annual QMS Management Reviews;
- Ensuring that the Operating Authority is aware of legislative and regulatory requirements;
- Communicating the QMS according to documented procedures; and
- Providing resources needed to maintain and improve the QMS

## **QMS** Representative

The Water-Wastewater Quality Management Specialist has been appointed as the QMS Representative by Top Management.

# Responsibilities of the QMS Representative include:

- Establish and maintain procedures and documents required by the QMS;
- Report to Top Management and the Owner on the performance of the QMS and areas of required improvement;
- Ensure that current QMS documentation is being used by Operating Authority staff at all times;
- Ensure that Operating Authority staff are aware of all applicable legislative and regulatory requirements that pertain to their duties for the operation of the drinking water and/or wastewater systems; and
- Promote QMS awareness throughout the Operating Authority

# **Endorsement of Water and Wastewater Quality Management System Operational Plans**

Accompanying this report, Public Works Committee members have received copies of the following documents for approval and endorsement:

- Niagara Region's Water Quality Management System Operational Plan (included as Appendix 2 to Report PW 5-2023);
- Niagara Region's Wastewater Quality Management System Operational Plan (included as Appendix 3 to Report PW 5-2023).

While the previous endorsement of the Operational Plan is still valid as per Report PWA 109-2008, the Operating Authority is recommending that the 2022-2026 term of Council (as Drinking Water and Wastewater System Owners) approve and endorse the Operational Plans as presented for Niagara Region's drinking water and wastewater systems.

The Water-Wastewater Quality Management Specialist will report to Council to recommend re-endorsement of an Operational Plan if substantial changes are made to its content. Minor administrative changes made to the Water or Wastewater Operational Plans are submitted to the Commissioner of Public Works for approval on behalf of Council as per the delegated authority granted to the Commissioner through Report PW 109-2008.

# **Operational Performance**

In addition to MDWLP requirements, summary and annual reporting are required under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002; one summary and one annual report are to be prepared per drinking water system. Summary reports must be provided to Council on an annual basis. Both summary and annual reports are posted on the <a href="external website">external website</a> (https://www.niagararegion.ca/living/water/Water-Quality-Reports/default.aspx) for public access.

The annual report provides a description of treatment processes and the quality of drinking water; including adverse water quality incidents and sample results.

# The summary report contains:

- A description of regulatory non-compliances with pertinent legal instruments
- Water flow information that can be used to assess the capability of the system to meet both existing and planned uses.

The summary report will be provided to Council in April.

#### Standard of Care

Standard of Care provisions under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002, came into force on January 1, 2013. These provisions require the System Owner, Top Management, and every person who, on behalf of the municipality, oversees the accredited Operating Authority or exercises decision-making authority, to "exercise the level of care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would be expected to exercise in a similar situation" and "act honestly, competently and with integrity, with a view to ensuring the protection and safety of the users of the municipal drinking-water system." Failure to do so could result in an offense under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002. A System Owner may rely on a report of an engineer, lawyer, accountant, or other person whose professional qualifications lend credibility to the report.

Additional Standard of Care resources are available on the <u>MECP website</u> (https://www.ontario.ca/page/taking-care-your-drinking-water-guide-members-municipal-councils) and during a virtual training opportunity that will be available to members of Regional and Area Municipality Councils on March 7, 2023 or March 29, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (see Appendix 4 to Report PW 5-2023).

# **Ongoing Communication with Council**

In support of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002, the Clean Water Act, 2006, and to assist Council with meeting the due diligence requirements of the Standard of Care provisions, regular correspondence can be expected throughout the 2022-2026 Council term in regard to the MDWLP, source water protection, QMS status, and operational performance.

Minimum correspondence frequencies have been summarized below in Table 1.

**Table 1: Minimum Correspondence** 

Topic	Frequency
Financial Plan	Every 5 years
Operational Performance – Summary Report	Annual
Water QMS Update	Annual
Delegated Authority	Quarterly
Source Water Protection Plan Approval	As required
Request for Operational Plan Re-Endorsement	As required

## **Alternatives Reviewed**

No alternatives were reviewed as Niagara Region is mandated to comply with the provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 and Clean Water Act, 2006.

# **Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities**

Niagara Region's Water Quality Management System, and associated audit processes, relate directly to Council's Strategic Priority 4.1 of committing to "high quality, efficient and coordinated core services". The Water QMS is used to drive continual improvement within the Water Services Division. The Water QMS increases accountability by defining clear roles and responsibilities for divisional staff, and increases data accessibility through documented standard operating procedures and associated record-keeping practices.

The Water QMS also relates to Council's Strategic Priority 4.2 of committing to "enhanced communication". The continued accreditation of the Region's Water QMS, provides residents with assurance that their drinking water is safe and that the associated systems are competently managed.

# **Other Pertinent Reports**

- PWA 109-2008, DWQMS Update (October 29, 2008).
- PW 56-2017, Delegated Signing Authority for Environmental Approvals and Reporting
- PWC-C 3-2018, Clean Water Act, 2006, Overview of Responsibilities
- PW 4-2019, Water and Wastewater Financial Plan for O.Reg. 453/07

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# **Appendices**

Appendix 1 Drinking Water Source Protection Primer: For Municipal Councillors

Appendix 2 Water Quality Management System Operational Plan

Appendix 3 Wastewater Quality Management System Operational Plan

Appendix 4 Invitation: Owner Standard of Care Training

# PW 5-2023 - Appendix 1

Drinking Water Source Protection Primer for Municipal Councillors



# Drinking Water Source Protection Primer:

For Municipal Councillors

Your community relies on safe, sustainable drinking water. Protecting the water at its source is an important first step in the drinking water safety net.

Ontario has a comprehensive Drinking Water Source Protection Program to ensure sources of municipal drinking water are protected now and into the future. Under this program, local source protection plans developed under the *Clean Water Act, 2006,* are in place. These plans contain policies that protect municipal drinking water sources (water found in lakes, rivers and groundwater aquifers) from contamination and overuse.

# Meet your statutory standard of care responsibilities

Source protection plans require municipalities to implement policies to protect the source water for their drinking water systems. The *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*, includes a statutory standard of care (section 19) for individuals with oversight responsibilities for municipal drinking water systems, including municipal councillors.

This standard ensures that you are practicing due diligence to protect public health when making decisions that could affect drinking water. This includes a consideration of the source water characteristics as well as the risks posed to it.



Learn more at: <u>ontario.ca/page/taking-care-your-drinking-water-guide-members-municipal-councils</u>.

# Ensure source protection planning is in place

New regulation 205/18 has been established under the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002,* to ensure that source protection planning is in place for new and changing municipal systems, before treated drinking water is provided to the public. The



regulation came into effect on July 1, 2018. Municipal residential drinking water system owners are now responsible for ensuring that vulnerable areas are delineated and vulnerability scores are identified before they apply for a drinking water works permit. Source protection plans must also be amended and approved prior to the treated water being supplied to the public.

Notify your local conservation authority immediately, when planning changes to your drinking water systems, or planning for a new well/intake or a new system.

# **Provincial Policy Statement**

Municipalities and other planning authorities must follow the Provincial Policy Statement. Section 2.2.1 mandates planning authorities to protect, improve or restore the quality and quantity of water. This includes protecting vulnerable areas associated with drinking water sources.

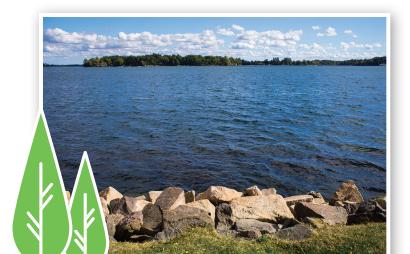
# **Be informed**

- Your constituents may come to you with questions about the source of their drinking water supply. Find out how drinking water source protection benefits your region, and the cost of the protection. Know how many municipal wells/surface water intakes there are, where they are located, and who they serve in your municipality. Determine these with help from your municipal staff and local conservation authority.
- Municipalities are responsible for implementing more than half of the policies found in source protection plans. Many of these policies are legally binding.

Review the source protection plan for your area to find out what policies are to be implemented within your municipality and what actions are being taken to protect drinking water vulnerable areas.

- Understand how source protection plan policies can impact building requirements.
   Development applications and planning or building permits may be flagged at a municipality for land use planning policies.
   These applications or permits often need to be reviewed by the local risk management official (RMO) before they can be submitted to the municipality. Proposed activities may require a risk management plan, or in some cases are prohibited.
- When a **risk management plan** is needed, a risk management official works with the landowners/renters to develop a plan that contains measures to protect drinking water sources. A risk management plan is only required when a property is in a vulnerable area and the activity being undertaken poses a significant level risk to drinking water sources.
- **Sewage systems** identified under the *Clean Water Act* as causing significant level risks to drinking water sources, are subject to mandatory inspections through the *Building Code Act*, 1992.
- The Drinking Water Source Protection Program does not include individual private wells.
   A private well owner needs to regularly sample their water to test its quality, and properly maintain their well to protect water sources.

For more on source protection planning, visit <u>protectingwatermatters.ca</u>.



# What's a vulnerable area?

Drinking water source protection is based on science. Local scientific data was used to create maps that show drinking water vulnerable areas. In these areas, we need to pay attention to activities causing contamination and overuse of our municipal drinking water sources.

To find out if a property is located in a drinking water vulnerable area, search the Source Protection Information Atlas at <a href="https://onestyle.com/onestyl

There are four types of vulnerable areas:

- 1. Wellhead protection areas (WHPAs) are areas around municipal wells where the groundwater is travelling toward that well when the well is being pumped. These areas should be protected from risks to the quality and quantity of the drinking water source.
- 2. Intake protection zones (IPZs) are areas of land and water around surface water intakes that should be protected from risks to the quality and quantity of the drinking water source.
- 3. Significant groundwater recharge areas (SGRAs) are areas where a relatively high percentage of precipitation seeps into the ground to help maintain the water level in an aquifer that supplies a community or private residence with drinking water.
- **4. Highly vulnerable aquifers (HVAs)** are areas that are particularly susceptible to contamination based on factors such as the aquifer depth underground, the soil types, soil permeability and other characteristics of the surrounding soil or rock.

If a water quality issue is identified by source protection committees under the *Clean Water Act*, issue contributing areas (ICAs) can be delineated within the vulnerable areas. Examples of issues identified in Ontario include nitrate and sodium. Mandatory policies apply within issue contributing areas in order to ensure that the source water quality is protected or improved.

# **Know the threats to drinking water sources**

The Clean Water Act identifies activities that could pose a threat to drinking water sources under certain circumstances. These threat activities may be significant, moderate or low level risks. Identified threats include:

- Application, handling and storage of agricultural source material (such as manure), non-agricultural source material (such as biosolids), commercial fertilizer, and pesticides.
- Handling and storage of fuel, dense non-aqueous phase liquids (DNAPLs\*), and organic solvents.
- Management of aircraft de-icing chemical runoff.
- Land used for livestock grazing or pasturing, outdoor confinement areas, and farm-animal yards.
- Application, handling and storage of road salt, and storage of snow.
- The establishment, operation and maintenance of systems that collect, store, transmit, treat or dispose of sewage (such as septic systems and sewage treatment plants, stormwater management facilities).
- The establishment, operation and maintenance of waste disposal sites (such as landfills).
- Activities that take water from a water body without returning the water to the same water body.
- An activity that reduces the recharge of an aquifer.
- The establishment and operation of a liquid hydrocarbon pipeline (added in April 2018, through an amendment to the Clean Water Act).

\*DNAPLs, or dense non-aqueous phase liquids, are a particularly hazardous group of substances that are heavier than water and are difficult to remove once they contaminate a water source.





# Have you seen this Drinking Water Protection Zone sign?

These signs are appearing across Ontario to raise awareness about the vulnerability of our municipal drinking water sources. Governments at the local and provincial level are placing signs along roadways where a pollution spill could have a negative impact on our drinking water sources.





120 Bayview Pkwy Newmarket, ON L3Y 3W3 **905-895-0716** 



# **The Regional Municipality of Niagara**

# Water Quality Management System Operational Plan

(QMS-WT-ALL-MAN-010)

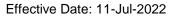
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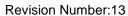
Decew Falls/Niagara Falls Drinking-Water System
Grimsby Drinking-Water System
Port Colborne Drinking-Water System
Rosehill Drinking-Water System
Welland Drinking-Water System

Effective Date: July 12, 2022 Revision Number: 13



# **Drinking Water System Operational Plan**(QMS-WT-ALL-MAN-010)





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Revision Number:13



Effective Date: 11-Jul-2022

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# Drinking Water System Operational Plan (QMS-WT-ALL-MAN-010)



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(QMS-WT-ALL-MAN-010)

Effective Date: 11-Jul-2022

**Revision Number:13** 

1. Introduction

Niagara Region

**Drinking Water Quality Management Standard** 

The Municipal Drinking Water Licensing Program is established under the Safe Drinking Water

Act, 2002. This licensing program requires drinking water system owners to incorporate the

concept of quality management into their operations, as mandated by the Drinking Water Quality

Management Standard (DWQMS).

The DWQMS focuses on a proactive and preventive approach for the management of drinking

water quality using the four-step "PLAN - DO - CHECK - IMPROVE" process. Under the

DWQMS, all municipal residential drinking water systems are required to develop and implement

a quality management system (QMS) that must be documented in an Operational Plan.

**Niagara Region** 

The Regional Municipality of Niagara ("Niagara Region") owns and operates five drinking water

systems that treat and transmit safe drinking water to eleven area municipalities: the Cities of

St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland, Port Colborne; the Towns of Grimsby, Lincoln, Thorold,

Pelham, Fort Erie, Niagara-on-the-Lake; and the Township of West Lincoln. The area

municipalities own and operate distribution systems that deliver water to the consumers in

Niagara.

Niagara Region is committed to producing safe drinking water and has implemented a QMS in

support of its drinking water systems.

Scope

This Operational Plan documents the QMS for Niagara Region's five drinking water systems:

Decew Falls / Niagara Falls Drinking Water System

Grimsby Drinking Water System

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- Port Colborne Drinking Water System
- Rosehill Drinking Water System
- Welland Drinking Water System

For the purpose of this Operational Plan and associated procedures:

- All Staff includes all staff employed by Niagara Region
- All Operating Authority Staff includes all staff within the Water and Wastewater (W-WW) Services Division except those who only work in wastewater systems (i.e. Wastewater Operators, Managers, and assigned Maintenance staff)
- Staff who directly affect drinking water quality include:
  - Associate Director, Water Operations and Maintenance
  - Water Operations Managers
  - Water Operators, Operators-in-Training, and Support Staff
  - System Maintenance Managers (Water)
  - System Maintenance Staff (Water)
  - Water Quality and Compliance Staff (including W-WW Quality Management Specialist – Primary QMS Representative)
  - SCADA Manager and staff
  - Skilled Trades Managers (Instrumentation and Electrical) and staff
  - Contract Administrators
  - W-WW Training Advisor
  - W-WW Education and Engagement Coordinator
  - W-WW Safety Advisor
  - Manager, Capital Projects W&WW Engineering
  - Senior Technical Project Manager
  - Energy Management Project Manager
  - Project Managers
  - Project Coordinator
  - W-WW Quality Management Specialist Alternate QMS Representative

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Ministry refers to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks (or the equivalent ministry, in the event of a name change).



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# 2. Quality Management System Policy

Niagara Region is committed to WATER and our QMS Policy is shown below.

Figure 1: Water Quality Management System Policy1



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> March 31, 2015 – Revision 1

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# 3. Commitment and Endorsement

# **Top Management**

Each member of Top Management (as identified in Section 9 of this Operational Plan) pledges commitment to the Water QMS and endorses the Operational Plan through the signing of a *Commitment and Endorsement Memorandum*. The *Memorandum* includes a pledge to ensure the implementation, maintenance and continual improvement of the QMS for each of Niagara Region's drinking water systems.

#### **Owner**

As System Owner, Niagara Region shall ensure the implementation, maintenance and continual improvement of the QMS for each of its drinking water systems, as documented in this Operational Plan.

By signing below, Regional Council (represented by the Regional Chair and Clerk) and the Chief Administrative Officer (as an Owner Representative within the Operating Authority) endorse the contents of this Operational Plan.

The Regional Municipality of Niagara, per:

REVISION 13 INCLUDES ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES ONLY;
TO BE APPROVED BY COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS AS PER AUTHORITY
DELEGATED UNDER PW 109-2008

Regional Chair Jim Bradley	Date	
Regional Clerk Ann-Marie Norio	Date	
Chief Administrative Officer Ron Tripp, P. Eng.	Date	

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**Delegated Authority** 

Niagara Region

The Commissioner of Public Works has been delegated authority to endorse changes to the

Operational Plan on behalf of Council where such changes are of a minor or administrative

nature. The Commissioner was granted this authority on October 29, 2008 via approval of

Report PWA 109-2008.

**Continued Endorsement** 

When changes in Top Management occur, the QMS Representative ensures that a Commitment

and Endorsement Memorandum is signed by any new members of Top Management.

The QMS Representative ensures that this Operational Plan is re-endorsed when a new term of

Council is elected. The QMS Representative provides the new Council with information about

the Water QMS, as well as an opportunity to complete Drinking Water System Owner Standard

of Care training, if so desired.

Owner endorsement of the Operational Plan is marked by the passing of confirmatory bylaws at

the end of Council meetings. At meetings where the Water QMS Operational Plan is presented

for re-endorsement, ratification of the confirmatory by-law formalizes the re-endorsement of the

Operational Plan.

**QMS Communications** 

Top Management receives QMS updates as per Management Review (QMS-WT-ALL-P-200).

The System Owner receives QMS updates as per Communications (QMS-WT-ALL-P-120).

4. QMS Representative

Top Management has appointed the Water-Wastewater Quality Management Specialist

(reporting to the Associate Director, Water Operations and Maintenance) as the QMS

Representative for Niagara Region's drinking water systems. In the event that the Water-

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Wastewater Quality Management Specialist is unable to fulfil the duties of QMS Representative, the Water-Wastewater Quality Management Specialist (reporting to the Manager, Quality & Compliance – Wastewater) will assume the role and responsibilities.

The QMS Representative's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Administering the QMS by ensuring that processes and procedures needed are established and maintained;
- Reporting to Top Management on the performance of the QMS and any need for improvement;
- In cooperation with all Operating Authority staff, ensuring current versions of documents required by the QMS are being used at all times;
- In cooperation with all Operating Authority staff, ensuring that personnel are aware of all applicable legislative and regulatory requirements pertaining to their duties; and
- Promoting awareness of the QMS throughout the Operating Authority.

# 5. Document and Records Control

Document and records control is an essential part of the QMS. <u>Document and Records Control</u> (QMS-WT-ALL-P-050) outlines how documents required by the QMS are kept current, legible, readily identifiable, retrievable, stored, protected, retained and disposed of. The procedure also documents how records required by the QMS are kept legible, readily identifiable, retrievable, stored, protected, retained and disposed of.

Document and Records Control (QMS-WT-ALL-P-050) is available via EtQ.

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6. Drinking Water Systems

**Description of Overall Drinking Water Systems** 

General

Niagara Region owns and operates five drinking water systems that supply a total of eleven area

municipalities with safe, treated drinking water. Drinking water system infrastructure includes

treatment plants, transmission mains and associated reservoirs, elevated tanks, towers,

standpipes, pumping and booster stations.

The drinking water systems are divided into three operating areas (Areas 1, 2, and 3), as shown

in Figure 2 (page 9). The areas are identified primarily as a means of dividing oversight and

responsibility for the treatment plants and associated systems, with an Operations Manager,

Maintenance Manager, and associated front-line staff assigned to each area.

Table 1 (page 10) lists the facilities associated with each of Niagara's drinking water systems,

along with the local municipal distribution systems supplied from each system. Note that the

Decew/Niagara drinking water system includes both the Decew Falls Water Treatment Plant and

the Niagara Falls Water Treatment Plant, as the distribution systems associated with these

treatment plants are interconnected. Rechlorination stations associated with each system are

listed in the appropriate Drinking Water Works Permit.

Drinking water system descriptions are available via EtQ (see links in Table 1).

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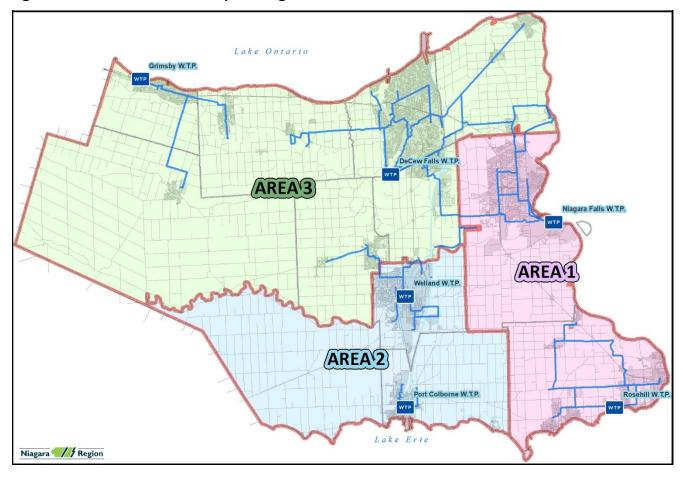
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Figure 2: Water Services - Operating Areas





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# **Table 1: Niagara Region's Drinking Water Systems**

Water System	Niagara Region Drinking Water System Facilities	Municipal System(s) Supplied
Decew Falls/Niagara	Brock High Lift Booster Pumping Station	Lincoln
Falls (DN) –	Carlton Street Reservoir	Niagara Falls
Decew Falls/Niagara	Decew Falls Water Treatment Plant	Niagara-on-the-Lake
Falls Drinking Water	Fifth Ave. Reservoir and Rechlorination	St. Catharines
System Description	Station	Thorold
(QMS-WT-DN-P-060)	Glendale Pumping Station	
	Kent Ave. Reservoir and Booster Pumping Station	
	Line 2 Rechlorination Station	
	(Virgil Rechlorination Facility)	
	Lundy's Lane Elevated Tank	
	Niagara Falls Water Treatment Plant	
	Niagara Stone Road Chlorine Analyzer	
	Station	
	Port Robinson Rechlorination Station	
	Queenston Heights Chlorine Analyzer	
	Station	
	St. David's Rechlorination Station	
	Stanley Ave. Rechlorination Station	
	Thorold South Elevated Tank (Zone 3)	
	Vineland Booster Pumping Station	
	Virgil Elevated Tank	
	Zone 2 Standpipe	
Grimsby (GR) -	Grimsby Water Treatment Plant	Lincoln
Grimsby Drinking Water	Hixon Street Reservoir & Pumping	West Lincoln
System Description	Station	Grimsby
(QMS-WT-GR-P-060)	Lincoln/Grimsby Booster Pumping	Hamilton <sup>2</sup>
	Station	
	Park Rd Reservoir & Booster Pump Stn	
	Smithville Reservoir, Elevated Tank &	
	Pumping Station (London Rd)	
	Park Ridge Reservoir	

<sup>2</sup> The Town of Grimsby's distribution system is connected to a small portion of the City of Hamilton's distribution system on Main Street West.

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Water System	Niagara Region Drinking Water System Facilities	Municipal System(s) Supplied
Port Colborne (PC) – Port Colborne Drinking	Barrick Rd. Elevated Tank Fielden Ave. Reservoir & Booster	Port Colborne
Water System	Pumping Station	
Description	Port Colborne Water Treatment Plant	
(QMS-WT-PC-P-060)		
Rosehill (RH) -	Central Ave. Elevated Tank	Fort Erie
Rosehill Drinking Water	Erie Rd. Rechlorination Station	
System Description	Ridgeway Sample Station	
(QMS-WT-RH-P-060)	Rosehill Water Treatment Plant	
	Stevensville Reservoir	
	and Pumping Station	
Welland (WE) -	Bemis Elevated Tank	Welland
Welland Drinking Water	Shoalts Dr. Reservoir	Pelham
System Description	and Pumping Station	Thorold
(QMS-WT-WE-P-060)	Pelham Elevated Tank	
	Welland Water Treatment Plant	

### 7.1.2 Treatment

The following processes are part of Niagara Region's multi-barrier approach for producing safe drinking water:

## **Pre-Chlorination**

All of Niagara Region's drinking water systems pre-chlorinate their raw water. In the summer (i.e. temperature > 12°C), when zebra mussel infestation is a problem, the water is pre-chlorinated at the intake. When the water temperature is less than 12°C, the water is pre-chlorinated after the intake.

Pre-Treatment (Coagulation, Flocculation and Sedimentation)

A coagulant is added to the raw water to help remove the suspended solids through the flocculation process. After flocculation, the water passes through the settling tanks where the floc is able to settle.

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Filtration

Filtration removes debris and particulate remaining in the water after pre-treatment. Filter effluent

turbidity is measured continuously to monitor the effectiveness of the filtration process and will

alarm if the set point values are exceeded.

**Primary Disinfection** 

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Primary disinfection ensures that any potentially pathogenic organisms that are remaining in the

water are rendered harmless. Niagara Region's drinking water systems achieve primary

disinfection through the use of chlorination (with sodium hypochlorite). Some facilities are also

equipped with UV (ultraviolet) disinfection. The effectiveness of the primary disinfection process

is continuously monitored on SCADA.

Secondary Disinfection

Secondary disinfection prevents regrowth of micro-organisms within the distribution system.

Secondary disinfection is accomplished by adding sufficient sodium hypochlorite to the water to

maintain a residual throughout the entire distribution system.

**Process Waste Management** 

Process waste from the pre-treatment and filtration processes is collected and treated prior to

being discharged to the environment, sewer, or hauled to a wastewater treatment facility via

contracted trucking.

Transmission

In Niagara, treated water is conveyed through transmission systems, including storage facilities

and booster stations, to the local municipal distribution systems.

Niagara Region's transmission systems are illustrated in maps on the Niagara Navigator (NIIMS)

system. The NIIMS maps, in combination with the drinking water system descriptions (see Table

1) and the drinking water system process schematics (see Section 0), provide an overview of

the five transmission systems owned and operated by Niagara Region.

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# **Process Flow Charts**

Process schematics for each of Niagara Region's drinking water systems are available on EtQ as follows:

- Decew Falls/Niagara Falls Drinking Water System Process Schematic (QMS-WT-DN-V-060)
- Grimsby Drinking Water System Process Schematic (QMS-WT-GR-V-060)
- Port Colborne Drinking Water System Process Schematic (QMS-WT-PC-V-060)
- Rosehill Drinking Water System Process Schematic (QMS-WT-RH-V-060)
- Welland Drinking Water System Process Schematic (QMS-WT-WE-V-060)

## **Water Source**

**General Characteristics** 

All of the source water treated by the Niagara Region is surface water.

General characteristics of each of Niagara Region's drinking water systems are included in each system's respective drinking water system description. Drinking water system descriptions are available on EtQ (see links in Table 1).

Common Event-driven Fluctuations, Operational Challenges & Threats

Table 2 lists common event-driven fluctuations and resulting operational challenges and threats that may impact Niagara Region's water systems.



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Table 2: Common Fluctuations, Challenges & Threats

Type of Fluctuation	Resulting Operational Challenges and Threats	Action / Control Measure
Seasonal	Zebra mussels clogging the intake when raw water temperature >12°C	Pre-chlorination at intake when raw water temperature >12°C
Seasonal n	Possible taste/odour events in late summer/early fall	Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filters
Seasonal	Frazil ice may occur when water temperature is around 0°C³	Cleared by contracted diving team
Seasonal	Harmful algal bloom events possible in early spring to late fall	Monitoring plan in place with staff support
Event-driven	High winds and storm events causing increased raw water turbidity	Continual monitoring & process changes if necessary

Further details of event-driven fluctuations common to each of Niagara Region's drinking water systems are included in each system's respective drinking water system description. Drinking water system descriptions are available via EtQ (see links in Table 1).

# **Critical Upstream & Downstream Processes**

Niagara Region actively participates in source protection activities and initiatives; these source protection initiatives protect the Region's upstream water sources.

Local area municipalities own and operate distribution systems downstream of each of Niagara Region's drinking water systems (see Table 1, page 10).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Although not all facilities may experience this event, all are equipped to handle it if it should occur.

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# 7. Risk Assessment

A risk assessment procedure has been developed and implemented that:

- Identifies potential hazardous events and associated hazards, including those required by the Ministry;
- Assesses the risks associated with the occurrence of hazardous events;
- Ranks the hazardous events according to their level of risk;
- Identifies control measures:
- Identifies critical control points (CCPs);
- Identifies a method to verify currency of information;
- Ensures a risk assessment is conducted at least once every thirty-six months; and
- Considers the reliability and redundancy of equipment.

Drinking Water System Risk Assessment (QMS-WT-ALL-P-070) is available via EtQ.

### 8. Risk Assessment Outcomes

The Risk Assessment Outcomes Table identifies hazardous events, associated risk scoring, control measures, CCPs and their respective CCLs, procedures for monitoring CCLs, procedures for responding to CCL deviations, and procedures for reporting and recording deviations. <a href="https://example.ccl.noise.

As an output from the Operating Authority's annual Risk Assessment exercises, CCPs for Niagara Region's drinking water systems are identified as:

- CCP: Coagulant (Aluminum Sulphate) Feed (OP-WT-ALL-P-006)
- CCP: Secondary Disinfection (Distribution Chlorine) (OP-WT-ALL-P-007)
- CCP: Filter Effluent Turbidity (OP-WT-ALL-P-008)

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- CCP: Primary Disinfectant (Sodium Hypochlorite) Feed (OP-WT-ALL-P-009)
- CCP: Verification of Primary Disinfection (OP-WT-ALL-P-010)

All of the above procedures are available via EtQ.

# 9. Organizational Structure, Roles, Responsibilities and Authorities

Water and Wastewater Services is a division of Niagara Region's Public Works Department and serves as the Operating Authority for the Region's five drinking water systems and their associated facilities.

- Our Mission Statement: We protect public health and the environment by providing safe drinking water and effective wastewater management for the communities we serve.
- Our Vision: We will provide sustainable drinking water and wastewater services with a
  commitment to environmental and public health protection, financial accountability,
  infrastructure growth & renewal, collaboration with external partners, and investment in
  staff.

### Our Values:

- <u>Accountability</u>: Ownership and responsibility are important to us. We hold ourselves accountable and are committed to environmental stewardship, quality, and safety.
- Collaboration: We are committed to teamwork as our people are our most valuable asset and we collaborate to achieve extraordinary results.
- <u>Continual Improvement</u>: We practice continual improvement through data-driven decisions and integrated planning, and we learn from all we do. (aligned with NR Value: Striving to improve through innovation, not limitation)
- Integrity: We stand for truth and honesty and believe in always doing our best.
- Respect: We demonstrate mutual respect with all our employees, partners, stakeholders, suppliers and customers through our commitment to transparent and open communication.

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<u>Trust</u>: We have trust in the ability, integrity, and positive intent of each other.
 Our trust is nurtured through keeping our promises and fulfilling our commitments to each other.

# What We Do

The Water and Wastewater Services Division is made up of a dedicated team of approximately 300 employees working throughout the Niagara Region. The Division is divided into five groups:

- Water Operations and Maintenance;
- Wastewater Operations, Maintenance, and Laboratory Services;
- Water-Wastewater Engineering;
- Water-Wastewater Integrated Systems;
- Water-Wastewater Asset Management.

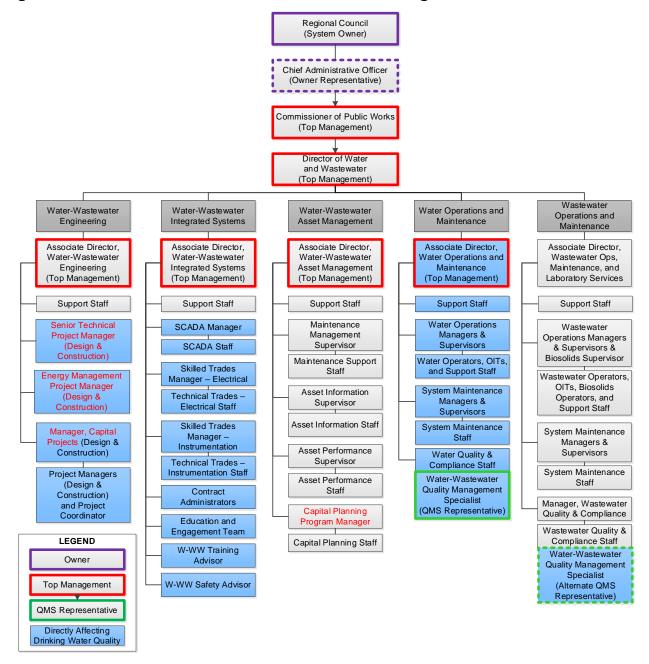
The organizational structure of the Water and Wastewater Services Division, including designation/appointment of key QMS roles, is illustrated in Figure 3.



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Figure 3: Water and Wastewater Services Division - Organizational Structure



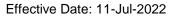
Each of the five working groups has varying levels of responsibility for drinking water quality. Core responsibilities of staff in each group, as well as specific duties for those positions that directly impact drinking water quality, are identified in Table 3. Table 3 also identifies responsibilities of the System Owner, Top Management and the QMS Representative. (NOTE: Greyed positions in Table 3 are not part of the Drinking Water System Operating Authority.)



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### Table 3: Water and Wastewater Services Division - Responsibilities and Authorities

Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Regional Council (System Owner)	<ul> <li>Act as final decision making body for Niagara Region</li> <li>Ensure the provision of safe drinking water to connected distribution systems of the Local Area Municipalities</li> <li>Endorse Niagara Region's Water QMS</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Delegate</li></ul>
Chief Administrative Officer (Owner Representative)	Act as representative for the Owner     Interact with Top Management	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Delegate</li></ul>
Commissioner of Public Works (Top Management)	<ul> <li>Establish and implement operating policy and procedures, covering execution of department functions</li> <li>Manage Public Works Department in its statutory, operational, custodial and advisory responsibilities</li> <li>Act as a member of the Corporate Management Team</li> <li>Participate in Management Review</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Discipline staff</li> <li>Make engineering decisions</li> <li>Make administrative decisions related to Public Works</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Director of Water and Wastewater (Top Management)	<ul> <li>Provide administration and general management of Water and Wastewater Services Division</li> <li>Ensure mandated delivery of water supply and wastewater treatment meets federal, provincial and municipal requirements</li> <li>Provide guidance and direction to staff to ensure compliance with provincial standards and the promotion of industry best practices for the operation of the water systems</li> <li>Participate in Management Review</li> <li>Manage resources to ensure efficient and effective operations</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Establish Divisional priorities; control budget, cost, quality</li> <li>Make engineering decisions</li> <li>Take action in emergencies to ensure health &amp; safety</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>





Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities		
Water Operations	Water Operations and Maintenance			
Associate Director, Water Operations and Maintenance (Top Management) (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Maintain accountability for execution and direction of all aspects of drinking water system operation and maintenance</li> <li>Manage Region's water treatment operations and maintenance to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements and ensure due diligence in daily activities</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and keep abreast of relevant legislation</li> <li>Ensure adequate Health &amp; Safety program in place for Water and Wastewater</li> <li>Analyze and develop annual current and capital budgets to ensure cost-effective operations</li> <li>Continually review overall function of facilities, personnel, communications and training to achieve high standard of performance</li> <li>Direct activities related to public relations, evaluating investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Ensure staff/personnel issues are dealt with effectively and in a timely manner</li> <li>Coordinate employee efforts and respond to emergencies and complaints</li> <li>Provide emergency preparedness leadership</li> <li>Participate in Management Review</li> <li>May function as "Overall Responsible Operator (ORO)" as required by O. Reg. 128/04, if appropriately certified to do so.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Approve purchases in accordance with approved budget and policies and procedures</li> <li>Discipline and deal with major personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest modifications to systems and make changes during construction</li> <li>Recommend purchase of equipment or services involving major expenditures</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>		
Water Operations Managers/ Supervisors (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Supervise operation of water treatment plants and regional transmission system</li> <li>Control area budget; procure material/services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements</li> <li>Participate in Public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters (Managers only)</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>		



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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Water Operations Managers/ Supervisors (continued)	<ul> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Respond to incidents, emergencies, and complaints</li> <li>Function as "Overall Responsible Operator (ORO)" and fulfill the responsibilities in O. Reg. 128/04 as defined for the ORO role</li> </ul>	
System Operator (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Perform operational functions</li> <li>Maintain written and computer based daily records</li> <li>Perform routine inspections of plant</li> <li>Prepare work orders for repairs to equipment</li> <li>Collect and test water samples to monitor/maintain relevant parameters</li> <li>Serve as "Operator-In-Charge (OIC)" and fulfill the responsibilities in O. Reg. 128/04 as defined for the ORO role</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
System Operator-in- Training (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Perform duties of System Operator, with conditions:</li> <li>Operators-in-Training must perform some responsibilities at the direction of System Operator, as required by O. Reg. 128/04</li> <li>When an OIT is operating, the ORO shall be designated as OIC</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Support Staff (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Maintain appropriate control of documents and records</li> <li>Assist with communications, public relations, investigations and preparing reports as needed by Operations</li> <li>Clerical functions</li> <li>Assist with customer service activities, including responding to complaints</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>



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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Water System Maintenance Managers (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Direct and supervise Maintenance staff within area during regular, emergency, standby and on-call hours</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and ensure compliance with relevant Regulations and Regional Policies</li> <li>Control budget for area; monitor expenditures and procurement of materials and services</li> <li>Prepare and modify maintenance schedules to provide for normal maintenance relief, staff training, vacation, lieu time, and sick time</li> <li>Participate in activities related to public relations, evaluating investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Respond to incidents, emergencies, and complaints</li> <li>Assist in scoping, design and construction of projects</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
System Maintenance Staff (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Respond to maintenance issues (i.e. general systems maintenance, etc.)</li> <li>May serve as "Operator-In-Charge (OIC)" in the transmission system</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Authority to perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Authority to Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
W&WW Quality Management Specialist (QMS Rep) (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>See QMS Representative Responsibilities in Operational Plan (Section 4)</li> <li>Ensure processes are optimized and maintained</li> <li>Act as Lead Auditor, or delegate these responsibilities to a qualified person</li> <li>Serves as chair of Management Review meetings with Top Management</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>

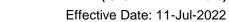
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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Quality & Compliance Staff (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul><li>Technical Support</li><li>Process Optimization</li><li>Compliance Support</li></ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Integrated System	ns	
Associate Director, W-WW Integrated Systems (Top Management)	<ul> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and keep abreast of relevant legislation and regulations</li> <li>Ensure support of SCADA, Instrumentation, Electrical, Contract Administration, Health and Safety, Training, and Education/Engagement teams and maintenance of related infrastructure and equipment</li> <li>Analyze and develop annual current and capital budgets to ensure continuity of operations</li> <li>Continually review overall function of working group to achieve high standard of performance</li> <li>Direct activities related to public relations, evaluating investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Ensure staff/personnel issues are dealt with effectively and in a timely manner</li> <li>Coordinate employee efforts and respond to emergencies and complaints</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Participate in Management Review</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Approve purchases in accordance with approved budget and policies and procedures</li> <li>Discipline and deal with major personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest modifications to systems</li> <li>Recommend purchase of equipment or services involving major expenditures</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Contract Administrators (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Review, amend and administer annual contracts for Water-Wastewater Services</li> <li>Prepare authorizations and approvals for contract and bid awards</li> <li>Monitor and supervise maintenance projects</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>



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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
W-WW Training Advisor (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	Develop and maintain divisional training programs	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Education and Engagement Team (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	Manage divisional communications and public outreach activities	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
SCADA Manager (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Manage and administer SCADA resources to achieve Divisional goals and objectives</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services to provide customers both internal and external, with efficient and cost effective skilled support</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and ensure compliance with relevant Regulations and Regional Policies</li> <li>Participate in activities related to public relations, evaluating investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Participate in scoping, design, and construction of projects</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Skilled Trades Managers (Instrumentation and Electrical) (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Manage and administer skilled trades resources to achieve Divisional goals and objectives</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services to provide customers both internal and external, with efficient and cost effective skilled support</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Supervise daily activities of Technical Trades staff</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>





Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Skilled Trades Managers (Instrumentation and Electrical) (continued)	<ul> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and ensure compliance with relevant Regulations and Regional Policies</li> <li>Participate in activities related to Public relations, evaluating investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Scoping, design and construction of projects</li> </ul>	
SCADA and Technical Trades Staff (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	Respond to maintenance issues (i.e. electrical problems, SCADA issues, etc.)	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
W-WW Safety Advisor (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	Develop and maintain divisional health & safety programs	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Engineering		
Associate Director, W-WW Engineering (Top Management)	<ul> <li>Hold accountability for scoping, design and construction of engineering projects connected with Region's water and wastewater systems</li> <li>Analyze and develop annual current and capital budgets to ensure that operation plans are cost effective</li> <li>Manage &amp; administer capital project resources to achieve Divisional goals and objectives</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and keep abreast of relevant legislation and regulations</li> <li>Communicate project progress with other working groups within and outside of Water-Wastewater Services</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Suggest modifications to systems and make changes during construction</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Discipline and deal with major personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>



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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Associate Director, W-WW Engineering (continued)	<ul> <li>Direct and supervise Senior Project Management staff</li> <li>Participate in infrastructure planning and review activities</li> <li>Participate in Management Review</li> <li>Participate in public relations, evaluations, investigations, and report preparation</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	
Manager, Capital Projects W-WW Engineering (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Lead the scoping, design and construction of large scale projects related to Region's systems</li> <li>Participate in infrastructure planning and review</li> <li>Communicate project progress with Management</li> <li>Control budget for projects and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements including assisting with the preparation of applications for approvals and amendments with the Ministry</li> <li>Participate in public relations, investigation evaluations and report preparation</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> <li>Assist PMs with issues as required</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Senior Technical Project Manager (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Manage complex W-WW capital projects</li> <li>Provide technical review and design input to W-WW Services.</li> <li>Lead and control revision of policies, procedures, and standards within W-WW</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>





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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Energy Management Project Manager (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Develop and implement the divisional energy conservation and demand management strategies</li> <li>Oversee the efficient delivery of W-WW capital energy renewal projects</li> <li>Manage relationships with internal and external stakeholders</li> <li>Identify opportunities for improving energy efficiency, ensuring alignment with divisional standards and priorities</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Project Manager, Design and Construction (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Lead the scoping, design and construction of projects related to Region's systems</li> <li>Participate in infrastructure planning and review</li> <li>Communicate project progress with Management</li> <li>Control budget for projects and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements including assisting with the preparation of applications for approvals and amendments with the Ministry</li> <li>Participate in public relations, investigation evaluations and report preparation</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Project Coordinator (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	<ul> <li>Manage Tier 3 capital projects</li> <li>Participate in infrastructure planning and review</li> <li>Communicate project progress with Management</li> <li>Control budget for projects and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Assist with schedule management, project coordination, and project monitoring and reporting</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>

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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Project Coordinator (continued)	<ul> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements including assisting with the preparation of applications for approvals and amendments with the Ministry</li> <li>Participate in public relations, investigation evaluations, and report preparation</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	
Engineering Support Staff	<ul> <li>Participate in infrastructure planning and review activities</li> <li>Participate in public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Asset Manageme	ent	
Associate Director, W-WW Asset Management (Top Management)	<ul> <li>Establish and maintain a divisional asset management plan, capital planning, and infrastructure data management for the Region's water and wastewater systems</li> <li>Oversee collection, review and analysis of capital asset data as well as operational and maintenance data to ensure all information relating to W-WW infrastructure is acquired, stored, used for capital planning purposes, and made available to those in other sections and departments</li> <li>Develop capital plans for W-WW infrastructure</li> <li>Develop the 10-year capital forecast</li> <li>Support and advise the Associate Directors in the development of financial plans</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and keep abreast of relevant legislation and regulations</li> <li>Communicate project progress with other working groups within and outside of Water-Wastewater Services</li> <li>Direct and supervise Asset Management staff</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Discipline and deal with major personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>



Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Associate Director, W-WW Asset Management (continued)	<ul> <li>Participate in Management Review</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	
Supervisor, Water- Wastewater Maintenance Management	<ul> <li>Manage and administer support resources to achieve Divisional goals and objectives</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services to provide customers both internal and external, with efficient and cost effective skilled support</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and ensure compliance with relevant Regulations and Regional Policies</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Maintain CMMS program</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Maintenance Support Staff (CMMS, Clerks)	<ul> <li>Maintain appropriate control of documents and records</li> <li>Assist with communications, public relations, investigations and preparing reports as needed by Maintenance staff</li> <li>Complete clerical functions</li> <li>Assist with customer service activities, including responding to complaints</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Asset Information Supervisor	<ul> <li>Manage and administer Water &amp; Wastewater GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and IMS (Information Management Systems) to achieve Divisional goals and objectives</li> <li>Direct and supervise Asset Information staff</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>



Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Asset Information Supervisor (continued)	<ul> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Participate in public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	
Asset Information Staff	<ul> <li>Coordinate the locating of sub-surface Water &amp; Wastewater assets</li> <li>Review engineering drawings and resolve discrepancies</li> <li>Tracking and updating asset lifecycle data</li> <li>Assist with the administration of the Water &amp; Wastewater GIS and IMS</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Supervisor Asset Performance Management	<ul> <li>Direct and supervise Asset Performance staff</li> <li>Manage and administer asset performance resources to achieve Divisional goals and objectives</li> <li>Participate in infrastructure planning and review activities</li> <li>Communicate project progress with Management</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Participate in public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Asset Performance Staff	<ul> <li>Collect flow measurements, dimensional analysis and visual resources for wastewater systems</li> <li>Conduct field inspections of assets</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>



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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Asset Performance Staff (continued)	<ul> <li>Perform emergency locates</li> <li>Collect spatial coordinates for inclusion into the Water &amp; Wastewater GIS systems</li> <li>Monitor, maintain and update environmental systems and conduct evaluations for flow and weather</li> </ul>	
W-WW Capital Planning Program Manager	<ul> <li>Facilitate Capital needs identification through needs assessment</li> <li>Develop conceptual options and scope of works</li> <li>Estimate project cost for Capital Planning purposes</li> <li>Conduct project risk assessment</li> <li>Identify capital infrastructure needs and propose associated capital works</li> <li>Lead preliminary project scoping activities in support of capital plan development</li> <li>Assist with development of Requests for Proposals for approved capital studies and/or design projects</li> <li>Provide support to Corporate Asset Management Office for Region-wide asset management initiatives</li> <li>Manage and administer infrastructure planning and review to achieve Divisional goals and objectives</li> <li>Direct and supervise Capital Planning staff</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Participate in public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>





Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
W-WW Capital Planning Specialist	<ul> <li>Lead the scoping and preliminary design of projects for capital planning and budgeting purposes as it is related to Region's systems</li> <li>Provide support to Capital Planning Program Manager in development of annual capital budgets</li> <li>Support data-driven capital planning activities through data collection, review, and analysis</li> <li>Provide support to Corporate sset Management Office for Region-wide asset management initiatives</li> <li>Infrastructure planning and review</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements including assisting with the preparation of applications for approvals and amendments with the Ministry</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Participate in public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Support Staff	<ul> <li>Maintain appropriate control of documents and records</li> <li>Assist with communications, public relations, investigations and preparing reports as needed by Engineering</li> <li>Complete clerical functions</li> <li>Assist with customer service activities, including responding to complaints</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>



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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities			
Wastewater Ope	Wastewater Operations, Maintenance, and Laboratory Services				
Associate Director of Wastewater Operations, Maintenance, and Laboratory Services	<ul> <li>Accountable for execution and direction of all wastewater operations</li> <li>Manage Region's wastewater treatment operations to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements and ensure due diligence in daily activities</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed Analyze and develop annual current and capital budgets to ensure that operations are cost effective</li> <li>Continuously review overall function of facilities, personnel, communications and training to achieve high standard of performance</li> <li>Direct activities related to Public relations, evaluating investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Ensure staff/personnel issues are dealt with effectively and in a timely manner</li> <li>Coordinate employee efforts and respond to emergencies and complaints</li> <li>Participate in Management Review</li> <li>May function as "Overall Responsible Operator (ORO)" as required by O. Reg. 129/04, if appropriately licensed to do so.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Approve purchases in accordance with approved budget and policies and procedures</li> <li>Discipline and deal with major personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest modifications to systems and make changes during construction</li> <li>Recommend purchase of equipment or services involving major expenditures</li> <li>Delegate</li> </ul>			
Wastewater Operations Managers & Supervisors	<ul> <li>Supervise operation of wastewater treatment plants and regional collection system</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> <li>Function as "Overall Responsible Operator (ORO)" and fulfill the responsibilities in O. Reg. 129/04 as defined for the ORO role</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Approve purchases in accordance with approved budget and policies and procedures</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> </ul>			



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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Wastewater Operations Managers & Supervisors (continued)	<ul> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed Participate in Public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Suggest continual improvements</li><li>Issue notice of noncompliance</li><li>Delegate</li></ul>
Wastewater Systems Maintenance Managers	<ul> <li>Direct and supervise Maintenance staff within area during regular, emergency, standby and on-call hours</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and ensure compliance with relevant Regulations and Regional Policies</li> <li>Control budget for area; monitor expenditures and procurement of materials and services</li> <li>Prepare and modify maintenance schedules to provide for normal maintenance relief, staff training, vacation, lieu time, and sick time</li> <li>Participate in activities related to public relations, evaluating investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> <li>Assist in scoping, design and construction of projects</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
System Operator	<ul> <li>Perform operational functions</li> <li>Maintain written and computer based daily records</li> <li>Perform routine inspections of plant</li> <li>Prepare work orders for repairs to equipment</li> <li>Collect and test wastewater samples to monitor/maintain relevant parameters</li> <li>Serve as "Operator-In-Charge (OIC)" and fulfill the responsibilities in O. Reg. 129/04 as defined for the ORO role</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>



Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
System Operator-in- Training (OIT)	<ul> <li>Perform duties of System Operator, with conditions:</li> <li>Operators-in-Training must perform some responsibilities at the direction of the System Operator, as per O. Reg. 129/04</li> <li>When an OIT is operating, the ORO shall be designated as OIC</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Biosolids Program Manager	<ul> <li>Supervise operation of biosolids treatment facility and lagoons</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Participate in Public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Approve purchases in accordance with approved budget and policies and procedures</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> <li>Delegate</li> </ul>
Biosolids Residual Solids Operator	<ul> <li>Perform operational functions</li> <li>Maintain written and computer based daily records</li> <li>Prepare work orders for repairs to equipment</li> <li>Collect and test process samples to monitor/maintain relevant parameters</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Support Staff	<ul> <li>Maintain appropriate control of documents and records</li> <li>Assist with communications, Public relations, investigations and preparing reports as needed by Operations</li> <li>Clerical functions</li> <li>Assist with Customer Service activities including responding to complaints</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>



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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Manager of Quality and Compliance, Wastewater	<ul> <li>Ensure processes are optimized and maintained</li> <li>Develop and implement quality sampling program as required in a collection system</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Administer environmental enforcement program</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Issue notice of noncompliance</li> <li>Delegate</li> </ul>
W&WW Quality Management Specialist (Alternate QMS Rep) (Directly Affects Drinking Water)	See QMS Representative Responsibilities in Operational Plan (Section 4)	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Environmental Laboratory Supervisor	<ul> <li>Supervise Environmental Laboratory Staff</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Delegate</li> </ul>



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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Environmental Laboratory Staff	<ul> <li>Conduct analytical wastewater and biosolids testing</li> <li>Follow established protocols for sampling and testing</li> <li>Provide notification if there is an exceedance</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Environmental Enforcement Staff	<ul> <li>Determine sampling locations and methods, and collect water or wastewater samples for analysis</li> <li>Inspect wastewater treatment, and disposal facilities and systems for compliance to federal, provincial, or local regulations (including Environmental Compliance Approvals)</li> <li>Examine permits, licences, applications, and records to ensure compliance with licencing requirements</li> <li>Prepare, organize, and maintain inspection records</li> <li>Monitor follow-up actions in instances where violations were found, and review compliance monitoring reports.</li> <li>Execute relief operational duties</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> <li>Recommend notice of non-compliance</li> </ul>
Quality & Compliance Staff, Wastewater	<ul> <li>Process optimization</li> <li>Technical support</li> <li>Compliance support</li> <li>Sampling program development assistance</li> <li>Benchmarking</li> <li>Maintain appropriate control of documents and records</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>

#### **Competencies** 10.

Niagara Region personnel performing duties directly affecting drinking water must understand the importance of their actions. Furthermore, they must be competent in their jobs and have appropriate education, training, skills and/or experience.

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The Competencies Table (QMS-ALL-ALL-T-100) documents competencies required for

personnel performing duties directly affecting drinking water quality.

Competencies (QMS-WT-ALL-P-100) documents activities to develop and maintain the required

competencies for personnel performing duties directly affecting drinking water quality. The

Competencies Procedure also documents activities to ensure that all Operating Authority

personnel are aware of the relevance of their duties.

Both the procedure and table are available via EtQ.

11. Personnel Coverage

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Niagara Region ensures that sufficient personnel meeting identified competencies are available

for duties that directly affect drinking water quality as documented in Personnel Coverage (QMS-

WT-ALL-P-110).

Personnel Coverage (QMS-WT-ALL-P-110) is available via EtQ.

12. Communications

Effective communication is essential for ensuring a successful QMS. Communications (QMS-

WT-ALL-P-120) describes how relevant aspects of the QMS are communicated between Top

Management and the Owner, Operating Authority personnel, Suppliers and the Public.

Communications (QMS-WT-ALL-P-120) is available via EtQ.

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### 13. Essential Supplies and Services

Niagara Region's drinking water systems require a number of essential supplies and services for the production of safe drinking water. These supplies and services are categorized as:

Supplies	Services
Chemical	Calibration
Miscellaneous	Laboratory and Miscellaneous

A general overview of essential supplies and services, methods to ensure their procurement, and procedures for quality assurance is provided in <u>Essential Supplies and Services (QMS-WT-ALL-P-130)</u>; the procedure is available via the <u>EtQ</u>.

Essential supplies and services for both water and wastewater are identified on the <u>"Essential Supplies and Services" Vine page</u>. The table can be filtered to show only those supplies and services used in respect of Niagara Region's drinking water systems.

NOTE: Only drinking water system supplies and services fall within the scope of this Operational Plan.

### 14. Review, Rehabilitation and Renewal of Infrastructure

Review, Rehabilitation, and Renewal of Infrastructure (QMS-WT-ALL-P-140) describes how Niagara Region reviews the adequacy of infrastructure necessary to operate and maintain its drinking water systems. It also details how infrastructure rehabilitation and renewal projects that are funded from the capital budget are initiated, approved and communicated to the Owner.

Review, Rehabilitation, and Renewal of Infrastructure (QMS-WT-ALL-P-140) is available via EtQ.

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#### 15. Infrastructure Maintenance

Niagara Region maintains an effective maintenance program. The maintenance program includes planned and unplanned infrastructure maintenance, renewal, and rehabilitation activities that are typically funded from the current budget. <a href="Maintenance">Maintenance</a> (QMS-WT-ALL-P-150) describes the maintenance program, long-term maintenance, rehabilitation, and renewal plans, the means to monitor maintenance effectiveness, and how maintenance programs are communicated to the Owner.

Maintenance (QMS-WT-ALL-P-150) is available via EtQ.

#### 16. Sampling, Testing and Monitoring

Sampling, testing and monitoring activities are essential to confirm water quality and to be compliant with legislation and regulations. <u>Sampling, Testing and Monitoring (QMS-WT-ALL-P-160)</u> describes these activities and how results are recorded and shared.

To complement the procedure, the following tables outline the sampling, testing, and monitoring activities undertaken at each WTP:

- Sampling, Testing & Monitoring Activities DeCew Falls WTP (QMS-WT-DF-T-160)
- Sampling, Testing & Monitoring Activities Grimsby WTP (QMS-WT-DF-T-160)
- Sampling, Testing & Monitoring Activities Niagara Falls WTP (QMS-WT-DF-T-160)
- Sampling, Testing & Monitoring Activities Port Colborne WTP (QMS-WT-DF-T-160)
- Sampling, Testing & Monitoring Activities Rosehill WTP (QMS-WT-DF-T-160)
- Sampling, Testing & Monitoring Activities Welland WTP (QMS-WT-DF-T-160)

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All of the above documents are available via EtQ.

17. Measurement & Recording Equipment Calibration & Maintenance

The measurement and recording equipment used in Niagara Region's drinking water systems is calibrated and maintained according to Measurement and Recording Equipment Calibration

and Maintenance (QMS-WT-ALL-P-170).

Measurement and Recording Equipment Calibration and Maintenance (QMS-WT-ALL-P-170) is

available via EtQ.

18. Emergency Management

Emergency preparedness is achieved by following Niagara Region's Emergency Response

Procedures (ERP) Manual for Water and Wastewater Systems. The ERP Manual includes

response and recovery procedures for potential emergencies that could impact drinking water

quality. Each procedure is laid out step by step and clearly notes responsibilities of those

involved. Training and testing requirements are specified in Water and Wastewater Emergency

Response Plan (ERP-ALL-ALL-P-001). An Emergency Response Contact List (ERP-ALL-ALL-

T-002) is also included as part of the ERP Manual.

The ERP Manual is available on the Regional intranet's Water-Wastewater Services Division

Page under "W-WW Emergency Response Plan" as well as EtQ.

19. Internal Audits

Internal audits add value to Niagara Region's operations by providing feedback about the QMS

and its effectiveness. Internal Auditing (QMS-WT-ALL-P-190) describes:

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 How to evaluate the conformity of Niagara Region's QMS with the requirements of the Standard:

- Audit criteria, frequency, scope, methodology and record keeping requirements;
- How previous internal and external audit results are considered; and

 How corrective actions are identified and initiated (see Section 21 of this Operational Plan).

Internal Auditing (QMS-WT-ALL-P-190) is available via EtQ.

### 20. Management Review

Niagara Region

Management Reviews are performed to ensure the continuing suitability, adequacy and effectiveness of the QMS. <u>Management Review (QMS-WT-ALL-P-200)</u> documents the process followed in undertaking the review.

Management Review (QMS-WT-ALL-P-200) is available via EtQ.

### 21. Continual Improvement

Niagara Region maintains and continually improves its Water QMS through annual audits, management reviews, implementation of best management practices, process optimization, and staff development, and measures the effectiveness of these continual improvement initiatives.

Through the internal audit process, corrective actions and preventive actions/opportunities for improvement are identified and reported in order to detect and eliminate non-conformances. <a href="Corrective Action">Corrective Action</a>, Preventive Action, and Best Practices (QMS-WT-ALL-P-210) outlines the Operating Authority's corrective and preventive action processes.

Deficiencies identified as part of the management review are discussed and action plans are created to improve the QMS.

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Niagara Region reviews and considers best practices from a multitude of sources, including but not limited to the Ministry's published list, regulatory inspections, benchmarking activities, and networking with peers. Implemented best practices are tracked as preventive

actions/opportunities for improvement.

Niagara Region

Niagara Region staff efforts are critical for continual improvement of the QMS. We are committed to providing effective staff development opportunities (i.e. courses, workshops, on the job training) in an effort to continually improve our operations.

<u>Corrective Action, Preventive Action, and Best Practices (QMS-WT-ALL-P-210)</u> is available via EtQ.



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Niagara 7 // Region

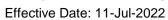
Revision	Date	Description of Revision	Updated By
0	Oct. 29, 2008	Operational Plan created	Heather Sim
1	Oct. 5, 2009	Administrative revisions include: (i) the addition of new Associate Director positions for Water and Wastewater Operations, and the removal of the Manager, Water Operations, following Organizational change; (ii) the addition of Support Staff to each area; (iii) the addition of Manager of Quality & Compliance, Process & Development Staff and Water Support Staff to the "directly impacting water quality" group; (iv) the revision of procedure numbers following revision to the Document Naming Convention Procedure; and (v) the addition of the Table of Revisions.	Jocelyn Koteles (Authorized by Commissioner of Public Works, Ken Brothers)
		Entered into EtQ – October 27, 2011	
2	Sep. 24, 2012	Revised procedure to include: (i) updated links to relevant documents; (ii) administrative changes to positions/titles and added the Contract Administrator/Security Coordinator to the table of positions affecting the quality of drinking water (CAR#00019); (iii) identification of the Coordinator W&WW Quality Management as the QMS Representative; (iv) removed individual risk assessment outcome records and added reference to the risk assessment outcome table (QMS-WT-ALL-080-F1) and the respective CCP response procedures; (v) Removed "The Drinking-Water System Risk Outcomes Summary is available on Sherpa" from section 8.0 Risk Assessment Outcomes	Jen Croswell
3	Jan. 2, 2013	Revised procedure to include: (i) Table 3: Responsibilities and Authorities, will include "directly affects drinking water" under titles/groups which are listed in Figure 1: Water and Wastewater Services Division Organizational Chart as directly affecting the drinking water; (ii) Figure 1: Water and Wastewater Services Division Organizational Chart will be revised to include a blue box, in addition to the red box, around the Associate Director, Water Operations to indicate that the position directly affects drinking water and a member of Top Management; (iii) To provide clarity for external audiences, the Operational Plan, Table 3: Responsibilities and Authorities will be revised to include a list of maintenance staff group categories under the Title/Group column.  The above revisions were made in response to external CARs J0322584-3 and J0322584-5.  Additional revisions include: (i) An update to the current mission statement; (ii) updated the document ID for the Risk Assessment Outcomes Table, from QMS-WT-ALL-080-F1 to QMS-WT-ALL-081, to reflect that the Risk Assessment Outcomes Table is a living document and not a form.	Jen Croswell

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Revision	Date	Description of Revision	Updated By
4	Apr. 22, 2014	Administrative revisions include: (i) the addition of the Approval, License and Amendment Procedure (QMS-ALL-ALL-021) and Ministry of Environment Inspection Document Request Procedure (QMS-WT-ALL-022) to section 2, Quality Management System Policy; (ii) the addition of Tracking Critical Control Limit (CCL) Deviations (OP-WT-ALL-807) to section 8, Risk Assessment Outcomes; (iii) the removal of Integrated Solutions Support Manager and the revisions of Process & Development Staff to Quality & Compliance Staff to section 9, Organizational Structure, Roles, Responsibilities and Authorities; (iv) revisions to Table 1: Niagara Region's Drinking-Water Systems in section 6, Drinking-Water Systems; (v) identification of a backup QMS Representative to section 4, QMs Representative; and (vi) Minor administrative edits throughout.	Jen Croswell
5	Jun. 29, 2015	Operational Plan endorsed by the System Owner and Top Management – Signature sheet to be added to document endorsement, no further revisions.	Jen Croswell
6	Jan. 7, 2016	<ul> <li>Revisions to:</li> <li>Section 2 – updated QMS Policy poster graphic (Mar 31, 2015 Rev 1)</li> <li>Section 3 – revised how written records of commitment and endorsement are obtained and updated</li> <li>Section 9 – added the Associate Director Engineering to Top Management (OFI 2015-002-Internal); expanded Engineering and Wastewater Operations staff to reflect positions in the Wastewater Operational Plan; added Supervisory Development Program position; included additional responsibilities in regards to "scoping, design and construction of projects" maintenance manager positions (OFI-14-02)</li> <li>Minor administrative revisions throughout</li> </ul>	Jen Croswell
7	Oct. 31, 2016	<ul> <li>Identified Engineering staff (Senior Project Managers and Project Managers) as staff whose work directly affects drinking water quality.</li> <li>Revised organizational structure and position titles to reflect reorganization of W-WW Services Division and results of the Corporate Job Evaluation Process.</li> <li>Updated procedure links</li> <li>Updated document IDs in accordance with revised document numbering conventions</li> </ul>	Rachel Whyte

Niagara 7 Region





Revision	Date	Description of Revision	Updated By
8	Aug. 24, 2018	Changed "Sherpa" to "Vine" to reflect implementation of new Regional intranet.	Rachel Whyte
		Removed reference to controlled document "Essential Supplies and Services Table (QMS-WT-ALL-T-130)" and included reference to "Essential Supplies and Services" Vine page.	
		Removed references to Regulatory Updates (ADM-WT-ALL-P-003), Drinking Water System Licence and Permit Amendments (ADM-WT-ALL-P-004), and MOECC Inspection Document Requests (ADM-WT-ALL-P-005). These procedures align with the MECP inspection process and are not considered to fall directly within the scope of the Drinking Water Quality Management System. Operational Plan.	
		<ul> <li>Updated list of drinking water facilities in Table 1 (page 10).</li> </ul>	
		Added discussion of best practice review and preventive actions as forms of continual improvement, and noted that effectiveness of continual improvement initiatives is measured.	
		Changed staff title from Manager, Infrastructure Planning & Asset Management to Manager, Capital Planning (as per Divisional memo, 4Dec2017).	
		Updated procedure hyperlinks as required.	
9	Mar. 28, 2019	Updated to align with requirements of <i>Drinking Water Quality Management Standard</i> , v.2.0 (February 2017).	Rachel Whyte
		Operational Plan endorsed by 2018-2022 term of Regional Council.	
10	Dec. 12, 2019	Specified that W-WW QM Specialist reporting to Manager, Q&C – Water is the QMS Rep for the DWQMS; W-WW QM Specialist reporting to Manager, Q&C – Wastewater is the alternate/backup	Rachel Whyte
		Removed Crescent Park Elevated Tank from Rosehill DWS and King Street Elevated Tank from Port Colborne DWS (both have been decommissioned)	
		Updated organizational chart and roles & responsibilities table following divisional restructuring	
		Added AD Asset Management and W-WW Quality Management Specialist (Wastewater) roles and responsibilities	
		Defined "Ministry" as Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks.	
		Operational Plan endorsed by 2018-2022 term of Regional Council.	



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Revision	Date	Description of Revision	Updated By
11	Dec. 9, 2020	<ul> <li>Removed the Manager, Water Quality and Compliance position as it has been eliminated.</li> </ul>	Rachel Whyte
		<ul> <li>Changed document access point from "on Vine" to "via the Regional intranet".</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Added Chief Administrative Officer as signatory under "Commitment and Endorsement" (Section 3) to address external audit finding (2020-001-Audit External).</li> </ul>	
		Added reference to Section 9 ("Roles and Responsibilities") in Section 3 ("Commitment and Endorsement") to clearly identify members of Top Management in order to address external audit finding (2020-001-Audit External).	
		<ul> <li>Added map of operating areas and associated treatment plants as Figure 2 in Section 6 in order to address external audit finding (2020-006-Audit External).</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Clarified responsibilities of ORO, OIC, and OIT with more explicit references to applicable legislation in order to address external audit finding (2020-001-Audit External).</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Added W-WW Engineering Project Coordinator position to roles and responsibilities table (Section 9) to address internal audit finding (2020-004-Audit Internal).</li> </ul>	
		Operational Plan re-endorsed by Commissioner of Public Works via authority delegated as per PWA 109-2008.	
12	May 4, 2021	Changed title of Senior Project Manager to Manager, Capital Projects W&WW Engineering	Rachel Whyte
		<ul> <li>Included details of delegation of authority to Commissioner for approval and endorsement of administrative updates to Operational Plan</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Revised explanation of Operational Plan re-endorsement process to better reflect current practice.</li> </ul>	
		Removed St. David's Standpipe from list of Decew/Niagara facilities as it has been decommissioned	
		<ul> <li>Revised risk assessment frequency from "3 years" to "36 months" to better align with Element 7 of DWQMS</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Revised total number of staff in division from 270 to 300 in alignment with information published on myHR</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Revised authorities of Director, W-WW to include authority to make engineering decisions</li> </ul>	
		Added roles and responsibilities of Project Coordinator	



Effective Date: 11-Jul-2022

Revision	Date	Description of Revision	Updated By
13	July 12, 2022	Updated title of Senior Project Manager to Manager, Capital Projects identified in Figure 3	Molly MacDonald
		Added Senior Technical Project Manager and Energy Management Project Manager to Figure 3 and Table 3	
		Revised reference to accessing QMS documents from Regional Intranet to EtQ	
		Added Harmful Algal Bloom events to Table 2 – Common Fluctuations, Challenges & Threats	
		Updated Ridgeway Tank to Ridgeway Sample Station following removal of Elevated Tower	
		Added Park Ridge Reservoir to Grimsby's Drinking Water System Description	
		Added reference to process waste trucking as a method of process waste management	
		Updated mission statement and added vision statement and values	

### **The Regional Municipality of Niagara**

# Wastewater Quality Management System Operational Plan

#### For the:

Anger Avenue Wastewater System
Baker Road Wastewater System
Crystal Beach Wastewater System
Niagara Falls Wastewater System
Niagara-on-the-Lake Wastewater System
Port Dalhousie Wastewater System
Port Weller Wastewater System
Queenston Wastewater System
Seaway Wastewater System
Welland Wastewater System
Stevensville/Douglastown Lagoon Wastewater System
Garner Road Biosolids Handling and Dewatering Facility

Effective Date: November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Revision Number: 5



### **Wastewater System Operational Plan**



(QMS-WW-ALL-MAN-010)

Effective Date: 9-Nov-2022 Revision Number: 5

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### **Wastewater System Operational Plan**



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	Niagara Falls WWTP Process Schematic (QMS-WW-NF-V-060)

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	<ul> <li>Baker Road WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-BR-V-061)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Crystal Beach WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-CB-V-061)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Niagara Falls WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-NF-V-061)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Niagara-on-the-Lake WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-NL-V-061)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Port Dalhousie WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-PD-V-061)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Port Weller WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-PW-V-061)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Queenston WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-QT-V-061)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li><u>Stevensville/Douglastown Lagoon System Schematic</u> (QMS-WW-SD-V-061)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Seaway WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-SW-V-061)</li> </ul>
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# Wastewater System Operational Plan (QMS-WW-ALL-MAN-010)

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Appendix 13	<ul> <li>Sampling, Testing and Monitoring (QMS-WW-ALL-P-160)</li> <li>Sampling, Testing &amp; Monitoring Activities – Anger Avenue WWTP (QMS-WW-FE-T-160)</li> <li>Sampling, Testing &amp; Monitoring Activities – Queenston WWTP (QMS-WW-QT-T-160)</li> <li>Sampling, Testing &amp; Monitoring Activities – Stevensville-Douglastown Lagoon (QMS-WW-SD-T-160)</li> <li>Sampling, Testing &amp; Monitoring Activities – Garner Road Biosolids Facility (QMS-WW-GR-T-160)</li> <li>Sampling, Testing &amp; Monitoring Activities – Crystal Beach WWTP (QMS-WW-CB-T-160)</li> <li>Sampling, Testing &amp; Monitoring Activities – Seaway WWTP (QMS-WW-SW-T-160)</li> </ul>
Appendix 14	Measurement and Recording Equipment Calibration and Maintenance (QMS-WW-ALL-P-170)
Appendix 15	Water-Wastewater Emergency Response Plan Manual (CONFIDENTIAL)
Appendix 16	Internal Auditing (QMS-WW-ALL-P-190)
Appendix 17	Management Review (QMS-WW-ALL-P-200)
Appendix 18	Corrective Action (QMS-WW-ALL-P-210)



(QMS-WW-ALL-MAN-010)

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### 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Wastewater Quality Management System

The Niagara Region has established this Wastewater Quality Management System (WWQMS) using a similar approach as the Region's existing Water Quality Management System. The Water Quality management System was a requirement of the Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (DWQMS). Under the DWQMS, all municipal residential drinking water systems were required to develop and implement a quality management system (QMS) that must be documented in an operational plan. DWQMS requirements were used as a foundation for the development of Niagara Region's Wastewater Quality Management System.

The Wastewater QMS is not a legislated requirement. It has been developed and implemented as a best practice. The establishment of a Wastewater QMS demonstrates Niagara Region's due diligence and proactive approach to quality management in wastewater services.

#### 1.2 Niagara Region

The Regional Municipality of Niagara ("Niagara Region") owns and operates eleven (11) wastewater systems and a biosolids processing facility, including:

- Ten (10) wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) and a wastewater treatment lagoon. These systems collect and treat wastewater from eleven area municipalities: the Cities of St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland, and Port Colborne; the Towns of Grimsby, Lincoln, Thorold, Pelham, Fort Erie, and Niagara-on-the-Lake; and the Township of West Lincoln. Each of these area municipalities owns and operates collection systems that collect wastewater from customers within the region.
- A biosolids handling and dewatering facility ("Garner Road"); dewatering processes at this facility are operated by Niagara Region staff, while biosolids handling is executed by a third-party contractor.

Niagara Region is committed to source water protection by effectively collecting and treating wastewater, and has implemented a QMS in support of its wastewater systems.



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### 1.3 Scope

This Operational Plan documents the QMS for Niagara Region's wastewater systems:

- Anger Avenue Wastewater System
- Baker Road Wastewater System
- Crystal Beach Wastewater System
- Niagara Falls Wastewater System
- Port Dalhousie Wastewater System
- Port Weller Wastewater System
- Queenston Wastewater System
- Seaway Wastewater System
- Welland Wastewater System
- Niagara-on-the-Lake Wastewater System (Lagoon and WWTP)
- Stevensville/Douglastown Lagoon Wastewater System
- Garner Road Biosolids Handling and Dewatering Facility

For the purpose of this Operational Plan and associated procedures:

- All Staff includes all staff employed by Niagara Region
- All Operating Authority Staff includes all staff within the Water and Wastewater Services Division except those who only work in water systems (i.e. Water Operators, Managers, and assigned Maintenance staff)
- Directly Affects Wastewater refers to the positions that perform duties that directly affect
  wastewater operations. These positions are outlined under Figure 3 Water and
  Wastewater Services Division Organizational Structure.
- Ministry refers to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks (or the equivalent ministry, in the event of a name change).



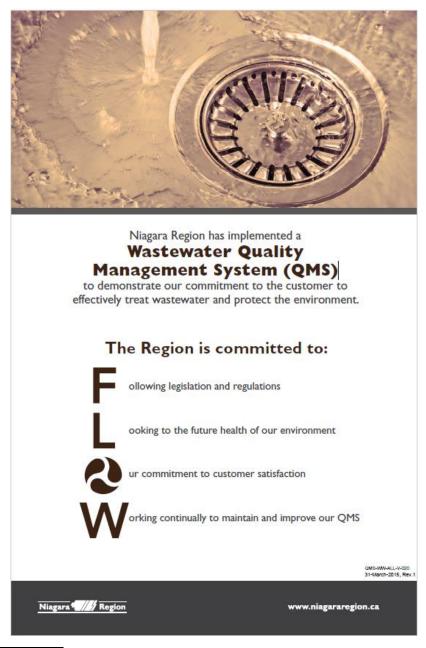
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# 2. Quality Management System Policy

Niagara Region is committed to the effective treatment of wastewater within the region. Our Wastewater QMS Policy is shown below.

Figure 1: Wastewater Quality Management System Policy<sup>1</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> March 31, 2015 - Revision 1

# Niagara 7 Region

### **Wastewater System Operational Plan**

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#### 3. Commitment and Endorsement

### 3.1 Top Management

Each member of Top Management (identified in Section 9 of this Operational Plan) pledges commitment to the Wastewater QMS and endorses the Operational Plan through the signing of a Commitment and Endorsement Memorandum. The Memorandum includes a pledge to ensure the implementation, maintenance and continual improvement of the QMS for each of Niagara Region's wastewater systems as documented in this Operational Plan.

#### 3.2 Owner

As System Owner, Niagara Region shall ensure the implementation, maintenance and continual improvement of the QMS for each of its wastewater systems, as documented in this Operational Plan.

By signing below, Regional Council (represented by the Regional Chair and Clerk) and the Chief Administrative Officer (as an Owner Representative within the Operating Authority) endorse the contents of this Operational Plan.

The Regional Municipality of Niagara, per:

REVISION 5 INCLUDES ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES ONLY;

APPROVED BY COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS AS PER AUTHORITY DELEGATED UNDER PW 109-2008

Regional Chair Jim Bradley	Date
Regional Clerk Ann-Marie Norio	Date
Chief Administrative Officer Ron Tripp, P. Eng.	Date

Niagara Region

(QMS-WW-ALL-MAN-010)

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### 3.3 Delegated Authority

The Commissioner of Public Works has been delegated authority to endorse changes to the Operational Plan on behalf of Council where such changes are of a minor or administrative nature. The Commissioner was granted this authority on October 29, 2008 via approval of Report PWA 109-2008.

#### 3.4 Continued Endorsement

When changes in Top Management occur, the QMS Representative ensures that a *Commitment* and *Endorsement Memorandum* is signed by any new members of Top Management.

The QMS Representative ensures that this Operational Plan is re-endorsed when a new term of Council is elected. The QMS Representative provides the new Council with information about the Wastewater QMS.

Owner endorsement of the Operational Plan is marked by the passing of confirmatory bylaws at the end of Council meetings. At meetings where the Wastewater QMS Operational Plan is presented for re-endorsement, ratification of the confirmatory by-law formalizes the reendorsement of the Operational Plan.

#### 3.5 QMS Communications

Top Management receives QMS updates as per <u>Management Review (QMS-WW-ALL-P-200)</u>. The System Owner receives updates as per <u>Communications (QMS-WW-ALL-P-120)</u>.

# 4. QMS Representative

Top Management has appointed the Water-Wastewater Quality Management Specialist (reporting to the Manager, Quality & Compliance – Wastewater) as the QMS Representative for Niagara Region's wastewater systems. In the event that the Water-Wastewater Quality



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Management Specialist is unable to fulfil the duties of QMS Representative, the Water-Wastewater Quality Management Specialist (reporting to the Associate Director, Water Operations and Maintenance) will assume the role and responsibilities.

The QMS Representative's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Administering the QMS by ensuring that processes and procedures needed are established and maintained;
- Reporting to Top Management on QMS performance and any need for improvement;
- In cooperation with all Operating Authority staff, ensuring current versions of documents required by the QMS are being used at all times;
- In cooperation with all Operating Authority staff, ensuring that personnel are aware of all applicable legislative and regulatory requirements pertaining to their duties; and
- Promoting awareness of the QMS throughout the Operating Authority.

### 5. Document and Records Control

Document and records control is an essential part of the QMS. <u>Document and Records Control</u> (<u>QMS-WW-ALL-P-050</u>) outlines how documents required by the QMS are kept current, legible, readily identifiable, retrievable, stored, protected, retained and disposed of. The procedure also documents how records required by the QMS are kept legible, readily identifiable, retrievable, stored, protected, retained, and disposed of.

Document and Records Control (QMS-WW-ALL-P-050) is available via EtQ.



(QMS-WW-ALL-MAN-010)

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# 6. Wastewater Systems

### 6.1 Description of Overall Wastewater Systems

#### 6.1.1 General

Niagara Region owns and operates eleven wastewater systems, including wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs), collection systems, a lagoon, associated pump stations, and a biosolids handling and dewatering facility. Niagara Region collects wastewater from eleven area municipalities.

The wastewater systems are divided into three operating areas (Areas 1, 2, and 3) as shown in Figure 2 (page 8). Each operational area is managed by an Area manager with associated Operating Staff and supported by an area maintenance manager and associated maintenance staff. Supporting staff are located at the Integrated Systems Facility at 980 Major Street, Welland, ON, and the Niagara Region Environmental Centre at 3501 Schmon Parkway, Thorold, ON.

Table 1 (page 9) lists the facilities associated with each of Niagara's wastewater systems, as well as the local municipal collection systems that contribute to the subject system's influent.

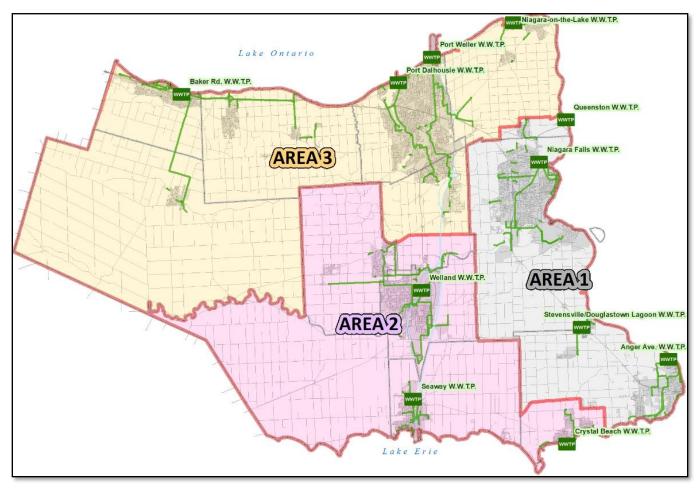
Wastewater system descriptions are available via EtQ (see links in Table 1).



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Figure 2: Wastewater Services - Operating Areas







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# **Table 1: Niagara Region's Wastewater Systems**

Wastewater System	Wastewater System Facilities	Municipal Collection Systems
Anger Avenue (FE) – Anger Avenue Wastewater System Description (QMS-WW-FE-P-060)	Alliston St. Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) Anger Ave. WWTP Bardol Ave. SPS Catharine St. SPS Dominion Rd. SPS Lakeshore Rd. SPS Rose Ave. SPS Rosehill WTP Backwash PS Thompson Rd. SPS	Fort Erie
Baker Road (BR) – Baker Road Wastewater System Description (QMS-WW-BR-P-060)	Baker Rd. WWTP Bal Harbour SPS Biggar Lagoon SPS Bridgeport SPS Campden SPS Grimsby Works Yard Sewage Detention Facility Jordan Valley SPS Lake St. SPS Lakewood Garden SPS Laurie Ave. SPS Niagara Road 12 Landfill SPS Old Orchard SPS Ontario St. SPS Park Road Odour Control Facility Roberts Rd. SPS Sann Road Odour Control Facility Smithville SPS Streamside SPS Thirty Road Odour Control Facility Victoria Ave. SPS Woodsview SPS	Grimsby Lincoln West Lincoln



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# **Wastewater System Operational Plan**

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Wastewater System	Wastewater System Facilities	Municipal Collection Systems
Crystal Beach (CB) – Crystal Beach Wastewater System Description (QMS-WW-CB-P-060)	Crystal Beach WWTP Erie Rd. SPS Nigh Rd. SPS Shirley Rd. SPS	Fort Erie (Crystal Beach and Ridgeway)
Garner Road (GR) – Garner Road Biosolids Handling and Dewatering Facility System Description (QMS-WW-GR-P-060)	Garner Road Biosolids Handling and Dewatering Facility	Digested sludge from all WWTPs Water residuals from Decew WTP and Grimsby WTP Niagara Falls WTP
Niagara Falls  Wastewater System  Description (QMS-WW-NF-P-060)	Bender Hill SPS Calaguiro Estates SPS Central SPS/HRT Creek Rd. SPS Dorchester Rd. SPS Drummond Rd. SPS Garner Rd. Biosolids Storage Facility PS Garner Rd. SW SPS Grassy Brook SPS Kalar Rd. SPS Lundy's Lane SPS Meadowvale SPS Mewburn Rd. SPS (City-owned) Muddy Run SPS Niagara Falls WWTP Neighbourhood of St. David's SPS Oakwood Dr. SPS Royal Manor SPS Seneca St. SPS South Side High Lift SPS South Side Low Lift SPS	Niagara Falls Niagara-on-the-Lake (St. Davids)



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Wastewater System	Wastewater System Facilities	Municipal Collection Systems
Niagara Falls (NF) – <u>Niagara Falls</u> <u>Wastewater System</u> <u>Description</u> (QMS-WW-NF-P-060)  (Continued)	Stanley/McLeod Storm Water PS Townline SPS	
Niagara-on-the-Lake (NL) – <u>Niagara-on-the-Lake Wastewater</u> System Description (QMS-WW-NL-P-060)	Front Street SPS Garrison Village SPS Lakeshore Road SPS Line 2 (Hunter Farm) SPS Niagara Stone Road SPS Niagara-on-the-Lake WWTP/Lagoon Ricardo Street SPS William Street Sewage Detention Facility William Street SPS	Niagara-on-the-Lake
Port Dalhousie (PD) – Port Dalhousie Wastewater System Description (QMS-WW-PD-P-060)	Argyle SPS Beaverdams SPS Cole Farm SPS Confederation Heights SPS Eastchester SPS Glendale SPS Lakeside SPS Lighthouse Rd. SPS Lighthouse Rd. SPS Lock Street Sewage Detention Facility October Village SPS Port Dalhousie WWTP Renown SPS Riverview SPS St. George's SPS Snug Harbour SPS Wellandvale SPS	St. Catharines Thorold



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Wastewater System	Wastewater System Facilities	Municipal Collection Systems
Port Weller (PW) – Port Weller Wastewater System Description (QMS-WW-PW-P-060)	Airport Rd. SPS Black Horse SPS Carleton St. SPS Centre St. SPS Haulage Rd SPS Lombardy Ave. SPS Peel St. SPS Peel Street Sanitary Storage Facility Port Weller WWTP Spring Garden SPS Thorold Tunnel SPS	St. Catharines Thorold
Queenston (QT) – <u>Queenston Wastewater</u> <u>System Description</u> (QMS-WW-QT-P-060)	Queenston WWTP	Niagara-on-the-Lake (Queenston)
Stevensville- Douglastown Lagoon (SD) – <u>Stevensville-</u> Douglastown Lagoon Wastewater System Description (QMS-WW-SD-P-060)	Black Creek SPS Flow Meter Douglastown SPS Stevensville SPS Stevensville-Douglastown Lagoon	Fort Erie (Stevensville- Douglastown)
Seaway (SW) – Seaway Wastewater System Description (QMS-WW-SW-P-060)	Arena St. SPS City Hall SPS Clark St. SPS Eastside SPS Elm St. S. SPS Fares St. SPS Fretz SPS Industrial Park SPS Main St. SPS Marina 1 SPS Marina 2 SPS Marina 3 SPS Nickel St. SPS Omer Ave. SPS	Port Colborne



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Wastewater System	Wastewater System Facilities	Municipal Collection Systems
Seaway (SW) – <u>Seaway</u> <u>Wastewater System</u> <u>Description</u> (QMS-WW-SW-P-060) (Continued)	Oxford Rd. SPS Rosemount N. SPS Rosemount S. SPS Seaway WWTP Steele Rd. SPS Sugarloaf SPS Union St. SPS	Port Colborne
Welland (WE) – Welland Wastewater System Description (QMS-WW-WE-P-060)	Daimler Wood SPS Dain City CSO Dain City SPS Feeder Rd. SPS Foss Rd. SPS Fitch St. SPS (City-owned) George St. SPS Hansler Parshall Flume Hurricane Rd. SPS Kelly St. SPS Lyons Creek CSO OAW Sanitary Sewer Ontario Rd. SPS Park Lane SPS Port Robinson Lagoon Rice Rd Parshall Flume Seaway Heights SPS South Pelham Parshall Flume South St. SPS South Thorold (Towpath) SPS Timmsdale SPS Welland WWTP	Welland Pelham Thorold South



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### 6.2 Process Schematics and System Schematics

Process schematics for each of Niagara Region's wastewater treatment systems are available via EtQ as follows:

- Anger Avenue WWTP Process Schematic (QMS-WW-FE-V-060)
- Baker Road WWTP Process Schematic (QMS-WW-BR-V-060)
- Crystal Beach WWTP Process Schematic (QMS-WW-CB-V-060)
- Garner Road Biosolids Facility Process Schematic (QMS-WW-GR-V-060)
- Niagara Falls WWTP Process Schematic (QMS-WW-NF-V-060)
- Niagara-on-the-Lake WWTP Process Schematic (QMS-WW-NL-V-060)
- Port Dalhousie WWTP Process Schematic (QMS-WW-PD-V-060)
- Port Robinson Lagoon Process Schematic (QMS-WW-WE-V-062)
- Port Weller WWTP Process Schematic (QMS-WW-PW-V-060)
- Queenston WWTP Process Schematic (QMS-WW-QT-V-060)
- Stevensville/Douglastown Lagoon Process Schematic (QMS-WW-SD-V-060)
- Seaway WWTP Process Schematic (QMS-WW-SW-V-060)
- Welland WWTP Process Schematic (QMS-WW-WE-V-060)

### 6.3 System Schematics

Schematics for each of Niagara Region's wastewater collection systems are available via EtQ as follows:

- Anger Avenue WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-FE-V-061)
- Baker Road WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-BR-V-061)
- Crystal Beach WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-CB-V-061)
- Niagara Falls WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-NF-V-061)
- Niagara-on-the-Lake WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-NL-V-061)
- Port Dalhousie WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-PD-V-061)
- Port Weller WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-PW-V-061)
- Queenston WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-QT-V-061)



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- Stevensville/Douglastown Lagoon System Schematic (QMS-WW-SD-V-061)
- Seaway WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-SW-V-061)
- Welland WWTP System Schematic (QMS-WW-WE-V-061)

#### 6.4 General Characteristics of Influent

### 6.5 Common Event-Driven Fluctuations, Operational Challenges & Threats

Event-driven fluctuations and resulting operational challenges and threats impacting Niagara Region's wastewater systems are documented within individual Wastewater System Descriptions. Wastewater System Descriptions are available via EtQ (see links in Table 1).

### 6.6 Critical Upstream & Downstream Processes

Local area municipalities own and operate collection systems upstream of each of Niagara Region's wastewater systems (see Table 1, page 9).

Niagara Region actively participates in source protection initiatives to protect source water for municipal drinking water systems.

#### 7. Risk Assessment

A risk assessment procedure has been developed and implemented that:

- Identifies potential hazardous events and associated hazards,
- Assesses the risks associated with the occurrence of hazardous events,



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- Ranks the hazardous events according to their level of risk,
- Identifies mitigating measures,
- Identifies a method to verify currency of information,
- Ensures a risk assessment is conducted at least once every three years, and
- Considers the reliability and redundancy of equipment.

Wastewater System Risk Assessment (QMS-WW-ALL-P-070) is available via EtQ.

### 8. Risk Assessment Outcomes

Risk assessment outcomes include identification of hazardous events, associated risk scoring, mitigating measures, and response procedures.

### 9. Organizational Structure, Roles, Responsibilities and Authorities

Water and Wastewater Services is a division of Niagara Region's Public Works Department and serves as the Operating Authority for the Region's wastewater systems and their associated facilities (refer to Section 1.3).

- Our Mission Statement: We protect public health and the environment by providing safe drinking water and effective wastewater management for the communities we serve.
- Our Vision: We will provide sustainable drinking water and wastewater services with a
  commitment to environmental and public health protection, financial accountability,
  infrastructure growth & renewal, collaboration with external partners, and investment in
  staff.

#### Our Values:

 Accountability: Ownership and responsibility are important to us. We hold ourselves accountable and are committed to environmental stewardship, quality, and safety.



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- Collaboration: We are committed to teamwork as our people are our most valuable asset and we collaborate to achieve extraordinary results.
- Continual Improvement: We practice continual improvement through data-driven decisions and integrated planning, and we learn from all we do. (aligned with NR Value: Striving to improve through innovation, not limitation)
- Integrity: We stand for truth and honesty and believe in always doing our best.
- Respect: We demonstrate mutual respect with all our employees, partners, stakeholders, suppliers and customers through our commitment to transparent and open communication.
- Trust: We have trust in the ability, integrity, and positive intent of each other. Our trust is nurtured through keeping our promises and fulfilling our commitments to each other.

#### 9.1 What We Do

The Water and Wastewater Services Division is made up of a dedicated team of approximately 300 employees working throughout the Niagara Region. The Division is divided into five (5) groups:

- Wastewater Operations Maintenance, and Laboratory Services including Quality Management and Compliance staff, Environmental Enforcement and Laboratory Services;
- Water Operations and Maintenance
- Water-Wastewater Engineering;
- Water-Wastewater Integrated Systems;
- Water-Wastewater Asset Management.

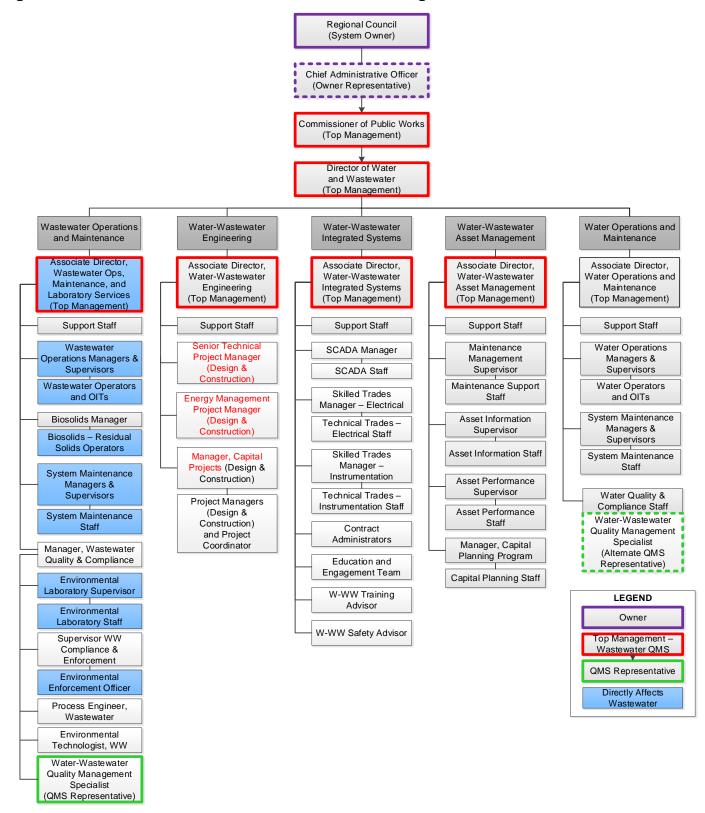
The organizational structure of the Water and Wastewater Services Division, including designation/appointment of key QMS roles, is illustrated in Figure 3.

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Figure 3: Water and Wastewater Services Division - Organizational Structure





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Each of the five (5) working groups within the division has varying levels of responsibility for wastewater effluent quality. Core responsibilities of staff in each group, as well as specific duties for those positions that impact wastewater effluent quality, are identified in Table 2.

Table 2 also identifies responsibilities of the System Owner (members of Regional Council), Top Management and the QMS Representative.

**NOTE:** Greyed positions in

Table 2 have are not part of the wastewater System Operating Authority).

**Table 2: QMS Responsibilities and Authorities** 

Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Regional Council (System Owner)	<ul> <li>Act as final decision-making body for Niagara Region</li> <li>Ensure the provision of adequate resources for the operation and maintenance of Niagara Region's wastewater collection and treatment facilities</li> <li>Endorse Niagara Region's Wastewater QMS</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Delegate</li></ul>
Chief Administrative Officer (Owner Representative)	Act as representative for the Owner     Interact with Top Management	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Delegate</li></ul>
Commissioner of Public Works (Top Management)	<ul> <li>Establish and implement operating policy and procedures, covering execution of department functions</li> <li>Manage Public Works Department in its statutory, operational, custodial and advisory responsibilities</li> <li>Act as a member of the Corporate Management Team</li> <li>Participate in Management Review</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Discipline staff</li> <li>Make engineering decisions</li> <li>Make administrative decisions related to Public Works</li> <li>Delegate</li> </ul>



Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Director of Water and Wastewater (Top Management)	<ul> <li>Provide administration and general management of Water and Wastewater Services Division</li> <li>Ensure mandated delivery of water supply and wastewater treatment meets federal, provincial and municipal requirements</li> <li>Provide guidance and direction to staff to ensure compliance with provincial standards and the promotion of industry best practices for the operation of the wastewater systems</li> <li>Participate in Management Review</li> <li>Manage resources to ensure efficient and effective operations</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Make engineering decisions</li> <li>Establish Divisional priorities; control budgets, costs, and work quality</li> <li>Take appropriate action to ensure health and safety in emergencies</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Wastewater Opera	ations and Maintenance	
Associate Director, Wastewater Operations, Maintenance and Laboratory Services (Top Management) (Directly Affects Wastewater)	<ul> <li>Maintain accountability for execution and direction of all aspects of wastewater system operation and maintenance</li> <li>Manage Region's wastewater treatment operations to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements and due diligence in daily activities</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and keep abreast of relevant legislation and regulations</li> <li>Ensure adequate health and safety program in place for Wastewater Services</li> <li>Analyze and develop annual current and capital budgets to ensure that operations are cost effective</li> <li>Continually review overall function of facilities, personnel, communications, and training to achieve high standard of performance</li> <li>Direct activities related to public relations, evaluating investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Ensure staff/personnel issues are dealt with</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Approve purchases in accordance with approved budget and policies and procedures</li> <li>Discipline and deal with major personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest modifications to systems and make changes during construction</li> <li>Recommend purchase of equipment or services involving major expenditures</li> </ul>
Director, Wastewater Operations,	effectively and in a timely manner	<ul><li>Delegate</li></ul>

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Maintenance and Laboratory Services	<ul> <li>Coordinate employee efforts and respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	
(Top	<ul> <li>Provide leadership for emergency preparedness</li> </ul>	
Management)	Participate in Management Review	
(Directly Affects Wastewater) (continued)	<ul> <li>May function as "Overall Responsible Operator (ORO)" as required by O. Reg. 129/04, if appropriately certified to do so</li> </ul>	
Wastewater Operations	Supervise operation of wastewater treatment plants and regional collection system	Perform listed responsibilities
Manager/ Supervisor (Directly Affects	Control budget for area and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation	Approve purchases in accordance with approved budget and
Wastewater)	Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements	policies and procedures
	<ul> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in health and safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> </ul>	Discipline and deal     with minor personnel     matters (Managers
	Participate in Public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports	only)  - Suggest continual
	Respond to incidents, emergencies and complaints	improvements  - Issue notice of non-
	<ul> <li>Function as "Overall Responsible Operator (ORO)" and fulfill the responsibilities in O. Reg. 129/04 as defined for the ORO role</li> </ul>	compliance  - Delegate
System Operator	Perform operational functions	- Perform listed
(Directly Affects Wastewater)	Maintain written and computer based daily	responsibilities
,	records  Perform routing inspections of plant	<ul><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
	<ul><li>Perform routine inspections of plant</li><li>Prepare work orders for repairs to equipment</li></ul>	
	Collect and test wastewater samples to monitor/maintain relevant parameters	
	<ul> <li>Serve as "Operator-In-Charge (OIC)" and fulfill the responsibilities in O.Reg. 129/04 as defined for the ORO role</li> </ul>	
Operator-in- Training (OIT) (Directly Affects Wastewater)	<ul> <li>Perform duties of System Operator, with conditions:</li> <li>Operators-in-Training must perform some responsibilities at the direction of System</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
	Operator, as required by O. Reg. 128/04	

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	<ul> <li>When an OIT is operating, the ORO shall be designated as OIC</li> </ul>	
Biosolids Program	<ul> <li>Manage operation of biosolids treatment facility and lagoons</li> </ul>	Perform listed responsibilities
Manager	<ul> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Approve purchases in accordance with approved budget and</li> </ul>
	Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements	policies and procedures
	<ul> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in health and safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Participate in public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
	<ul> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Delegate</li></ul>
Biosolids – Residual Solids Operator (Directly Affects Wastewater)	<ul> <li>Perform operational functions</li> <li>Maintain written and computer based daily records</li> <li>Prepare work orders for repairs to equipment</li> <li>Collect and test process samples to monitor/maintain relevant parameters</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Support Staff	<ul> <li>Maintain appropriate control of documents &amp; records</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li></ul>
	<ul> <li>Assist with communications, public relations, investigations and report preparation as needed</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
	Clerical functions	
	<ul> <li>Assist with customer service activities including responding to complaints</li> </ul>	





Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Wastewater Systems Maintenance Managers (Directly Affects Wastewater)	<ul> <li>Direct and supervise Maintenance staff within area during regular, emergency, standby and on-call hours</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and ensure compliance with relevant regulations and Regional policies</li> <li>Control budget for area; monitor expenditures and procurement of materials and services</li> <li>Prepare and modify maintenance schedules to provide for normal maintenance relief, staff training, vacation, lieu time, and sick time</li> <li>Participate in activities related to public relations, evaluating investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in health and safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> <li>Scoping, design and construction of projects</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Systems Maintenance Staff (Directly Affects Wastewater)	<ul> <li>Respond to general system maintenance issues</li> <li>Complete preventive maintenance tasks</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Authority to suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Manager of Quality and Compliance, Wastewater	<ul> <li>Ensure processes are optimized and maintained</li> <li>Develop and implement quality sampling program as required in a collection system</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in health and safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Administer environmental enforcement program</li> <li>Act as Lead Auditor for the ISO 17025 laboratory management system</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Issue notices of non-compliance</li> <li>Delegate</li> </ul>





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W&WW Quality Management	<ul> <li>See QMS Representative Responsibilities in Operational Plan (Section 4)</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li></ul>
Specialist (QMS Rep)	<ul> <li>Ensure processes and optimized and maintained</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Suggest continual</li></ul>
	<ul> <li>Act as Lead Auditor, or delegate these responsibilities to a qualified person</li> </ul>	improvements
	<ul> <li>Serves as chair of Management Review meetings with Top Management</li> </ul>	
Supervisor, Environmental Laboratory Services (Directly Affects Wastewater)	<ul> <li>Supervise Environmental Laboratory staff</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in health and safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Make suggestions for continual improvement</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Delegate</li> </ul>
Environmental Laboratory Staff (Directly Affects Wastewater)	<ul> <li>Conduct analytical wastewater and biosolids testing</li> <li>Follow established protocols for sampling and testing</li> <li>Provide notification of any exceedances</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Make suggestions for continual improvement</li> </ul>
Environmental Enforcement Officer (Directly Affects Wastewater)	<ul> <li>Determine sampling locations and methods, and collect water or wastewater samples for analysis</li> <li>Inspect wastewater treatment and disposal facilities and systems for compliance to federal, provincial, and/or local regulations (including Environmental Compliance Approvals)</li> <li>Examine permits, licences, applications, and records to ensure compliance with licencing requirements</li> <li>Prepare, organize &amp; maintain inspection records</li> <li>Monitor follow-up actions in instances where violations were found, and review compliance monitoring reports</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Make suggestions for continual improvement</li> <li>Recommend notices of noncompliance</li> </ul>



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Process Engineer, Wastewater	<ul> <li>Complete process optimization activities</li> <li>Prepare terms of reference and/or scoping documents outlining optimization study purpose, tasks and outputs as required</li> <li>Recommend solutions and identifies capital upgrade requirements for process improvements</li> <li>Provide input on scoping, design and construction of projects related to the Region's wastewater systems</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Make suggestions for continual improvement</li> </ul>
Environmental Technologist, Wastewater	<ul> <li>Coordinate process optimization initiatives/strategies</li> <li>Collects data for annual and quarterly reports</li> <li>Complete benchmarking activities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Make suggestions for continual improvement</li> </ul>
Supervisor Wastewater Compliance & Enforcement	<ul> <li>Maintain appropriate control of documents and records</li> <li>Assist with developing and implementing quality sampling programs as required in collection systems</li> <li>Assist with audits, investigations and preparing reports as needed by Operations</li> <li>Complete federal external compliance reporting</li> <li>Apply for approvals and amendments to Environmental Compliance Approvals and to the Environmental Activity and Sector Registry</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Make suggestions for continual improvement</li> </ul>



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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Integrated System	ns	
Associate Director, Water- Wastewater Integrated Systems (Top Management)	<ul> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and keep abreast of relevant legislation and regulations</li> <li>Ensure support of SCADA, Instrumentation, Electrical, Contract Administration, Health and Safety, Training, and Education/Engagement teams and maintenance of related infrastructure and equipment</li> <li>Analyze and develop annual current and capital budgets to ensure continuity of operations</li> <li>Continually review overall function of working group to achieve high standard of performance</li> <li>Direct activities related to public relations, evaluating investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Ensure staff/personnel issues are dealt with effectively and in a timely manner</li> <li>Coordinate employee efforts and respond to emergencies and complaints</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Participate in Management Review</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Approve purchases in accordance with approved budget and policies and procedures</li> <li>Discipline and deal with major personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest modifications to systems</li> <li>Recommend purchase of equipment or services involving major expenditures</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
SCADA Manager	<ul> <li>Manage and administer SCADA resources to achieve Divisional goals and objectives</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services to provide customers both internal and external, with efficient and cost effective skilled support</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and ensure compliance with relevant Regulations and Regional Policies</li> <li>Participate in activities related to public relations, evaluating investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>





Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
SCADA Manager (continued)	Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed  Seeping design and construction of projects.	
	Scoping, design and construction of projects	
Skilled Trades Managers (Instrumentation and Electrical)	<ul> <li>Manage and administer skilled trades resources to achieve Divisional goals and objectives</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services to provide customers both internal and external, with efficient and cost effective skilled support</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and ensure compliance with relevant Regulations and Regional Policies</li> <li>Participate in activities related to Public relations, evaluating investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Scoping, design and construction of projects</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Supervise daily activities of Technical Trades staff</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
SCADA and Technical Trades Staff	Respond to maintenance issues (i.e. electrical problems, SCADA issues, etc.)	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Contract Administrators	<ul> <li>Review, amend and administer annual contracts for Water-Wastewater Services</li> <li>Prepare authorizations and approvals for contract and bid awards</li> <li>Monitor and supervise maintenance projects</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
W-WW Training Advisor	Develop and maintain divisional training programs	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>





Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
W-WW Safety Advisor	Develop and maintain divisional health & safety programs	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Education and Engagement Team	Manage divisional communications and public outreach activities	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Engineering		
Associate Director, Engineering (Top Management)	<ul> <li>Hold accountability for scoping, design and construction of engineering projects connected with Region's water and wastewater systems</li> <li>Analyze and develop annual current and capital budgets to ensure that operation plans are cost effective</li> <li>Manage &amp; administer capital project resources to achieve Divisional goals and objectives</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and keep abreast of relevant legislation and regulations</li> <li>Communicate project progress with other working groups within and outside of Water-Wastewater Services</li> <li>Direct and supervise Project Management staff</li> <li>Participate in infrastructure planning and review activities</li> <li>Participate in Management Review</li> <li>Participate in public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Suggest modifications to systems and make changes during construction</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Discipline and deal with major personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>



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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Manager, Capital Projects W-WW Engineering (Design & Construction)	<ul> <li>Lead the scoping, design and construction of large scale projects related to Region's systems</li> <li>Participate in infrastructure planning and review</li> <li>Communicate project progress with Management</li> <li>Control budget for projects and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements including assisting with the preparation of applications for approvals and amendments with the Ministry</li> <li>Participate in public relations, investigation evaluations and report preparation</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Senior Technical Project Manager	<ul> <li>Assist PMs with issues as required</li> <li>Manage complex W-WW capital projects</li> <li>Provide technical review and design input to W-WW Services.</li> <li>Lead and control revision of policies, procedures, and standards within W-WW</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
W&WW Energy Management Project Manager (Design & Construction)	<ul> <li>Develop and implement the divisional energy conservation and demand management strategies</li> <li>Oversee the efficient delivery of W-WW capital energy renewal projects</li> <li>Manage relationships with internal and external stakeholders</li> <li>Identify opportunities for improving energy efficiency, ensuring alignment with divisional standards and priorities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>





Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Project Manager, Design & Construction	<ul> <li>Lead the scoping, design and construction of projects related to Region's systems</li> <li>Infrastructure planning and review</li> <li>Communicate project progress with Management</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements including assisting with the preparation of applications for approvals and amendments with the Ministry of Environment</li> <li>Participate in infrastructure planning and review activities</li> <li>Participate in public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Project Coordinator	<ul> <li>Manage Tier 3 capital projects</li> <li>Participate in infrastructure planning and review</li> <li>Communicate project progress with Management</li> <li>Control budget for projects and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Assist with schedule management, project coordination, and project monitoring and reporting</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements including assisting with the preparation of applications for approvals and amendments with the Ministry</li> <li>Participate in public relations, investigation evaluations, and report preparation</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>





Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Engineering Support Staff	<ul> <li>Document &amp; Record Control</li> <li>Assist with communications, Public relations, investigations and preparing reports as needed by Operations</li> <li>Clerical functions</li> <li>Assist with Customer Service activities including responding to complaints</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Asset Managemen	nt	
Associate Director, Asset Management (Top Management)	<ul> <li>Establish and maintain a divisional asset management plan, capital planning, and infrastructure data management for the Region's water and wastewater systems</li> <li>Oversee collection, review and analysis of capital asset data as well as operational and maintenance data to ensure all information relating to W-WW infrastructure is acquired, stored, used for capital planning purposes, and made available to those in other sections and departments</li> <li>Develop capital plans for W-WW infrastructure</li> <li>Oversee development of the 10-year capital forecast</li> <li>Support and advise the Associate Directors in the development of financial plans</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and keep abreast of relevant legislation and regulations</li> <li>Communicate project progress with other working groups within and outside of Water-Wastewater Services</li> <li>Direct and supervise Asset Management staff</li> <li>Participate in Management Review</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Discipline and deal with major personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>





Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Supervisor, Water- Wastewater Maintenance Management	<ul> <li>Manage and administer support resources to achieve divisional goals and objectives</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services to provide internal and external customer with efficient/cost-effective support</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and ensure compliance with relevant regulations and regional policies</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in health and safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Maintain CMMS program</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Maintenance Support Staff (CMMS, Clerks)	<ul> <li>Maintain control of documents and records</li> <li>Assist with communications, public relations, investigations and preparing reports as needed by Maintenance staff</li> <li>Complete clerical functions</li> <li>Assist with customer service activities, including responding to complaints</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Asset Information Supervisor	<ul> <li>Manage and administer Water &amp; Wastewater GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and IMS (Information Management Systems) to achieve Divisional goals and objectives</li> <li>Direct and supervise Asset Information staff</li> <li>Communicate project progress with Management</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Participate in public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>





Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Asset Information Staff	<ul> <li>Coordinate the locating of sub-surface Water &amp; Wastewater assets</li> <li>Review engineering drawings and resolve discrepancies</li> <li>Tracking and updating asset lifecycle data</li> <li>Assist with the administration of the Water &amp; Wastewater GIS and IMS</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Supervisor, Asset Performance Management	<ul> <li>Direct and supervise Asset Performance staff</li> <li>Manage and administer asset performance resources to achieve Divisional goals and objectives</li> <li>Participate in infrastructure planning and review activities</li> <li>Communicate project progress with Management</li> <li>Control budget for area and procure material and services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Participate in public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Asset Performance Staff	<ul> <li>Collect flow measurements, dimensional analysis and visual resources for wastewater systems</li> <li>Conduct field inspections of assets</li> <li>Perform emergency locates</li> <li>Collect spatial coordinates for inclusion into the Water &amp; Wastewater GIS systems</li> <li>Monitor, maintain and update environmental systems and conduct evaluations for flow and weather</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>





Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
W-WW Capital Planning Program Manager	<ul> <li>Facilitate Capital needs identification through needs assessment</li> <li>Develop conceptual options and scope of works</li> <li>Estimate project cost for Capital Planning purposes</li> <li>Conduct project risk assessment</li> <li>Identify capital infrastructure needs and propose associated capital works</li> <li>Lead preliminary project scoping activities in support of capital plan development</li> <li>Assist with development of Requests for Proposals for approved capital studies and/or design projects</li> <li>Provide support to Corporate Asset Management Office for Region-wide asset management initiatives</li> <li>Manage and administer infrastructure planning and review to achieve Divisional goals and objectives</li> <li>Direct and supervise Capital Planning staff</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Participate in public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
W-WW Capital Planning Specialist	<ul> <li>Lead the scoping and preliminary design of projects for capital planning and budgeting purposes as it is related to Region's systems</li> <li>Provide support to Capital Planning Program Manager in development of annual capital budgets</li> <li>Support data-driven capital planning activities through data collection, review, and analysis</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>



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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
W-WW Capital Planning Specialist	<ul> <li>Provide support to Corporate Asset</li> <li>Management Office for Region-wide asset</li> <li>management initiatives</li> </ul>	
(continued)	<ul> <li>Infrastructure planning and review</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements including assisting with the preparation of applications for approvals and amendments with the Ministry</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Participate in public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> </ul>	
	Respond to emergencies and complaints	
Support Staff	<ul> <li>Maintain appropriate control of documents and records</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li></ul>
	<ul> <li>Assist with communications, public relations, investigations and preparing reports as needed by Engineering</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
	Complete clerical functions	
	<ul> <li>Assist with customer service activities, including responding to complaints</li> </ul>	
Water Operations	and Maintenance	
Associate Director, Water Operations, Maintenance, and Staff Development (Top Management)	<ul> <li>Maintain accountability for execution and direction of all aspects of drinking water system operation and maintenance</li> <li>Manage Region's water treatment operations and maintenance to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements and ensure due diligence in daily activities</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and keep abreast of relevant legislation and regulations</li> <li>Ensure adequate health and safety program in place for Water and Wastewater</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Approve purchases in accordance with approved budget and policies and procedures</li> <li>Discipline and deal with major personnel matters</li> </ul>





Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
Associate Director, Water Operations, Maintenance, and Staff Development (Top Management) (continued)	<ul> <li>Analyze and develop annual current and capital budgets to ensure that operations are cost effective</li> <li>Continually review overall function of facilities, personnel, communications and training to achieve high standard of performance</li> <li>Direct activities related to public relations, evaluating investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Ensure staff/personnel issues are dealt with effectively and in a timely manner</li> <li>Coordinate employee efforts and respond to emergencies and complaints</li> <li>Provide leadership for emergency preparedness</li> <li>Participate in Management Review</li> <li>May function as "Overall Responsible Operator (ORO)" as required by O. Reg. 128/04, if appropriately licensed to do so.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Suggest modifications to systems and make changes during construction</li> <li>Recommend purchase of equipment or services involving major expenditures</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Water Operations Managers/ Supervisors	<ul> <li>Supervise operation of water treatment plants and regional transmission system</li> <li>Control area budget; procure material/services as needed to ensure efficient operation</li> <li>Ensure due diligence in daily activities and compliance with regulatory requirements</li> <li>Participate in Public relations, evaluate investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Respond to emergencies and complaints</li> <li>Function as "Overall Responsible Operator (ORO)" and fulfill responsibilities in O. Reg. 128/04 as defined for the ORO role.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters (Managers only)</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
System Operator and Operator-in- Training (OIT)	<ul> <li>Perform operational functions</li> <li>Maintain written and computer based daily records</li> <li>Perform routine inspections of plant</li> <li>Prepare work orders for repairs to equipment</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>



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Position/Group	Responsibilities	Authorities
System Operator and Operator-in- Training (OIT) (continued)	<ul> <li>Collect and test water samples to monitor/maintain relevant parameters</li> <li>Serve as "Operator-In-Charge (OIC)":         <ul> <li>Operators-in-Training must perform some responsibilities at the direction of System Operator, as required by O. Reg. 128/04</li> <li>When an OIT is operating, the ORO shall be designated as OIC</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Support Staff	<ul> <li>Maintain appropriate control of documents and records</li> <li>Assist with communications, public relations, investigations and preparing reports as needed by Operations</li> <li>Clerical functions</li> <li>Assist with customer service activities, including responding to complaints</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
Water Systems Maintenance Managers	<ul> <li>Direct and supervise Maintenance staff within area during regular, emergency, standby and on-call hours</li> <li>Demonstrate due diligence in daily activities and ensure compliance with relevant Regulations and Regional Policies</li> <li>Control budget for area; monitor expenditures and procurement of materials and services</li> <li>Prepare and modify maintenance schedules to provide for normal maintenance relief, staff training, vacation, lieu time, and sick time</li> <li>Participate in activities related to public relations, evaluating investigations and preparing reports</li> <li>Ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed</li> <li>Respond to incidents, emergencies and complaints</li> <li>Assist in scoping, design and construction of projects</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Delegate</li> <li>Discipline and deal with minor personnel matters</li> <li>Suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>



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Position/Group	Position/Group Responsibilities	
Systems Maintenance Staff	<ul> <li>Respond to maintenance issues (i.e. general systems maintenance, etc.)</li> <li>May serve as "Operator-In-Charge (OIC)" in the transmission system</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Authority to perform listed responsibilities</li> <li>Authority to suggest continual improvements</li> </ul>
Quality & Compliance Staff	<ul><li>Technical Support</li><li>Process Optimization</li><li>Compliance Support</li></ul>	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>
W-WW Quality Management Specialist (Alternate QMS Rep)	See QMS Representative Responsibilities in Operational Plan (Section 4)	<ul><li>Perform listed responsibilities</li><li>Suggest continual improvements</li></ul>

### 10. Competencies

Niagara Region personnel performing duties affecting wastewater effluent must understand the importance of their actions. Furthermore, they must be competent in their jobs and have appropriate education, training, skills and/or experience.

The <u>Competencies Table (QMS-ALL-ALL-T-100)</u> documents competencies required for personnel performing duties affecting wastewater effluent quality.

<u>Competencies (QMS-WW-ALL-P-100)</u> documents activities to develop and maintain the required competencies for personnel performing duties affecting wastewater effluent quality. It also documents activities to ensure that all Operating Authority personnel are aware of the relevance of their duties.

<u>Competencies (QMS-WW-ALL-P-100)</u> and the <u>Competencies Table (QMS-ALL-ALL-T-100)</u> are available via <u>EtQ</u>.



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#### 11. Personnel Coverage

Niagara Region ensures that sufficient personnel meeting identified competencies are available for duties that affect wastewater effluent quality as documented in <a href="Personnel Coverage">Personnel Coverage</a> (QMS-WW-ALL-P-110).

Personnel Coverage (QMS-WW-ALL-P-110) is available via EtQ.

#### 12. Communications

Effective communication is essential for ensuring the success of a QMS. <u>Communications</u> (QMS-WW-ALL-P-120) describes how relevant aspects of the QMS are communicated between Top Management and the Owner, Operating Authority personnel, Suppliers and the Public.

Communications (QMS-WW-ALL-P-120) is available via EtQ.

### 13. Essential Supplies and Services

Niagara Region's wastewater systems require a number of essential supplies and services for the effective treatment of wastewater. These supplies and services are categorized as:

Supplies	Services
Chemical	Calibration
Miscellaneous	Laboratory and Miscellaneous

A general overview of essential supplies and services, methods to ensure their procurement, and procedures for quality assurance is provided in <u>Essential Supplies and Services (QMS-WW-ALL-P-130)</u>; the procedure is available via <u>EtQ</u>.

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Essential supplies and services for both water and wastewater are identified on the <u>"Essential Supplies and Services" Vine page</u>. The table can be filtered to show only those supplies and services used in respect of Niagara Region's wastewater systems.

**NOTE:** Only wastewater system supplies and services fall within the scope of this Operational Plan.

#### 14. Review, Rehabilitation and Renewal of Infrastructure

Review, Rehabilitation and Renewal of Infrastructure (QMS-WW-ALL-P-140) describes how Niagara Region reviews the adequacy of infrastructure necessary to operate and maintain its wastewater systems. It also details how capitally-funded infrastructure rehabilitation and renewal projects are initiated, approved, and communicated to the Owner.

Review, Rehabilitation and Renewal of Infrastructure (QMS-WW-ALL-P-140) is available via EtQ.

#### 15. Infrastructure Maintenance

Niagara Region maintains an effective maintenance program. The maintenance program includes planned and unplanned infrastructure maintenance, renewal, and rehabilitation activities that are typically funded from the current budget. <a href="Maintenance">Maintenance</a> (QMS-WW-ALL-P-150) describes the maintenance program, long-term maintenance, rehabilitation, and renewal plans, the means to monitor maintenance effectiveness, and how maintenance programs are communicated to the Owner.

Maintenance (QMS-WW-ALL-P-150) is available via EtQ.



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#### 16. Sampling, Testing and Monitoring

Sampling, testing and monitoring activities are essential to confirm wastewater effluent quality and to maintain compliance with applicable legislation and regulations. <u>Sampling, Testing and Monitoring (QMS-WW-ALL-P-160)</u> describes these activities and how results are recorded and shared.

To complement the procedure, the following tables outline the sampling, testing and monitoring activities undertaken at each WWTP<sup>2</sup>:

- Sampling, Testing & Monitoring Activities Anger Avenue WWTP (QMS-WW-FE-T-160)
- Sampling, Testing & Monitoring Activities Queenston WWTP (QMS-WW-QT-T-160)
- Sampling, Testing & Monitoring Activities Stevensville-Douglastown Lagoon (QMS-WW-SD-T-160)
- Sampling, Testing & Monitoring Activities Garner Road Biosolids Facility (QMS-WW-GR-T-160)
- Sampling, Testing & Monitoring Activities Crystal Beach WWTP (QMS-WW-CB-T-160)
- Sampling, Testing & Monitoring Activities Seaway WWTP (QMS-WW-SW-T-160)
- Sampling, Testing & Monitoring Activities Welland & Port Robinson Lagoon (QMS-WW-WE-T-160)

<u>Sampling, Testing and Monitoring (QMS-WW-ALL-P-160)</u> and the supporting tables are available via EtQ.

### 17. Measurement & Recording Equipment Calibration & Maintenance

The measurement and recording equipment used in Niagara Region's wastewater systems is calibrated and maintained according to <u>Measurement and Recording Equipment Calibration and Maintenance (QMS-WW-ALL-P-170)</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> NOTE: Tables have been created for selected WWTPs; the remaining tables are in development. Sampling plans are established and in place for all WWTPs.



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Measurement and Recording Equipment Calibration and Maintenance (QMS-WW-ALL-P-170) is available via EtQ.

#### 18. Emergency Management

Emergency preparedness is achieved by following Niagara Region's Emergency Response Procedures (ERP) Manual for Water and Wastewater Systems. The ERP Manual includes response and recovery procedures for potential emergencies that could impact the wastewater process, effluent quality, and/or the environment. Each procedure is laid out step by step and clearly notes responsibilities of those involved. Training and testing requirements are specified in <a href="Water and Wastewater Emergency Response Plan">Water and Wastewater Emergency Response Plan</a> (ERP-ALL-ALL-P-001). An <a href="Emergency Response Plan">Emergency Response Contact List</a> (ERP-ALL-ALL-T-002) is also included as part of the ERP Manual.

The ERP Manual is available on the Regional intranet's <u>Water-Wastewater Services Division</u>

Page under "W-WW Emergency Response Plan" as well as EtQ.

#### 19. Internal Audits

Internal audits add value to Niagara Region's operations by providing feedback about the Wastewater QMS and its effectiveness. Internal Auditing (QMS-WW-ALL-P-190) describes:

- How to evaluate the conformity of Niagara Region's QMS with the requirements of the Standard;
- Audit criteria, frequency, scope, methodology and record keeping requirements;
- How previous internal and external audit results are considered; and
- How corrective actions are identified and initiated (see Section 21 of this Operational Plan).

Internal Auditing (QMS-WW-ALL-P-190) is available via EtQ.



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#### 20. Management Review

Management Reviews are performed to ensure the continuing suitability, adequacy and effectiveness of the QMS. <u>Management Review (QMS-WW-ALL-P-200)</u> documents the process followed in undertaking the review.

Management Review (QMS-WW-ALL-P-200) is available via EtQ.

### 21. Continual Improvement

Niagara Region maintains and continually improves its Wastewater QMS through annual audits, management reviews, implementation of best management practices, process optimization, and staff development, and measures the effectiveness of these continual improvement initiatives.

Through the internal audit process, corrective actions and preventive actions/opportunities for improvement are identified and reported in order to detect and eliminate non-conformances. <a href="Corrective Action">Corrective Action</a>, Preventative Action, and Best Practices (QMS-WW-ALL-P-210) outlines the Operating Authority's corrective and preventive action processes.

Deficiencies identified as part of the management review are discussed and action plans are created to improve the QMS.

Niagara Region reviews and considers best practices from a multitude of sources, including but not limited to the Ministry's published list, regulatory inspections, benchmarking activities, and networking with peers. Implemented best practices are tracked as preventive actions/opportunities for improvement.

Niagara Region staff efforts are critical for continual improvement of the QMS. We are committed to providing effective staff development opportunities (i.e. courses, workshops, on the job training) in an effort to continually improve our operations.



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Corrective Action, Preventative Action, and Best Practices (QMS-WW-ALL-P-210) is available via EtQ.

#### **Table of Revisions**

Revision	Date	Description of Revision	Updated By
0	Jun. 30, 2015	Operational Plan created and endorsed.  Endorsed by Regional Council.	Jen Croswell
1	Jan. 7, 2016	Revisions to: Section 3 (Commitment and Endorsement): Revised how written records of commitment and endorsement are obtained and updated Section 9 (Organizational Structure, Roles, Responsibilities and Authorities): Removed Environmental Enforcement from directly affecting wastewater and changed to affecting wastewater Added the Associate Director Engineering to Top	Jen Croswell
		<ul> <li>Management (Water OFI 2015-002-Internal)</li> <li>Expanded Laboratory Staff to Environmental Laboratory Supervisor and Environmental Laboratory staff</li> <li>Included additional responsibilities in regards to "scoping, design and construction of projects" maintenance manager positions (Water OFI-14-02)</li> <li>Added authority for WW Operations Managers for reporting of non-compliance</li> <li>Minor administrative revisions throughout Endorsed by the Commissioner of Public Works via authority delegated by Council.</li> </ul>	
2	Mar. 28, 2019	<ul> <li>Revisions:</li> <li>Updated position titles throughout document to reflect the Divisional reorganization (2016) and the results of the non-union job evaluation process (2016).</li> <li>Updated document IDs throughout document to reflect changes in document numbering system.</li> <li>Updated hyperlinks to supporting documents as required.</li> <li>Section 6 (Wastewater System Descriptions):         <ul> <li>Updated "Table 1: Niagara Region's Wastewater Systems" to include all Region-owned and/or operated sewage pumping stations, including</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Rachel Whyte



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Revision	Date	Description of Revision	Updated By
		assumption of ownership of Marina 1, 2, 3 stations from the City of Port Colborne.	
		Section 9 (Organizational Structure, Roles, Responsibilities and Authorities):	
		<ul> <li>Revised text ("What We Do") and "Figure 2: Water and Wastewater Services Division – Organizational Structure" to reflect the Divisional reorganization.</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Added the Associate Director, Integrated Systems to Top Management as per the Divisional reorganization.</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Reorganized "Table 2: QMS Responsibilities and Authorities" to reflect the new organizational structure following the Divisional reorganization.</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Reworded Manager and Supervisor responsibilities for health and safety to "ensure staff follow safe work practices as outlined in Health and Safety procedures; provide PPE and training as needed"</li> </ul>	
		Minor administrative revisions and reformatting throughout document.	
		Operational Plan endorsed by 2018-2022 term of Regional Council.	
3	Dec. 12, 2019	Specified that W-WW QM Specialist reporting to Manager, Q&C – Wastewater is the QMS Rep for the DWQMS; W-WW QM Specialist reporting to Manager, Q&C – Water is the alternate/backup	Rachel Whyte
		Updated organizational chart and roles & responsibilities table following divisional restructuring	
		Added AD Asset Management and W-WW Quality Management Specialist (Wastewater) roles and responsibilities	
		Defined "Ministry" as Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks.	
		Minor administrative revisions and reformatting throughout document.	
		Operational Plan endorsed by 2018-2022 term of Regional Council.	
4	Feb 4, 2021	Removed the Manager, Water Quality and Compliance position as it has been eliminated.	Michelle Max
		Added Chief Administrative Officer as signatory under "Commitment and Endorsement".	
		Added reference to Section 9 ("Roles and Responsibilities") in Section 3 ("Commitment and Endorsement") to clearly identify members of Top Management.	



(QMS-WW-ALL-MAN-010)

Revision	Date	Description of Revision	Updated By
		Clarified responsibilities of ORO, OIC, and OIT with more explicit references to applicable legislation.	
		Added map of operating areas and associated treatment plants as Figure 2.	
		Included Port Robinson Lagoon Wastewater Process Schematic under Appendix 3 and Section 6.2.	
		<ul> <li>Included the following positions to roles and responsibilities table (Section 9).</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Process Technologist, under Wastewater</li> <li>Operations and Maintenance</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>W-WW Engineering Project Coordinator, under Engineering.</li> </ul>	
		Updated roles and responsibilities table (Section 9) to reflect the new reporting structure for W-WW Training & W-WW Safety Advisor under Integrated Systems.	
		Through consultation with the AD Wastewater Ops, Maintenance and Laboratory Services and the Alternate W-WW QMS Representative, the organizational structure for staff directly affecting wastewater treatment quality has been updated under Sections 1.3 and 9.1. Former versions of the Wastewater Operational Plan, had delineated wastewater staff into one of two sections; either directly affecting or affecting wastewater. Section has been updated to list all staff directly affecting wastewater treatment under one umbrella.	
		Minor administrative revisions and reformatting throughout document.	
		Operational Plan re-endorsed by Commissioner of Public Works via authority delegated as per PWA 109-2008.	
5	Nov.9, 2022	Updated Figure 3 W-WW Division Organizational Structure to reflect the positions that would have a direct impact on wastewater operations.	Michelle Max
		Added Senior Technical Project Manager and Energy Management Project Manager to list of staff who directly affect wastewater treatment quality - Section 1.3, Figure 3 and Table 3	
		Included details of the delegation of authority to the Commissioner of Public works for the approval and endorsement of administrative updates to Operational Plan, under Section 3.3	
		Included the following information under Table 1:     Niagara Region's Wastewater Systems:	
		<ul> <li>Under the Baker Road Wastewater System included the Grimsby Works Yard Sewage Detention Facility, Niagara Road 12 Landfill SPS, Park Road Odour Control Facility, Sann</li> </ul>	



(QMS-WW-ALL-MAN-010)

Revision	Date	Description of Revision	Updated By
		Road Odour Control Facility, Thirty Road Odour Control Facility;	
		<ul> <li>Under the Municipal Collection Systems for Garner Road System included the Niagara Falls WTP;</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Under the Port Dalhousie Wastewater System included Lock Street Sewage Detention Facility;</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Under the Port Weller Wastewater System included Peel Street Sanitary Storage Facility</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Details pertaining to influent monitoring has been included under Section 6.4 – General Influent Characteristics</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>The Mission Statement, Vision and Values has been updated under Section 9</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Updated the total number of staff in division from 270 to 300 under Section 9.1, to align with information published on myHR under</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Changed title of Senior Project Manager to Manager, Capital Projects under W&amp;WW Engineering section, Figure 3</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Removed Supervisor Development Program position from sections 1.3 and 9.1, Table 2</li> </ul>	
		Updated the roles and responsibilities of W-WW Capital Planning Program Manager, W-WW Capital Planning Specialist, W&WW Quality Management Specialist, Senior Technical Project Manager, W&WW Emergency Management Project Coordinator and Associate Director, Asset Management under Table 2	
		<ul> <li>Incorporated links to the wastewater sampling, testing and monitoring tables that have been developed under section 16</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Enhanced the readability of the continual improvement content under Section 21</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Updated all references of Regional Intranet to EtQ for access to QMS procedures</li> </ul>	
		Operational Plan re-endorsed by Commissioner of Public Works via authority delegated as per PWA 109-2008.	

STANDARD OF CARE

# lt's your duty.



BE INFORMED. BE VIGILANT.

Elected officials have an important role to play in ensuring Niagara communities have access to safe, high quality drinking water. You are legally obligated to do so.

To help you understand your responsibilities, Walkerton Clean Water Centre will be delivering a Standard of Care training course virtually.

WHO

Regional and municipal elected officials in Niagara

WHEN

Tuesday, March 7, 2023 6:00 - 9:00 p.m

or

Wednesday, March 29, 2023 6:00 - 9:00 p.m

WHAT

A tailored-training course designed to inform you of your oversight responsibilities under Section 19 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the severe penalties for those who fail to exercise vigilance towards the protection and safety of our drinking water system and its users.

WHERE

Virtual

**RSVP** 

Carrie Brunet, Training Advisor, Water and Wastewater Services at carrie.brunet@niagararegion.ca.

Your response by Mar. 1 is appreciated.