

**TOWN OF MINTO****DATE:** April 21, 2017**REPORT TO:** Mayor Bridge and Members of Council**FROM:** Mike McIsaac, Roads Foreman**SUBJECT:** Municipal Drain #9 Improvement

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**STRATEGIC PLAN:**

Support programs that maintain Minto's strong agricultural identity, enhance agricultural work, and protect and restore the natural environment given Minto's location in the heartland of Ontario surrounded by farmland and acknowledging that farming and a healthy natural environment are inextricably linked.

**BACKGROUND:**

Staff received a maintenance request on Municipal Drain #9 (see attached). Upon review staff determined that discrepancies between the two previous drain reports made access for maintenance impossible without new direction on how to allocate costs. Friday April 21, 2017 a meeting was held with property owners to discuss how to proceed to correct these issues. Landowners are in favor of using section 78 to improve the drain and 3 properties signed at the meeting to proceed.

Section 78(1) states that if drainage works were constructed by by-law passed under this Act or a predecessor Act, and the Council responsible for maintaining and repairing the drainage works considers it appropriate to undertake one or more projects for the better use, maintenance or repair of the drainage works or of lands or roads, the municipality may undertake and complete the project according to a report of by an **engineer** appointed by the Council and without a petition.

**COMMENTS:**

Dietrich Engineering Limited has been appointed by Council to conduct procedures under the Drainage Act. It is proposed that Dietrich provide a report to Council under Section 78.1 outlining the improvements needed to address the concerns in Municipal Drain 9.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The cost of the Engineering Report is assessed against affected landowners and road authorities if Council proceeds. The Engineer will also set the percentage assessment of the approved works that each landowner and road authority pay upon completion of the project.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council receives the Road Foreman's April 21, 2017 report regarding the Municipal Drain Petition and Improvement under Section 78 of the *Drainage Act* and appoints Dietrich Engineering Limited to represent the Town's interest in this regard.

