



Kortright Centre for Conservation - Sanitary Waste Connection



OVERVIEW

The septic system serving the Kortright Centre for Conservation has reached the end of its service life, as identified in a 2013 assessment. A system failure could force the closure of the Visitor Centre, disrupting programming and affecting more than 100,000 annual visitors. To ensure reliable, uninterrupted operations, the Centre must be connected to the municipal sanitary wastewater system, requiring installation of a lift station and grinder pump.

OBJECTIVES

To secure a modern, reliable wastewater solution that protects public health, prevents operational disruptions, and ensures the Kortright Centre can continue delivering high-quality educational and community programming. Partner investment safeguards a major regional destination from potential closures, reduces environmental risk, and supports year-round access for more than 100,000 visitors, including families, students, and community groups.

EXPECTED IMPACT

A fully modernized sanitary servicing system that eliminates the risk of septic failure, ensures dependable facility operations, supports long-term site growth, and enhances visitor experience at one of TRCA's most significant public education centres.

BENEFITING STAKEHOLDERS

- York Region residents and surrounding
- Community organizations
- School boards
- Event client and vendors
- Tourists

BUDGET & FUNDING

Estimated Total Cost (\$000's) \$2.0M

Possible Funding Sources:

- City of Vaughan
- York Region
- Corporate sponsors
- Province of Ontario

OWNERSHIP

TRCA owns and operates Kortright Centre for Conservation



KEY PRIORITIES

Municipal Connection

High Priority



Connecting directly to the municipal sanitary wastewater system will enable dependable facility operations.

Infrastructure Installation

High Priority



Lift station and grinder pump install will serve the sanitary sewer system needs, eliminating septic failure risks.

RISKS IF UNFUNDED

Social: Public health considerations, quality and comfort of visitor experiences, reduced accessibility. Lost opportunity to strengthen a regional cultural, environmental and education asset. Reputational implications for TRCA.

Financial / Economic: Failing infrastructure can lead to substantial financial consequences, including lost revenue opportunities, increased maintenance costs, potential insurance and liability implications. Deferring infrastructure investments often leads to more severe problems that may require costly emergency repairs. These unplanned expenses strain operating budgets, divert funds from planned initiatives, and reduce the ability to invest in future improvements or service expansion.

Deferred Action Risk: Deteriorating infrastructure may become a risk to staff and visitor safety, increasing liability.



KEY DATES

- **Possible Start:** 2026
- **Duration:** 2 Years

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