

Town of Kirkland Lake Drinking Water System

Quality Management System Policy

The Corporation of the Town of Kirkland Lake is committed to providing consumers with safe and reliable drinking water.

We strive to achieve these goals through compliance with applicable legislation and the implementation of a Quality Management System (QMS), comprised of policies, procedures and instructions. The maintenance and continual improvement of the QMS is an essential part of this commitment.

The managers and employees of the Corporation of the Town of Kirkland Lake who are directly involved in the supply of drinking water, share in the responsibilities of implementing, maintaining, and contributing to the continual improvement of the Drinking Water Quality Management System.

What is a Quality Management System (QMS)?

A Quality Management System is a series of policies, procedures and documents that outline organizational structure, responsibilities and resources. Many industries currently have QMS in place, such as; food production, manufacturing and laboratory services.

What does a QMS have to do with drinking water?

Implementing a municipal drinking water licensing program was one of the recommendations made by Justice O'Connor in the Walkerton Water Inquiry. Implementing a Drinking Water Quality Management Standard is one piece of the new licensing program for drinking water systems.

What does the DWQMS require?

The DWQMS requires each municipality to address 21 different elements through the creation of an operational plan. These elements cover all aspects of a municipality's water operations. Some elements include:

- Develop a drinking water system description
- Implement an internal auditing program
- Ensure drinking water emergency situation procedures are in place

The DWQMS also has to be submitted to the Ministry of the Environment for review and the Canadian General Standards Board for approval and accreditation.

For more information on the DWQMS and the Town's DWQMS Operational Plan, please contact the Physical Services Department 705-567-9365.