



TOWNSHIP OF ZORRA

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February 2, 2012

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Please be advised that the Township of Zorra Council will be holding a Public Meeting with the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA), regarding the Embro Dam and the Harrington Dam, scheduled at **7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 16, 2012**, at the Embro West Zorra Community Centre in the Small Meeting Room.

Zorra Council has scheduled this public meeting so that a public presentation can be made by the UTRCA. Council intends to initiate public input at the meeting so that a decision can be made jointly between the Township and the Authority as to the best process to follow to determine the future of the Embro Dam and the Harrington Dam.

On February 23, 2011 a delegation from the UTRCA made a presentation at a Special Council Meeting on Dam Safety and the state of Harrington Dam. Detailed geotechnical work followed from a Dam Safety Review completed in 2007. The geotechnical stability review recommended either replacement or removal of the Harrington Dam as the dam is below standard and may be more vulnerable to failure than it should be. The presentation provided preliminary cost estimates for removal or replacement. Safety standards for dams are administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources through enacting legislation of the Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act.

“The Township contributes financial resources towards the maintenance of the Harrington Dam. Zorra Council and the Conservation Authority discussed the next steps at the February meeting towards making decisions on the future of the dam through a public process such as the Environmental Assessment Act. As the Conservation Authority owns the dam a Class Environmental Assessment under the Conservation Authorities of Ontario Class Environmental Assessment process would be anticipated.”
– Rick Goldt, UTRCA