

**November 2019 MONTHLY REPORT**  
**City of Thompson**  
**Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades & Associated Works**  
**MWSB 1265**  
**Startup & Commissioning Phase**

Prepared By:

Stantec Consulting Ltd.  
500-311 Portage Ave.  
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2B9

111214442



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## 1 Progress for the Month of November

### Monthly progress:

The following presents a key summary of the startup & commissioning activities for this reporting period:

- 14-day Trouble Free mechanical operation testing was completed.
- Multirake Bar screen acceptance testing completed. Supplier to provide acceptance testing report.
- Grit system acceptance testing occurred. Samples were taken and sent to the lab for analysis and are expected by 2<sup>nd</sup> week of December. Supplier to provide acceptance testing report.
- Biofilter odor control acceptance testing occurred. Sample were taken and sent to the lab for analysis. Results have been received by the Supplier who will provide along with their acceptance testing report.
- SBR Basin #2 mixers have been fixed and reinstalled.

## 2 Areas of Concern

The biological process in both SBR Basins was found to be on the decline as TSS and phosphorus levels in the treated effluent were rising. The MLSS levels in both basins started rising and continued to rise even with increased sludge wasting. Xylem travelled to site to diagnose the issue and found that digested sludge was recirculating back into the front of the plant and back into the SBR basins. The sludge dewatering system had not been brought online yet and both digesters had reached capacity. The sludge dewatering manufacturer was not scheduled to be onsite for startup of the dewatering equipment until December. To allow for sludge wasting, SBR Basin #2 was converted into a temporary digester/sludge storage and all incoming raw wastewater flow was directed to SBR Basin 1. Since switching to this temporary means of operation TSS and phosphorus removal have reduced and are within the guidelines, however denitrification has gone backwards and effluent ammonia levels are above the guidelines. The thought was that due to the amount of sludge wasting that needed to occur to bring the basin MLSS into check, too much of the nitrifying bacteria was lost in the wasted sludge. The current plan to restore normal operation will commence once sludge

dewatering has started. SBR 2 will be emptied of sludge, a portion of SBR Basin 1 will be transferred to SBR Basin 2 and then raw wastewater will be reintroduced to Basin 2. Both basins will then be seeded with nitrifying bacteria culture to restore the process.

SBR Basin 2 had degraded to the point where sludge was passing the decanting weir, entering the equalization tank before being discharged to the Burntwood River. Bird prepared a report summarizing the occurrence which has been appended to this report.

### **3 Schedule**

Acceptance testing of the sludge dewatering centrifuge is scheduled for early December. Acceptance testing of the SBR and Digesters likely won't occur until early 2020, once the process has re-established.

It is anticipated that the facility will reach Interim Substantial Completion by Mid-December at which point the City will take over operation of the facility.

### **4 Summary of Process Development**

Sewage was introduced into the WWTP on June 14, 2019. All sewage including piped and trucked has been diverted to the new WWTP. Daily influent and effluent flows through the new WWTP are being monitored and tracked however Bird has not provided the flow reports since mid-November. A copy of flow reporting to Mid-November is attached for reference.

Bird continues sampling the effluent to monitor the development of the process. The summary of testing results provided by Bird is attached for reference.

DateTime	01_FIT_101.Flc	01_FIT_10	01_FIT_10	01_FIT_10	Total Daily	Sept
1-Aug	1109.276245	3600.662	1575.862	0	6285.8	Cree: 33113.33 m3
2-Aug	1038.193604	3583.645	1554.667	0	6176.506	Riverside: 84452.86 m3
3-Aug	1009.600525	3419.185	1486.684	0	5915.469	Nelson: 41653.04 m3
4-Aug	957.6132202	3167.74	1439.396	0	5564.748	
5-Aug	246.7058563	742.7657	338.1114	0	1327.583	
6-Aug	1073.884888	3012.188	1433.497	303.5093	5823.079	
7-Aug	129.8987274	477.2199	181.8019	148.0998	937.0204	
8-Aug	1079.383545	2985.862	1363.314	1221.549	6650.109	
9-Aug	385.714325	1037.194	424.0167	617.8962	2464.821	
10-Aug	900.1272583	2751.033	1294.531	852.139	5797.83	
11-Aug	1.700000286	2614.9	1212.851	1151.366	4980.817	
12-Aug	1164.462769	2492.781	1233.146	1187.457	6077.847	
13-Aug	1157.264526	2808.689	1291.832	1125.272	6383.058	
14-Aug	1118.873901	2722.906	1233.246	1265.938	6340.963	
15-Aug	1091.180664	2691.475	1200.254	1263.039	6245.948	
16-Aug	1060.788086	2583.87	1184.058	1261.939	6090.655	
17-Aug	1058.688599	2532.32	1231.646	1263.938	6086.593	
18-Aug	1295.730713	2922.901	1333.721	1270.437	6822.79	
19-Aug	1212.850952	2740.523	1332.722	1245.243	6531.338	
20-Aug	1138.968994	3148.22	1384.809	1251.042	6923.04	
21-Aug	1117.674194	3419.585	1436.996	1235.645	7209.901	
22-Aug	1038.993408	3271.14	1388.908	1004.002	6703.044	
23-Aug	1057.888794	3228.999	1380.01	345.8119	6012.71	
24-Aug	1011.899963	3088.963	1417.801	1315.226	6833.889	
25-Aug	875.333313	3022.298	1363.714	1264.838	6526.183	
26-Aug	1284.93335	3664.824	1536.872	1311.627	7798.256	
27-Aug	1854.594238	5218.24	1836.799	1298.73	10208.36	
28-Aug	1550.868408	4518.557	1692.734	1302.929	9065.088	
29-Aug	1357.315674	3896.05	1621.351	1329.622	8204.339	
30-Aug	1276.135498	3589.251	1536.372	1323.424	7725.182	
31-Aug	1088.281372	3282.451	1529.774	1227.847	7128.354	
1-Sep	883.6312866	3009.185	1441.095	1275.436	6609.347	
2-Sep	848.4398804	2904.383	1459.191	1276.835	6488.849	
3-Sep	855.1382446	2891.27	1457.191	1242.744	6446.343	
4-Sep	861.9365845	3028.103	1466.489	1252.341	6608.87	
5-Sep	1015.199158	2952.429	1447.494	1204.353	6619.475	
6-Sep	1053.689819	2929.107	1447.194	1146.967	6576.957	
7-Sep	1117.674194	2886.065	1389.608	1177.66	6571.006	
8-Sep	1114.474976	2778.059	1338.12	1261.339	6491.994	
9-Sep	1177.859497	2706.79	1354.216	1194.955	6433.821	
10-Sep	1236.645142	2754.236	1427.698	1217.95	6636.529	
11-Sep	1353.716553	2705.889	1436.896	1132.371	6628.872	
12-Sep	1272.036499	2750.432	1432.897	1058.689	6514.055	
13-Sep	1171.361084	2673.057	1382.809	1171.361	6398.589	
14-Sep	1141.568359	2709.492	1370.912	963.8117	6185.785	
15-Sep	1119.773682	2657.041	1367.413	1282.334	6426.562	

16-Sep	1203.453247	2856.936	1371.112	1204.753	6636.255
17-Sep	1110.375977	2893.572	1430.598	1245.543	6680.089
18-Sep	1025.196777	2881.76	1383.609	1246.443	6537.009
19-Sep	1313.726318	3362.53	1467.389	1317.125	7460.77
20-Sep	1155.964844	3139.412	1488.884	765.5601	6549.82
21-Sep	1138.069214	2980.457	1415.801	718.8715	6253.199
22-Sep	1186.757324	2509.798	1440.295	441.0177	5577.868
23-Sep	1212.351074	1724.626	1413.902	1315.826	5666.705
24-Sep	1189.056763	2901.68	1446.194	1008.401	6545.331
25-Sep	1147.866821	2960.637	1397.006	1354.116	6859.627
26-Sep	1172.260864	2838.018	1286.233	1345.419	6641.93
27-Sep	1128.471558	2840.42	1298.23	1310.827	6577.949
28-Sep	1106.476929	2826.907	1238.245	1364.114	6535.743
29-Sep	911.5244751	2712.996	1218.65	1338.62	6181.79
30-Sep	888.6300659	2687.571	1137.669	1335.521	6049.391
1-Oct	917.9229126	2751.734	1181.759	1335.421	6186.836
2-Oct	1029.995605	2789.671	1206.852	1294.031	6320.55
3-Oct	1052.190186	2738.421	1134.07	1319.625	6244.306
4-Oct	1037.093872	2666.551	1164.563	1318.625	6186.832
5-Oct	1027.296265	2701.885	1105.077	541.8148	5376.073
6-Oct	1029.995605	2673.357	1093.28	252.6062	5049.239
7-Oct	1088.481323	2729.412	1116.874	348.7121	5283.48
8-Oct	1044.092163	2896.475	1078.884	591.4026	5610.853
9-Oct	988.3057251	2888.067	1100.878	1155.865	6133.116
10-Oct	1009.500549	2815.095	1191.356	1122.773	6138.725
11-Oct	1044.692017	2784.165	1157.365	921.522	5907.744
12-Oct	1249.841919	2838.618	1064.987	1353.117	6506.564
13-Oct	1194.755371	2775.056	1163.763	1343.219	6476.794
14-Oct	1269.837036	2800.581	1087.981	1247.243	6405.642
15-Oct	1322.424194	2810.491	1102.878	1181.958	6417.751
16-Oct	1270.836792	2883.863	1126.172	1322.624	6603.496
17-Oct	1249.741943	2962.74	1115.675	1289.632	6617.788
18-Oct	1245.642944	2926.204	1131.271	1307.528	6610.646
19-Oct	1177.459595	2794.375	1191.256	1086.982	6250.073
20-Oct	1275.735596	2761.443	1178.359	1251.442	6466.98
21-Oct	1312.226685	2801.782	1195.255	1293.631	6602.896
22-Oct	1204.053101	2754.636	1132.471	1244.943	6336.103
23-Oct	1196.454956	2663.448	1166.662	1301.929	6328.494
24-Oct	1247.342529	2619.004	1085.782	1257.04	6209.169
25-Oct	1162.563232	2900.379	1060.488	1270.237	6393.667
26-Oct	1243.443481	2894.773	1105.277	1175.16	6418.654
27-Oct	1285.233276	2951.729	1101.878	1309.327	6648.167
28-Oct	1217.849731	3081.555	1136.87	1111.676	6547.95
29-Oct	1100.378418	2916.094	1132.571	1176.66	6325.703
30-Oct	1041.492798	2937.014	1149.266	1311.327	6439.101
31-Oct	1137.269409	2867.947	1117.774	1341.32	6464.31
1-Nov	952.0145874	2790.071	1083.982	1360.015	6186.083







## **Out of Spec Discharge from Thompson Waste Water Treatment Plant**

**Occurrence Date:** Started Wednesday, November 20th, 2019 at approximately 8:21am

**Action date:** Wednesday, November 20th, around 8:45am

**Reporting date:** December 4th, 2019

**Cause:** It was discovered onsite that the sludge blanket in Sequence Batch Reactor (SBR) 2 had reached the height of the decanter arm, causing the top of the sludge blanket to be drawn into the decanter arm, and subsequently sent through the UV lamps. Thus sending high TSS effluent discharge to the river. Once this was witnessed, decanting in SBR 2 was stopped immediately.

**Future Plans:** It was discovered that the cause of the excessive sludge build up was due to cycling of sludge throughout the plant because the centrifuge was not yet operational (sludge did not meet suspended solids requirements for start up at time of last test). The waste activated sludge from SBR 2 was being pumped to Aerobic Digester 2 as per design, but Aerobic Digester 2 was decanting sludge into the Trucked Water Receiving Station (TWRS) tank, instead of water. This caused sludge to get sent back into the SBRs, allowing a buildup of sludge to occur in SBR 2. Bird turned SBR 2 into a sludge holding tank, will start the centrifuge to remove the digested sludge from the Aerobic Digesters and dewater it as per the design. Digested sludge samples were taken on November 18, and results received on November 20 showed that the sludge concentrations were adequate for centrifuge started up. Bird will also truck out sludge from SBR 2 to the lagoon, until the centrifuge is running (scheduled for December 3, 2019 due to vendor availability) and the sludge levels are back to suitable conditions.

**Flow amount:** Discharge flowmeter reading at the time of discovery was 71 L/s, but 20 minutes before that, it was 17 L/s. This shows that the water had just begun decanting from SBR 2, as the Equalization pumps had recently started pumping more to keep up with the decanting process. Flow is not constant through the discharge, but using the average flows between 71 L/s and 17 L/s over the 30 minute period, it can be determined that approximately 97.2 m<sup>3</sup> of high TSS effluent was discharged.

**Solution:** Centrifuge was started up on December 3, 2019 and will run continuously during working hours, in conjunction with septic trucks, until the sludge has been reduced to operable conditions and SBR 2 is no longer being used a sludge holding tank

**Attachments:** Thompson WWTP Lower Level Plan

