

The Township of The Archipelago

Recommendation Report to Council

Report No.: 2026-008

Date: March 12, 2026

Originator: Josh Badger, P. Eng.
Director, Operations and Facilities

Subject: Shared Waste Services District of Muskoka

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council approve the Director of Operations and Facilities, or the Chief Administrative Officer as an alternate, and the Municipal Clerk to execute a shared waste services agreement of reasonable terms with District of Muskoka for Archipelago residents located in the Manitou neighbourhood to use District of Muskoka waste sites.

BACKGROUND

The District of Muskoka was previously mandated to remove all unlicensed bin sites by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks by 2026 to meet their Environmental Compliance Approval. As a result, the 12 Mile bin site was permanently closed on November 3rd, 2025, impacting some Archipelago residents who had disposed of waste and recycling at the site through a shared cost agreement for over 15 years. Others affected include Georgian Bay residents, who are planned for curbside collection, and Moose Deer Point First Nation, who are planning to construct their own transfer station.

Understanding the importance of maintained level-of-service, Archipelago staff worked with District of Muskoka to ensure continued waste and recycling disposal convenience for residents. Following a discussion around short- and long-term considerations an agreement is proposed for a 2-year period. It is clear that District of Muskoka does not want to be the long-term solution for Archipelago waste and recycling, no matter the compensation. This is reasonable given landfill capacity concerns and additional administrative workload.

Only those located in the Manitou neighbourhood would be provided access to the District of Muskoka waste sites through an agreement. This is to clearly establish who can and who can not access District of Muskoka site as well as set parameters for financial considerations in the agreement. The 55 properties with a dwelling in the Manitou neighbourhood will be provided a special identification form or card and must provide their licence plate number to be authorized as part of the agreement. When using District of Muskoka sites those properties must fully

comply with District of Muskoka policies and procedures. Others that are not in the Manitou neighbourhood will not be allowed to access District of Muskoka sites given their proximity to other Archipelago transfer stations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is expected that the annual cost of a new shared services agreement will exceed the previous cost sharing agreements annual cost of \$32,600. This cost would impact South Archipelago Waste budget.

ANALYSIS/OPTIONS

Option 1 – Recommended

1. That Council approve the Director of Operations and Facilities, or the Chief Administrative Officer as an alternate, and the Municipal Clerk to execute a shared waste services agreement of reasonable terms with District of Muskoka for Archipelago residents located in the Manitou neighbourhood to use District of Muskoka waste sites. This provides convenience for those residents disposing of their waste and recycling and is a short-term measure while long-term solutions are considered.

Option 2 – Not Recommended

1. That Council does not wish to enter into a shared services agreement for waste services, and those residents in the Manitou neighbourhood must visit only Archipelago transfer stations to dispose of waste and recycling. This would result in financial savings of greater than \$32,600 annually but result in required travel of either 40km by boat or 80km by car to reach nearest transfer station.
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STRATEGIC PLAN

This direction is in alignment with the following Strategic Priorities contained within our Strategic Plan:

- Sustainable & Cost-Effective Services
 - Effective Relationships & Partnerships
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CONCLUSION

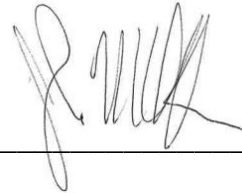
1. That Council approve the Director of Operations and Facilities, or the Chief Administrative Officer as an alternate, and the Municipal Clerk to execute a shared waste services agreement of reasonable terms with District of Muskoka for Archipelago residents located in the Manitou neighbourhood to use District of Muskoka waste sites.

Respectfully Submitted,



Josh Badger, P. Eng
Director, Operations and Facilities

I concur with this report
and recommendation,



John MacKinnon, P. Eng
Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENTS

Draft Resolution



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March 13, 2026

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Moved by
Seconded by

RE: District of Muskoka Shared Waste Services Agreement

WHEREAS the 12 Mile bin site, operated by the District of Muskoka within the Township of Georgian Bay, was used by Archipelago residents through a shared cost agreement until it was closed on November 3rd, 2025; and

WHEREAS The Archipelago looks to maintain similar convenience for waste and recycling disposal for the southern most area of the township; and

WHEREAS an agreement is being drafted to allow residents of the Manitou neighbourhood only to use District of Muskoka waste sites through a shared service agreement for a term of two years; and

WHEREAS the agreement will likely be an increase in annual expenses impacting the South Waste budget and require special identification and licence plate registration for those benefiting residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the Director of Operations and Facilities, or the Chief Administrative Officer as an alternate, and the Municipal Clerk to execute a shared waste services agreement of reasonable terms with District of Muskoka for Archipelago residents located in the Manitou neighbourhood to use District of Muskoka waste sites. The finalized agreement shall be recognized by By-law.