

County to hire added building inspector

A new provincial regulation is forcing Dufferin County to expand its building department this year at an unbudgeted cost of more than \$70,000.

County council last week approved the hiring of an additional building inspector based on a report from Chief Building Official Mike Giles that the new Building Code requires inspections of all septic systems that are within 100 metres of well-head protection areas.

?This alone is going to create approximately 300 inspections across Dufferin County at a minimum. The inspections need to commence in the summer of 2014 to fulfill the regulations.

?In 2014, Dufferin is going to experience high volumes of building activity with new homes. The current staffing complement will not be able to carry this new function and keep up with the high volume of building activity,? Mr. Giles said in his report to the council.

The county does inspection services for all Dufferin municipalities except Orangeville. The septic inspections are required every five years, according to Mr. Giles' report.

?This position is not included in the 2014 budget because the scope of the work was not known at budget time. The salary for the position will be covered by the permit revenues. This position is Salary Grade 9 (\$66,827 to \$78,197),? he said in his report.

In another similar situation, it's not clear whether the county will require additional staff for the downloaded responsibilities entailed in the mandated Official Plan, whenever a plan has been adopted.

By Wes Keller