

## Sackville Gets New Water Tank

by George Woodburn, P.Eng., Town of Sackville, and Bruce Buchanan, P.Eng., R. V. Anderson

The Town of Sackville recently commissioned its new 2,500 m<sup>3</sup> elevated water-storage tank. The composite structure, consisting of a 19m-high concrete pedestal and 14m-high steel tank for water storage, is located near the downtown.

A review of the water storage requirements for the town was completed shortly after the construction of the new water treatment plant in 1998. Work undertaken by the Insurance Advisory Organization in 1999 predicted that a major fire would deplete the Town's water supply; a review by R. V. Anderson Associates in 1999 determined that the Town was in need of an additional 2500 m<sup>3</sup> of storage.

With the introduction of the infrastructure funds by the federal government to assist municipalities with their aging infrastructure, the decision was made by town council to apply for funding.

The importance of the additional storage hit home one evening in August 2006, when a fire started in an apartment building on Main Street. The building was old and the fire spread quickly, engulfing the structure, sending flames high in the air directly across from Town Hall and adjacent to many businesses. Several neighboring communities provided firefighting assistance.

In order to monitor the water availability in the system, the town engineer took up a post beside the fire chief and kept in continuous touch with the utilities foreman, who was at the water treatment plant.

The available water storage at the WTP was augmented by water from Silver Lake, located on the East side of town. The 12-hour fire basically consumed all the available water in the town's distribution system.

Later that year, the town completed the design for the elevated water tank, so the project would be "shovel ready" once funding was received. The town received funding in January 2009.

Landmark Structures was awarded the contract in April and construction commenced in May. The concrete pedestal was completed by September and the tank was substantially completed in July 2010. Included in the project was 1km of water line to connect the elevated water tank to the water system.



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