

****Note - Parts of this document have been redacted to protect the personal information of identifiable individuals**



Aug 6, 2021

Municipality of Arran Elderslie,

I am writing to the Municipality as I would like come into agreeance that the municipality should be taking some responsibility for the flooding and damages of our residential address **89 Elgin Ave, Tara** occurring on both **Aug 3, 2018, and July 8, 2021.**

Looking back to **Aug 3, 2018** when the Chesnut Cres. subdivision was being getting built, our basement flooded for the very first time since we purchased the house in 2015. I had contacted the municipality as this was occurring, asking them to come and take a look at our drains and they had told us everything was fine as they did their drive by. However, when we took a walk up to Brook St. the storm drains were 2 ft above the road. **There's no way the water was entering the storm drains, we were receiving all the run off downhill from the subdivision, pooling our street drains completely and pooling into and around our home.** As this was 1 month before our wedding, we did not testify this, telling ourselves this was just a fluke. The damages done were **\$16,209.55 with \$1000 deductible paid to our insurance.** We later found out there was also damages to the Corner Stone Church around the corner from us in which the municipality paid for.

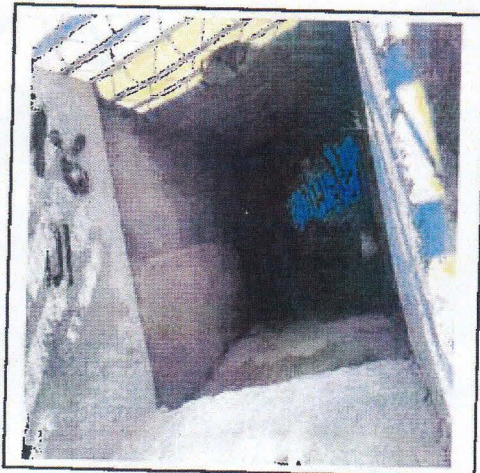


Next, moving onto July 8, 2021,

Again, the water should not be pooling in our ditches like this.



Since 2018, the Weppeler's across the street from us have had issues with their driveway sinking due to excessive water. This resulted in placing a drain in front of our house. **However this drain was not properly placed.** As you can see in the above photo, it is **slanted up the ditch** not catching any of our water collecting in our ditches so it is **completely useless to us.** **Why was this not placed lower in the ditch?** There is also an area in the drain that the municipality should have known to tap into. **Why wasn't this done?** This drain is **way too high and not useful.** This needs to be addressed and redone to make it more useful as the access water can't even reach it to drain. Also, another large issue of concern is **how did the municipality not see the catch basin?** **Why didn't they attach that drain to the storm drain?** The municipality had stopped in on July 19, 2021 to put a camera down our drain and **they also verbally questioned this.** They also made us aware that there is a **puncture of line** which should have been noticed when this drain was placed.



July 8, 2021- The ditches and culverts. Please see the attached photos of the **overfilled culverts** . Ours were completely back logged with water and could not keep up with the access water running down our street filling up our ditches. Since we have lived her in 2015 we have never seen the municipality clean out these culverts, dig out the ditches and remove access grass. Our neighbour's Shirley Nelsons and many culverts up the street are blocked with overfilled soil,dirt/sand and garbage. The culverts are sunken/level with the ground and water is not flowing out of them freely as they have ½ of a foot opening for water to drain through them. The ditches need dug out to allow proper flow/drainage of water, especially since we are retaining more run off water from the new sub division. Our culverts cannot keep up with it all. Ideally, there should have been another storm drain added to the top of our street when the new subdivision was completed. This was also advised to us when we had called the Basement Boss July 15, 2021. Now, after talking with 2 neighbours, we were informed that there was a storm drain on the corner of Brook Street and Elgin Ave that got taken out during the construction in 2018. **Why was this extra storm drain taken out?**

Not only has our property, but there 4 other homes on Elgin Ave that had water damage on July 8, 2021. There is clearly an issue here. Our street cannot keep up with the water.



We have spoken with our neighbours who have lived here for a lot longer than we have and they have all said that **they have seen an increase in the residual water during rain falls within the past 3 years.** With the amount of money that would be accumulated through building permits and the additional property taxes from new resident's shortcomings from this expansion shouldn't financially fall on current residents to burden.

The streets on both Aug 8, 2018 and July 8, 2021 are completely back logged with water which is clearly not properly draining from the run off of the new subdivision. The street drains are completely back logged and cannot keep up with the access water that **Elgin Ave is experiencing in the past 3 years since the subdivision has been built.** Our local counsel Ryan Grieg who we have spoken with over the phone last week can also confirm this as he previously resided in our house prior to 2015. This is clearly an issue here that needs to be strongly addressed as this is our home. This is our second insurance claim since the new subdivision was built. **Our insurance is increasing after this 2021 claim,** resulting in paying a **\$2000 deductible this time with \$16,297 worth of damage for this claim plus an increase in our insurance from here on out.** I don't see how it's fair that we pay our taxes and now have to pay more for our insurance and go through the stressful process of your basement flooding and renovating because the town grew, yet **our drains can't even be maintained.**

I would also like to note that **we were part of 4 households that had water damage July 8th on our street,** and its well known that Francis Street also has drainage issues. My understanding is that both streets are to be redone in the upcoming years due to various reasons. No timetable is provided for when these projects are to take place and the feeling is that until these streets are updated with proper drainage each house is abandoned to deal with this issue as if it's their own until the real issue is addressed.

In conclusion my dispute is as follows:

- 1- Improper placement of drain, why was this not placed lower in the ditch to make useful? The municipality should have known to tap into this. Why wasn't this done? This drain is sitting way too high up the ditch and not useful.**
- 2- How did the municipality not see the catch basin? Why didn't they attach that drain to the storm drain?**
- 3- The puncture in the line**
- 4- Over filled culverts with soil, dirt/sand/garbage- culverts cannot keep up with it all the water flowing down**
- 5- Why isn't there another storm drain at the top of our street to collect the run off and why was this taken out during the road construction in 2018?**

Please examine this dispute in hopes that we can come in agreeance of responsibility and cost of coverage

[REDACTED]

