

This is a petition to have the existing storm sewer in the 800 block of Nelson Street Fort Frances replaced

Doug Brown informed us on October 20th that he will not replace the existing storm sewer during the current road construction. The existing storm sewer system takes water from the 800 block of Nelson Street to the Butler Avenue system. His plan is to run all of the water from the 800 block of Nelson Street in to the big ditch at the end of the block.

Doug's plan will be catastrophic to homes near the big ditch due to flooding and will cause the street to flood.

The previous storm sewer worked fine. The problem was that over the years the road sank below the level of the catch basin grids, so the water would get to quite a high level before it would go down the drain.

The big ditch receives water from a large area. The ditch gets to very high levels of water at times. With a 3-inch rainfall in a 24-hour period the water level reaches right up to the brim of the ditch. This is normal to be expected at the best of times, and not even under winter conditions which are far worse when it comes to spring runoff conditions.

In the springtime the ditch water level constantly threatens to overflow the banks for weeks on end.

When it comes to the spring thaw the whole big ditch is piled high with snow, not to mention the 15 to 20 foot-high bank which is formed from the snow plow and loader pushing all the snow from the 800 block of Nelson St. to the dead end right up against the big ditch. On top of all this snow which the big ditch has a tough struggle to handle, it now has to contend with all the run off from the snow banks of 4 feet high or more from the street that occur from the snow plow, which builds up over the winter.

At least before this latest venture of removing the storm sewer, the water had a chance to go through the storm sewer tying in at Butler Avenue, and through to the river.

A major hurdle to overcome as far as bypassing the storm water flow into the big ditch is that it is flowing into an open ditch instead of a sealed storm water system where the water can flow unobstructed out to the river.

In the spring it can be warm in the daytime and be melting, and then at night it can all freeze over and mix with fresh or existing snow causing slush to freeze, and impede any water flow movement.

All this slush and snow causes a real issue when trying to flow through the culvert under Front Street to the river and especially with the culvert grate in place all this wet freezing snow makes like a dam. Even throughout the summer and fall this grate creates issues with buildup of grass, twigs, leaves and other debris.

At one time the town thought they owned the big ditch. The town would send out the fire department in the springtime to burn the grass in the ditch. The town would also send out a crew from time to time to dredge out the ditch. This all stopped in the early 1980's when it was discovered that the big ditch was on mill property.

When the town thought they owned the ditch property, the water from the curbs on both the north and south side of Nelson Street was directed through two above ground trenches to the ditch. This always caused a flooding problem as the ditch could not handle the extra volume of water.

The town eventually added the current storm sewer system which stopped the flooding problem from street water entering the ditch.

We find that it is very counterproductive to go back to conditions that were very detrimental in the past when lessons had to be learned the hard way.

It would be very beneficial for all parties including the residents affected on the 800 block of Nelson Street and as well benefit the town in a less hardship and cost effective manner to make the storm sewer functional as it had been and especially to save money while the road is presently under construction, instead of looking at eliminating the storm sewer as a cost saving venture in the short term.

Keith Infield *Kenton Infield*

We the residents of the 800 block of Nelson Street have signed this Petition to ask the Town of Fort Frances to replace the existing storm sewer along the 800 Block for the reasons described in the accompanying letter.

Contrary to this, the Town's plan is to eliminate the existing storm sewer and divert the water in to the big ditch.

Name	Address	Phone	Signature
Vivian Callaghan	812 Nelson Street	275-5145	Vivian Callaghan
Gemma Lamonato	814 Nelson	274-9592	G. Lamonato
Gladys Martin	816 Front St.	274-3954	Gladys Martin
LORETTA BRUNETTA	800 NELSON ST.	274-9475	Loretta Brunetta
Keith Fifield	912 St. East	274-5295	Keith Fifield
Paul Rodbourne	808 Nelson St	274-5852	Paul Rodbourne
Kenton Fifield	816 Nelson St.	274-6492	Kenton Fifield

