

# Memorandum to the Council of Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

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**Subject:** 2024 Annual Landfill Reports – Sisk, Strathy, and Briggs Landfills

**Memo No:** 2025-M-134

**Date:** June 12, 2025

**Attachment:** None

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## Recommendation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives Memo 2025-M-134 as presented.

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## 1. Executive Summary

This report summarizes the 2024 operational and environmental performance of the Municipality of Temagami's three active landfill sites: Sisk, Strathy, and Briggs. Prepared by Story Environmental Inc., the reports include findings from field monitoring, water sampling, drone-assisted topographic surveys, and updated closure cost assessments.

### Key Findings:

- All three landfills remain compliant with applicable environmental standards. 2024 sampling indicates no significant environmental risk.
- Sisk Landfill remains in stable condition, with approximately 51.6% of approved capacity remaining and an estimated operational lifespan beyond 30 years.
- Briggs Landfill is also stable, with approximately 60.4% of capacity remaining and a projected closure year of 2045.
- Strathy Landfill has exhausted its approved capacity (52,000 m<sup>3</sup>) and cannot accept further waste without Ministry approval for expansion. This presents a critical infrastructure issue requiring urgent attention.

## 2. Background

The Municipality of Temagami manages three landfills that provide waste disposal services across the community:

- Sisk Landfill – located south of Temagami along Highway 11.
- Strathy Landfill – the primary site for the townsite and nearby areas.
- Briggs Landfill – servicing Lake Temagami island and seasonal users.

Although the Municipality has operated all three landfills since the late 1990s, formal land ownership for Sisk and Briggs remains with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

All sites are subject to annual reporting requirements, which include:

- Groundwater and surface water monitoring,

- Waste volume surveys,
- On-site inspections,
- Compliance evaluations based on their respective Environmental Compliance Approvals.

In 2024, the Municipality also commissioned updated assessments of landfill life expectancy and closure costs to inform long-term financial planning.

### 3. Site Capacity and Operational Summary

Landfill	2024 Volume Added (m³)	Total Used to Date (m³)	Remaining Capacity	Key Observations
<b>Sisk</b>	~895	~19,365	~51.6%	Groundwater and surface water results within safe levels; estimated lifespan to 2060
<b>Strathy</b>	~2,414	~37,613	0% (fully used)	Approved capacity exceeded; no further waste accepted; expansion delayed by mining claims
<b>Briggs</b>	~660	~15,830	~60.4%	Stable conditions; westward groundwater flow; Monitoring Well #4 well dry due to low water table

- Additional Observations:
  - Sisk Landfill: Remains in good operational condition with no exceedances in 2024 sampling.
  - Strathy Landfill: Has exceeded its approved capacity. An application to expand to 80,000 m³ remains on hold due to unresolved mining claims within the landfill footprint.
  - Briggs Landfill: Continues to operate stably. No surface water samples were collected in 2024 due to low streamflow.

- Minor operational issues such as windblown litter and nuisance wildlife continue to be managed at Strathy and Briggs.

#### 4. Life Expectancy and Financial Projections

The 2024 life expectancy and closure cost assessments identified the following timelines and financial liabilities:

Landfill	Estimated Closure Year	Remaining Lifespan	Estimated Closure & Monitoring Cost (2024)
Sisk	2060	~36 years	\$1,144,000
Strathy	Immediate (no capacity)	0 years	\$1,194,000
Briggs	2045	~18–20 years	\$1,038,000

- Observations:
  - Strathy Landfill is at full capacity. Without Ministry approval for expansion or identification of an alternative site, the Municipality must begin contingency planning.
  - Sisk Landfill is projected to remain operational for over three decades and continues to perform well.
  - Briggs Landfill has a moderate lifespan remaining and will require closure and post-closure planning within the next 20 years.
  - The combined estimated closure and long-term monitoring costs across all three sites exceed \$3.3 million in 2024 dollars. These costs are subject to inflation and could rise significantly if deferred.

#### 5. Conclusion

All three landfill sites are currently compliant with environmental requirements and remain operational. However, the Municipality faces an urgent infrastructure issue with the Strathy

Landfill, which has reached its permitted capacity and cannot accept additional waste without Ministry approval.

Sisk and Briggs landfills provide medium- and long-term capacity, respectively. Nonetheless, each will eventually require closure and environmental management, with associated costs now clearly identified. Staff will continue to monitor the status of the Strathy expansion application and report back to Council with contingency options as needed.