

**Jenny-Maria Ferraro**

**From:** Jenny-Maria Ferraro  
**Sent:** June 3, 2013 11:33 AM  
**To:** Jenny-Maria Ferraro  
**Subject:** Dredging the Thornbury Harbour

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 01, 2013 12:41 PM  
**To:** McKinlay, Duncan (Warden)  
**Subject:** Re: Dredging the Thornbury Harbour

Dear Duncan,

This is true, however I would note that in the THORNBURY HARBOUR FINANCIAL PLAN as approved by Town Council on February 12, 2013 it is noted:

**4.4. DEBT MANAGEMENT**

*The overall goal of the Town to properly manage debt should be to eliminate the use of debt financing to fund the "average" capital budget. Debt financing should ultimately be used exclusively to fund large, extraordinary works, or to mitigate the impact of a larger than average total capital budget. The Harbour has one outstanding debt. The Dock Reconstruction project internal loan had an estimated outstanding balance of \$169,700 ending 2012. The dock reconstruction project is fully financed over time through user fees and is slated to be paid by 2022. No other debt has been planned under the current approved 2013 budget which includes projections to 2017; however a dredging strategy has to be implemented in 2013 that will place significant pressure on the Harbour. Long term plans have shown that there will be significant debt incurred on projects such as the harbour dredging, "A", "G", and "I" Dock replacements and future potential fuel system replacements and further dredging. Although these projects will be funded from Harbour user fees and charges, these amounts will impact the overall debt carrying capacity for the Town.*

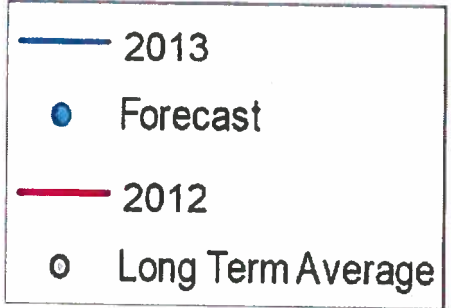
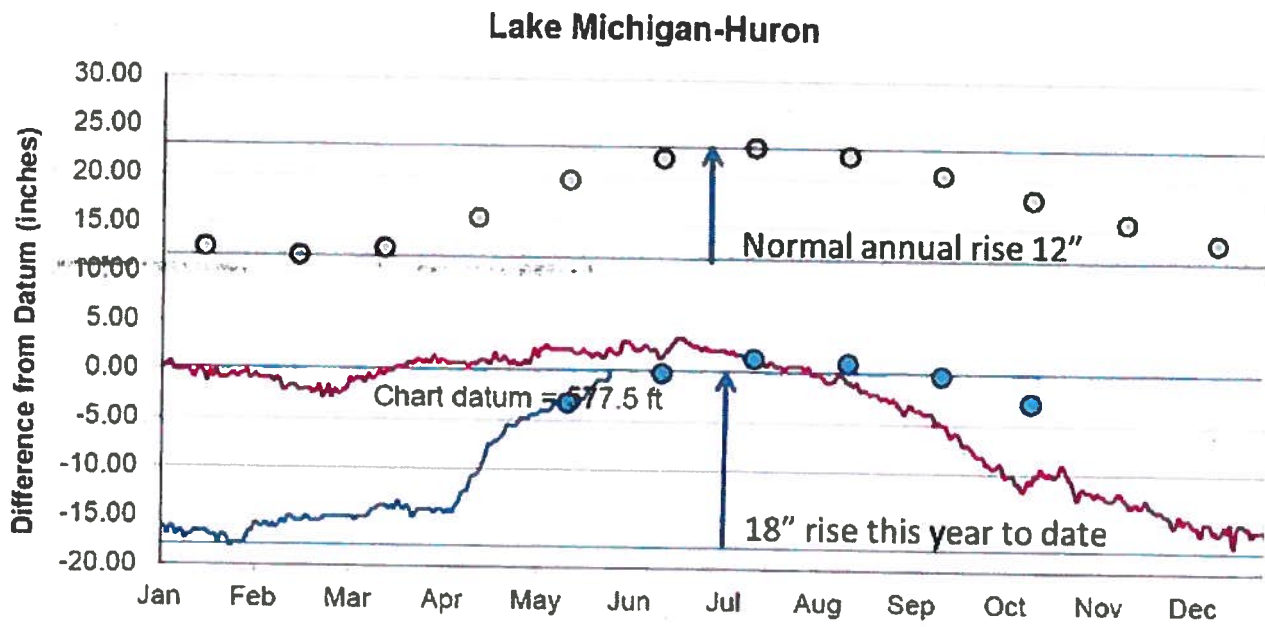
Alar

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 01, 2013 11:31 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca <[REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca>  
**Cc:** Ellen Anderson (TOBM); [REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca <[REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca>; [REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca <[REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca>; [REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca <[REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca>; [REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca <[REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca>; [REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca <[REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca>; [REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca <[REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca>; [REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca <[REDACTED]@thebluemountains.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: Dredging the Thornbury Harbour

Dear Mr. Gibbons,

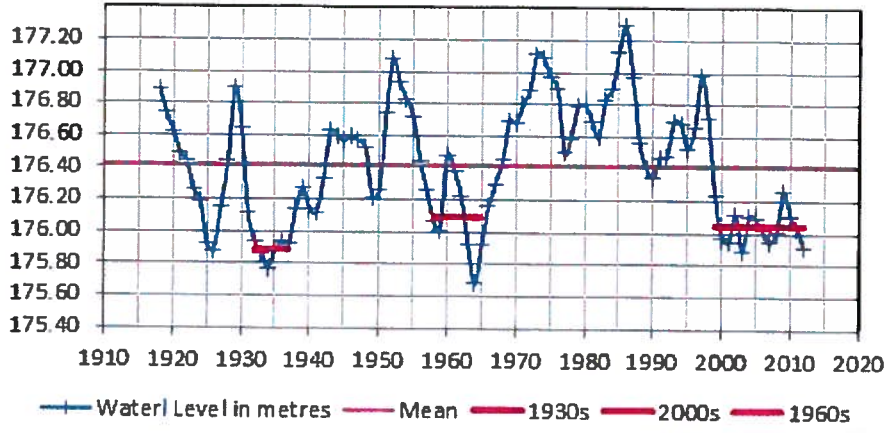
I sincerely hope the plan to dredge the harbour this year is being reconsidered. Given this years projected lake levels, spending \$200 K to \$270 K of taxpayers money to dredge the harbor would be a terrible waste of taxpayers money.

Due to the wet spring this year the bay has come up a full 18 inches to date from the annual all time low this January. If we have normal rainfall from this point forward it should rise another 3 inches and should be above last years levels by end of July, and a full 6 to 7 inches above last years levels by October when the boats come out. ( see data from US Army Core of Engineers website, below).



It is unfortunate that water levels over the past few years have been low for an extended period of time, but the fact is we live by a lake whose water levels fluctuate. In fact average annual water levels in the 1930's were lower than they have been now for a period of 5 years. (See graph below). The graph also shows that there have been periods where the water level has risen dramatically over a few short years. While it is impossible to predict where water levels will be a few years from now, I believe that having the taxpayer pay now to solve a problem that might not even exist would be a terrible waste of funds.

# Georgian Bay Water Levels



Respectfully submitted,

Alar Soever