



Town of Newmarket
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Clothing Donation Bins Staff Report

Report Number: 2019-8

Department(s): Legislative Services

Author(s): Florence DiPassio, Supervisor, Licensing and Parking

Meeting Date: January 14, 2019

Recommendations

1. That the report entitled Clothing Donation Bins dated January 9, 2019 be received; and,
2. That the Clothing Donation Bins By-law 2016-33 be amended in accordance with **Attachment A**; and,
3. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to amend the Clothing Donation Bins By-law 2016-33 to prohibit the use of anti-theft flaps in the bins.

Background

Current Licensing Regime

The Town has been licensing clothing donation bins ("bins") on private property since 2013, and there are currently 20 licensed bins. The goal of this licensing program was to ensure that only reputable charities are able to profit from having the bins located in Newmarket.

Should Council wish to review this licensing framework, Council may wish to use this report to direct staff to do so accordingly. Alternatively, Council may wish to provide additional feedback on licensing bins through the regulatory review workshop scheduled for March 25, 2019.

In 2018, the Town permitted the Canadian Diabetes Association to place bins on Town property, and the Association currently has 6 bins located on municipal lands. There are 2 at Magna Centre, 2 at Ray Twinney Recreation Complex and 2 at the Newmarket Community Centre.

Discussion

Recent Events

In response to a recent tragedy in Toronto related to these bins, the Town initiated an immediate review of all bins in Newmarket. There were concerns with the anti-theft bars, which are connected to the outer chute to the inner flap and intended to prevent theft. Given the recent incident, this anti-theft mechanism has proven to be a safety concern as it can trap someone who has fallen into the bin.

Accordingly, staff contacted the licensed bin owners who are located on private property and have been advised by the owners that they are working to immediately retrofit all bins to have any anti-theft bars removed from their bins.

As of Wednesday, January 9, 2019 the Canadian Diabetes Association has advised staff that the anti-theft bar has been removed from all 6 bins located on Town property.

Conclusion

Should Council approve the amendment to the Clothing Donation Bins By-law 2016-33 staff will contact all licensed Clothing Donation Bin owners to advise of the new Council-approved requirement.

Business Plan and Strategic Plan Linkages

This report relates to the “Well Equipped and Managed” link of the Town’s community vision implementing policy and processes that reflect sound, accountable governance.

Consultation

Staff has consulted with Operations Department and Clothing Donation Bin owners.

Human Resource Considerations

None

Budget Impact

None

Attachments

Attachment A – Amendment to Clothing Donation Bins By-law

Approval

Kiran Saini, Acting Director, Legislative Services/Town Clerk

Lisa Lyons, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services

Contact

For further information on this report, please contact Florence DiPassio, Supervisor, Licensing & Parking Enforcement at fdipassio@newmarket.ca