



# TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON

# REPORT

Item No. 2020-19

**REPORT TO:** Reeve Bailey and Members of Council  
**PREPARED BY:** Dwayne Evans  
**DATE:** 07/12/2020  
**SUBJECT:** CAO-2020-19 Sharps Disposal Kiosk  
**ATTACHMENTS:** Community Sharps Drop Box Program Agreement Template 2020\_sample; Map of Possible Kiosk Locations

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby receives the report of the CAO, dated December 7, 2020, regarding a Sharps Disposal Kiosk;

AND FURTHER, THAT Council direct the Clerk to prepare a by-law for the December 21, 2020 meeting to authorize an agreement between Huron Perth Public Health and the Township of North Huron regarding placement of a sharps disposal kiosk on municipally-owned property;

AND FURTHER, THAT Council authorizes placement of a sharps disposal kiosk on the Alice Munro Library lands.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At the November 23, 2020 regular meeting, Council received a delegation from a representative of Huron Perth Public Health regarding harm reduction strategies for North Huron. The delegation made two recommendations which form the basis of this report:

1. That North Huron accept a disposal kiosk from Huron Perth Public Health to place on municipal property for the safe disposal of sharps;
2. That North Huron secure an ongoing contract with a provider for disposal of hazardous sharps.

Council directed staff to investigate these recommendations and report back. Subsequent to the direction provided, staff have been communicating with Huron Perth Public Health to discuss placement of a kiosk and cost.

Through discussions it has been identified that Huron Perth Public Health has an agreement with ESCSCares for the installation and maintenance of sharps disposal kiosks. This agreement currently applies to Perth County municipalities. Huron Perth Public Health has offered and recommended North Huron be added as a pick up location to their current agreement with ESCSCares. In return, Huron Perth Public Health has asked North Huron to enter into an agreement with them. The agreement requires North Huron to allow placement of the kiosk on municipally-owned property and to monitor the kiosk for emptying.

It is recommended Council direct the Clerk to prepare a by-law adopting the attached agreement at their December 21, 2020 regular meeting. It is also recommended Council approve placement of the kiosk on the Alice Munro Library lands. See attached.

## **DISCUSSION**

Regarding the location of the kiosk, it was confirmed by Huron Perth Public Health that the kiosk needs to be secured to a fixed building or railing, in a well lit area where it can be easily monitored and discrete for users. The kiosk is to be available to all individuals and is to provide a safe disposal site of sharps for those with or without prescriptions and reduce any potential impacts related to unsafe disposal while at the same time promoting safe disposal.

A best practice would be to survey users for appropriate placement of the kiosk for maximum use. In the absence of undertaking a survey with associated costs, staff have been working with Huron Perth Public regarding a best possible location. Two primary locations were considered. The first is along the Wingham Trail system and second is at the Alice Munro Library. Both locations have their advantages and disadvantages.

Huron Perth Public Health believes the Alice Munro Library location would be most appropriate. This location meets the recommended criteria and is more centrally located within Wingham. As a pilot site, it is recommended the Alice Munro Library be considered at this time and within a set time frame (e.g. one year), evaluate the value of the pilot site and/or increase the number of kiosks with Council's approval. If approved, installation of the kiosk can occur late this year or early 2021. Promotion would be primarily undertaken by Huron Perth Public Health with some low to no cost assistance from the municipality (e.g. promoting the kiosk through the Township's social media account).

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

As reported at the November 2, 2020 regular meeting, Huron Perth Public Health will be covering the purchase cost of the kiosk and emptying of the kiosk, as necessary. Staff time will be required to assist with placement of the kiosk and monitoring. There will no additional costs to the municipality.

## **FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS**

As Council is aware, this will be a new service available to North Huron residents. If this becomes a much needed service and Huron Perth Public Health withdraws their funding, Council will need to assess the financial impact of maintaining this service.

## **RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal #5-Services

Our goal is to offer high-quality and well-balanced services that create a sense of belonging, support community well-being, promote safety, and encourage health and active lifestyles.



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Dwayne Evans, CAO