

Section/Number: Healthy Eating – 07	Approval Date: (DD/MM/YY)
Subject: Drop the Water Bottle – Drink Tap Water Policy	Amendment Dates:
<p><u>Policy</u> People like making healthy choices that are also environmentally friendly and save money. By banning the sale of bottled water in retail and vending machines operated by <u>Community Government Name</u>, the community is making an environmentally responsible choice while providing clean, safe drinking water out of the tap.</p> <p><u>Community Government Name</u> will ensure safe, clean drinking water is available and accessible through tap, fountain or water coolers at all community government buildings for community members, employees and visitors. The <u>Community Government Name</u> will no longer retail/provide bottled water in the retail outlets, vending machines, functions and fundraising events.</p>	
<p>Definitions</p> <p>N/A</p>	

Guidelines:

1. Bottled water consumes a significant amount of non-renewable fossil fuels to extract, package and transport water creating unnecessary air quality and climate change impacts.
2. It takes about three litres of water to manufacture a one litre plastic bottle of water.
3. Bottled water companies use municipal water and groundwater sources when a growing percentage of Canadian municipalities have faced water shortages in recent years.
4. Although bottled water is distributed in a container that can be recycled, between 40% and 80% of empty bottles end up as litter and/or are placed directly into the garbage and take up unnecessary space in landfills.
5. Tap Water is safe, healthy, highly regulated and accessible to community members, employers, employees and visitors and more sustainable than bottled water.
6. Given the high cost of transportation in the NWT, the Community Government Name should not be required to pay transportation costs to ship bottled water when it is readily available in the community.
7. The NWT has some of the most pristine source water in the world.
8. The Community Government Name is proud of “our” safe and healthy water and “our” employees who are so dedicated and committed to delivering it to our residents.
9. The Community Government Name will phase out the sale and purchase of bottle water at our own facilities where appropriate and where potable water is available.
10. The Community Government Name will no longer provide bottle water at any meetings, community functions or fundraising events.
11. The Community Government Name will make re-usable water bottles available for sale at Town Hall and the Recreation Complex.
12. The Community Government Name will take advantage of awareness campaigns about the positive benefits and quality of municipal water supplies.

Attachments:

Drop the Water Bottle – Drink Tap Water SMP

The Sale of Pop/Soda Drinks not to be authorized in Community Government Buildings Policy

The Sale of Energy Drinks not to be authorized in Community Government Buildings Policy

Drop the Pop and Energy Drink - SMP

Healthy Eating at Community Events - SMP

References

<http://ecologynorth.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Behind-the-bottle-Water-Bottle-Info-Sheet-2009-publication.pdf>