

## For Information Only

### Syringe Recovery and Needle Bins Update

Presented To: Community Services Committee

Presented: Monday, Nov 14, 2016

Report Date Wednesday, Oct 19, 2016

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#### Resolution

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#### Finance Implications

The two initial syringe recovery bins that are being installed by the City were funded through a onetime Civil Remedies Act grant. Future purchases of bins are approximately \$2,000 per unit, installed, and are currently unfunded. Pick up costs for the bins would need to be absorbed within operational budgets.

### Health Impact Assessment

The syringe recovery and needle bin program addresses the issue of public health and safety by removing discarded drug using equipment from public places and forms part of the harm reduction strategy in the community. Additional review will identify locations for future stationary needle collection bins.

### Background

Syringe recovery and needle bins (bin) are designed for outdoor placement in areas identified as hot spots as evidenced by used sharps (syringes, needles, razor blades, broken glass with blood or bodily fluids and lancets) that are discarded in public places.

The bins are intended to reduce the possibility of unintended sharps accidents by providing a safe container for disposal of discarded drug using equipment.

The syringe recovery and needle bin project, as a pilot project, was initiated from the recommendations of the Community Drug Strategy, as part of harm reduction in the community. Funding for two bins was secured through a one time Civil Remedies Act grant made available to the Greater Sudbury Police Services. The cost for purchasing and installing one bin is approximately \$2,000.00. The removal of the

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**Health Impact Review**

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**Division Review**

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**Recommended by the Department**

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Chief Administrative Officer  
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discarded drug using equipment from a specialized sharps disposal container on a monthly basis is estimated at \$750.00. Currently the pickup of the specialized sharps disposal container is performed by an outside contractor. It should also be noted that a new tender will be completed in the near future for sharps pickups throughout CGS locations with emphasis on this new type of container and possible future parks locations. The successful bidder of the contract would be responsible for the safe removal of drug using equipment from the specialized sharps disposal container.

City staff, in collaboration with the Sudbury and District Health Unit (SDHU) and the Greater Sudbury Police Services (GSPS), determined a suitable location for the installation of the first bin on the trail by Hnatyshyn Park. Location for the second pilot bin is still under consideration, and will be located based on demonstrated community need. The Sudbury Action Centre for Youth had completed a 9 month survey which provided a raw count of discarded drug using equipment in the community and is helping to inform potential locations for other bins.

The cost to purchase, install and maintain additional bins is unfunded. For 2016, operating departments will absorb the costs for pick up of the specialized sharps disposal container within their existing operating budgets.

The Sudbury District Health Unit will work with the City of Greater Sudbury to develop an awareness campaign to educate people about bins and how to safely dispose of sharps.