



IDLING CONTROL IN GREATER SUDBURY

Motor Vehicle Idling – Negative Effects

- Air pollution
 - Volatile organic compounds (VOC)
 - Carbon monoxide (CO)
 - Oxides of nitrogen (NOx)
- Negative health effects
 - Respiratory
 - Cardiovascular
 - Cancer
 - Hormonal and Reproductive
- Carbon dioxide – climate change
- Unnecessary fuel use

Motor Vehicle Idling – Negative Effects

- If Canadian motorists avoided idling just 3 minutes a day (NRCAN):
 - ▣ 630 million litres of fuel saved per year
 - ▣ \$756 million in fuel savings
 - ▣ 1.4 million tonnes of carbon dioxide:

Equivalent to taking 320,000 vehicles off the road for the year

CGS Idling Control Initiatives – Fleets & Transit

- ❑ CGS Idling Control Policy (2008)
- ❑ Driver training – FLEETSMART, etc
- ❑ Auxillary cab heaters
- ❑ LED traffic control signal lights in vehicles
- ❑ On-board information system

CGS Idling Control – Community Outreach

EarthCare Sudbury Program

- ❑ Vehicle idling behavioural study (NRCAN-funded)
- ❑ Interventions developed – ‘Idle Free Zone’ signs posted at schools; vehicle stickers
- ❑ Newspaper ads
- ❑ CTV EarthCare Minute ad on idling
- ❑ Additional ‘Idle Free Zone’ signs posted at businesses

Ontario Idling Control By-laws

- Permitted Idling Time
 - ▣ 1, 2, 3 or 5 minutes – many moving toward 1 min.
 - ▣ NRCAN report – 1 min. is good balance between fuel use, emissions and wear on components.
- Temperature
 - ▣ Many by-laws removing temperature exemption.
 - ▣ More difficult to enforce with temperature.

Ontario Idling Control By-laws

- Drive-throughs
 - ▣ Exempted if it's accessory to a permitted use.

- Enforcement
 - ▣ Preceded by education.
 - ▣ Part 1 versus Part 2 offence (Ontario Provincial Offences Act)

Option 1 – Education Only

- Develop Communications Plans and implement through the EarthCare Sudbury Program.
 - ▣ Awareness campaigns
 - ▣ Media releases
 - ▣ Bookmarks
 - ▣ Ads
 - ▣ Social media ?

Option 1 – Education Only

Pros

- Minimal disruption to regular staff operations; continuing existing initiatives.
- No extra resources required to implement.

Cons

- Idling is somewhat of an entrenched behaviour. Is education sufficient ?

Option 2 – Education & By-law

- Education component same as Option 1.
- 60 second idling limit.
- By-law – would come into force January 1, 2013.
- Preceded by several months of education.
- Tickets issued under Part 2 of Provincial Offences Act.

Option 2 – Education & By-law

Exemptions

- Emergency vehicles, off-road vehicles and equipment while engaged in operational activities, including training and client transfer.
- Vehicles assisting in emergency response and/or activities.
- Mobile workshops where engine power is necessary for electrical or pressure generation, tool use, hoist or winch use, lift gate or boom operation, and/or similar applications.

Option 2 – Education & By-law

Exemptions

- Vehicles with power take-off containing work equipment that must be powered by the vehicle engine.
- Transit vehicles in layover or stopover, defined as a stopping point along a transit route or at a transit vehicle terminal, for a maximum of 15 minutes to allow transit vehicles to adjust to service schedules.
- Vehicles that remain motionless because of emergency or traffic conditions, including but not limited to congestion, traffic control signals, weather conditions or mechanical difficulties.

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Option 2 – Education & By-law

Exemptions

- ❑ Vehicles where idling is required as part of the repair process or to prepare the vehicle for service.
- ❑ Extreme Cold Weather Alert or Heat Advisory where idling may be necessary for the well-being of the operator and/or passengers.
- ❑ Idling to defrost, defog or de-ice vehicle windows provided a scraper is used prior to starting the engine. Idling must end once fog, frost, or ice conditions have been eliminated.

Option 2 – Education & By-law

Exemptions

- Outside workers may idle a vehicle for up to 15 minutes for the purpose of getting warm and/or dry if indoor accommodations are not available at the work site.
- A vehicle transporting a person who has in their possession a medical doctor's certificate stating that for medical reasons, the person requires the temperature or humidity to be maintained within a certain range and the idling of the vehicle is necessary to achieve that temperature or humidity level.

Option 2 – Education & By-law

Exemptions

- ❑ Vehicles engaged in a parade or any other event authorized by the municipality.
- ❑ Vehicles that are operated on the travelled portion of a drive-through lane.

Option 2 – Education & By-law

Pros

- ❑ Should lead to adequate idling control with enforcement of the by-law rather than just relying on education.
- ❑ Enforcement using Part 2 powers makes the owner of the vehicle responsible for the fines.
- ❑ By-law officers will be able to enforce as they come across idling vehicles while conducting their normal work duties.

Option 2 – Education & By-law

Cons

- With complaints-based enforcement, it will be difficult to issue tickets for infraction situations that are occasional and without a set daily or weekly pattern.

Recommendation

WHEREAS Council has expressed concern about public nuisances and concern for the economic, social and environmental well-being of the municipality and the health, safety and well-being of its citizens,

WHEREAS motor vehicle idling results in the release of atmospheric pollutants and greenhouse gases that are harmful to the environment and to people's health,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council selects Option 2 – preparation of a by-law to control motor vehicle idling, whose coming into force will be preceded by an education campaign on the topic.