



Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Memorandum to Council

Memo No.
2019-M-196

☒ **Staff
Committee**

Subject: Proactive Enforcement Policy

Agenda Date: November 7, 2019

Attachments:

RECOMMENDATION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Memo 2019-M-196;

AND FURTHER THAT Council consider approving a policy directing staff to change from reactive/complaint based enforcement to proactive enforcement.

INFORMATION

At its meeting of August 22, 2019, Council passed Property Standards By-law 19-1475, as amended. As part of that meeting staff were asked if enforcement of the by-law would be on a complaint basis as it had always been. Staff agreed to maintain the status quo. The number of complaints has continued to grow since the passing of the by-law.

Concerns have been raised by some residents as to the process regarding enforcement and the impression that the municipality is doing selective enforcement. Staff have heard that dealing with one property but not the others is discriminatory, selective and creates resistance to co-operation. There is concern that the neighbouring property conditions may have a detrimental effect on property values.

While staff encourage residents with complaints to file their concerns in writing with the municipality in accordance with our complaint policy, there are those who want to file a complaint but are not comfortable in filing a formal complaint.

Other municipalities have faced legal challenges to complaint based enforcement and many have adopted complaint/proactive enforcement practices

Staff are of the opinion that to remedy some of the concerns, a proactive enforcement policy should be adopted reducing the risk of challenge and possible legal issues.

Furthermore, staff support the position of complaint/proactive enforcement so as to reduce neighbor dispute and promote an inviting municipality.

Respectfully Submitted:
Daryl Bell,
Municipal Law Enforcement Officer