



Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Memo No.
2020-M- 081

Memorandum to Council

Subject: Installation of Needle Disposal Containers

Agenda Date: July 16, 2020

Attachments:

RECOMMENDATION

BE IT RESOLVED That Council directs Staff to develop a Bio-Hazard Policy.

INFORMATION

The main purpose of this memo is to provide information to support the development of proper needle disposal policies and procedures in non-healthcare settings.

Proper disposal of needles that have been used to inject drugs involves several steps that include the appropriate collecting, carrying, storing, transferring and disposing of biomedical waste. The proper disposal of used needles prevents re-using and sharing of needles, prevents needle stick injuries, and limits the number of discarded needles found in the community. Not having a convenient place to dispose needles can result in their being improperly discarded in public places.

Needle disposal boxes are designed for the containment of used needles. They can be made from a variety of materials and come in a wide range of sizes, ranging from small portable containers to medium-sized wall mounted boxes to large drop box units designed to be placed outdoors.

Biomedical Waste Disposal in Ontario is regulated by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change through the Environmental Protection Act (*EPA*). Recommendations in *The Management of Biomedical Waste in Ontario* guidelines must be followed by organizations that are biomedical waste generators, carriers, or receivers. The guidelines have specific sections that apply to biomedical waste generators, carriers and receivers of biomedical waste.

Storage:

When biomedical waste is centrally stored before transportation to future disposal sites, it should be stored in an area that is:

- Secure, not accessible to the general public, and not adjacent to supply storage areas or areas used for food preparation or consumption; and
- Clearly marked with the universal biohazard symbol

Transportation and Final Disposal:

- Biomedical waste may only be transported by an organization or waste management company for which a waste management system certificate of approval has been issued under the EPA, through registration with HWIN. Certificates of approval may include the kind of vehicle standards that must be adhered to such as the need for locked and cleanable storage compartments for the safe transportation of needle boxes. In general, vehicles must be appropriately designed and outfitted to accommodate the biomedical waste to be transported in the vehicle. Final disposal can only be carried out by accredited waste management companies.

Currently, one incident was reported back in February on a Saturday morning. Is this one incident warranted to install sharps containers throughout the municipality?

FINANCIAL/STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

This item has been approved in the current budget: Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐

This item is within the approved budgeted amount: Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☒

This item has not been approved in the 2020 budget. Should Council wish to proceed with a policy, it is anticipated that the containers and brackets will cost \$2,011.40 this does not include installation, HWIN license and a contractor to pick up the Biomedical Waste.

ALTERNATIVES

No alternatives were considered during the preparation of this memo.

**Prepared and
Submitted by:**

**Deb Larochelle,
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**Reviewed and Accepted for
Council Consideration by:**

**Craig Davidson
Treasurer/Administrator**