



Staff Memo

Report To: South Huron Council
From: **Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk**
Date: July 16 2018
Report: CAO 2018-13
Subject: Sharps Disposal Kiosk

Recommendations:

For Council's consideration

Purpose:

Direction

Background and Analysis:

Further to the direction of Council of June 18, 2018, a request for a staff report related to the delegation from representatives of the Huron County Health Unit regarding harm reduction strategies for South Huron.

The delegation made two recommendations to Council which form the basis of the report:

- That South Huron accept a large disposal kiosk from the Huron County Health Unit to place on municipal property for the safe disposal of sharps;
- That South Huron secure an ongoing contract with a provider for disposal of hazardous sharps.

Subsequent to the direction for a report, Administration had the opportunity to meet by teleconference with the delegates with the key areas examined being location and cost.

Location

Should Council look at a potential site for the placement of the kiosk, It was confirmed that the kiosk needs to be secured to a fixed building or railing, in a lit area, easily monitored but discrete for users. It should be noted that the kiosk is for all individuals and would provide a safe disposal site of sharps for those with or without prescriptions and reduce any potential impacts related to unsafe disposal while at the same time promoting safe disposal

A best practice would be to determine from consumers to identify appropriate placement of the kiosk for maximum use. There are a number of municipal locations that could be considered for a potential site including parks, the SHRC and Towne Hall. As a pilot site, the location on the east side of Towne Hall could be considered at this time and evaluate within a set time frame (e.g. one year) the value of the pilot site and/or increase the number of kiosks should Council approve moving forward.

Cost:

In discussions with the delegates, there are two main providers for disposal – Stericycle and ECCares.

ECCares provides the service that would potentially be the best for for the needs of this project and a quote of \$350/month premium service (full service no requirements form public works). The benefit of the ECCares Service is that it provides safety for our employees and safe place to dispose of sharps for any South Huron Resident other than a pharmacy (potentially diabetics or home care clients requiring injection equipment /palliative care) Should Council wish to proceed.

Supporting Agency Comments

As part of the teleconference, the delegates wanted to forward comments from supporting agencies related to the need for a kiosk in South Huron. The following is feedback from the agencies:

OPP

"OPP perspective regarding the need for a disposal kiosk in South Huron. From 2015 – present the OPP have fielded 43 complaints of found, disposed needles/syringes in South Huron. There are significantly more if the entire county was tallied. Substance users/abusers are transient and it is significant that we have the # of complaints in South Huron. In one occurrence there were approximately 40 used needles located. Additionally, I have participated in two public/community meetings with residents of South Huron where drug use was a key topic of concern and the associated discovery of needles in front lawns, back alleys and other places in the community. The South Huron Rec Centre has also drawn the attention of the police in the past as a result of drug use in the public washrooms, along with the public washrooms in the library connected to the South Huron municipal office. I believe there is a need for this disposal kiosk near the downtown corridor of the municipality of South Huron".

Inspector Jason Younan
Detachment Commander
Huron OPP Detachment

South Huron Hospital Association

"I do believe there is a need for the containers. I plan on placing them at the South Huron medical centre in each of the two public washrooms and in the public washrooms at the ER. I have already placed them at Grand Bend Area Community Health Centre.

Sharps places in the regular garbage were identified are a health and safety hazard. I have seen them in other public areas of medical facilities. There is no signage no attention drawn to them. They are simply there to be used.

I would support the Municipality in this action".

Sincerely,

Heather Klopp
Director of Ambulatory Services
South Huron Hospital Association

Choices For Change

"Choices for Change provides addiction treatment services in Huron and Perth Counties. We support the installation of a Sharps Disposal Kiosk in South Huron, to ensure those individuals injecting substances have the means to dispose needles in a way that will ensure the safety of the community. Our organization will do our part to ensure our clients are aware of this resource and encourage them to utilize the kiosk".

Catherine Hardman
Executive Director
Choices for Change: Alcohol, Drug & Gambling Counselling Centre

Financial Impact:

This was not a budgeted item for 2018. Should Council wish to proceed, it is anticipated that the cost of an estimated \$1750 plus HST could be accommodated in the existing 2018 budget (August –December). Future years would be identified as a budgeted item under the Community Services budget.

Legal Impact:

There are no legal implications as a result of the actions outlined in this memo.

Staffing Impact:

There are no staffing implications as a result of the actions outlined in this memo.

Related Documents:

Huron County Health Unit Presentation

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk