Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see below our responses to three questions we received pertaining to the report on “Regulating Clothing Donation Bins,” which will be considered by Council tomorrow.

1. What are staffs’ thoughts on municipally branded bins, as the City of Kamloops is doing with Diabetes Canada?

The proposed regulations will provide the framework for allowing clothing donation bins on City-owned land. Upon adoption of regulations, City and Parks staff will be in a position to engage with charities that operate clothing bins regarding potential partnership agreements, which may include co-branding on the bins.

2. What is the proposed timeline on this? How quickly could charities who are in compliance or able to comply be able to have bins in operation again?

If the proposed regulatory framework is approved by Council, staff will implement the new business licence and associated internal processes. This will take approximately one month; as a result, staff will bring forward final by-law language for enactment at the June 25 council meeting. This will also allow donation bin operators time to comply with the proposed business licence conditions, and to submit an application.

3. The staff report mentioned that non-profit and charitable organizations provided feedback that they would strongly prefer only charitable organizations be allowed to operate the bins, or to have a preferred business license fee rate to support their operation in the City. That doesn’t seem to be part of the proposal - was it discussed, and what were the reasons for not including it?

Staff have considered this feedback. In consultation with Licensing and Legal, and to ensure consistency with other business licence practices, staff recommend a single set rate of $151 per business licence holder/operator. Note that the $151 annual business licence fee will be charged per operator; there is no fee per bin. Licence holders are required to display the logo and/or name of the licence holder on the bin.

Please let me know if you have further questions.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie | Deputy City Manager
Office of the City Manager | City of Vancouver
paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca
604.873.7666
The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.