



RCRS Secondary:	GOV-02	Effective Date:	2012 – Facilities (Contracted by the City) 2013 – Facilities (Operated by Community Groups) 2014 – Special Events
Policy Number:	COU-215	Amendment Date/s:	
Title:	Blue Community Designation and Promoting the Use of Municipal Water	Repeal Date:	
Department:	Facilities & Parks Operations	Approval Date:	2012-JUN-25 COUNCIL

PURPOSE:

1. To designate the City of Nanaimo as a “Blue Community” by supporting the resolution to recognize water as human right;
2. To promote publicly funded, owned and operated water and waste water services; and
3. Transition from selling bottled water to promoting the use of municipal water in City of Nanaimo Parks, Recreation & Culture facilities and at municipal events.

DEFINITIONS:

N/A

SCOPE:

This policy is applicable to City of Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture facilities.

POLICY:

1. Designating the City of Nanaimo as a “Blue Community”

Council adopted the following resolution:

“WHEREAS one in six people around the world does not have access to clean drinking water; and,

WHEREAS over a quarter of Canadian municipalities have faced water shortages; and,

WHEREAS the Canadian Medical Association reported 1,766 boil water advisories in Canadian communities in 2008 leading to thousands of waterborne illnesses every year; and

WHEREAS Indigenous communities in Canada have been disproportionately affected by lack of access to clean safe drinking water; and,

WHEREAS the UN Conference on Water in 1977 in Mar del Plata affirmed the right of all persons to access clean drinking water in order to satisfy their fundamental needs; and

WHEREAS the Canadian Union of Public Employees and the Council of Canadians have asked Canadian municipalities to assist in their effort to have the federal government recognize access to drinking water as a human right; and

WHEREAS it is recognized that international treaties, human rights, and water rights are matters of federal and provincial jurisdiction;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Council agrees with the proposition that access to clean water is a fundamental human right.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Council calls on the federal and provincial governments to enshrine water as a human right in federal and provincial law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Council calls on the government of Canada to support the recognition of water as a human right in international law.”

2. Publicly Funded, Owned and Operated Water and Waste Water Services

That Council promote publicly financed, owned and operated water and wastewater services.

3. Promoting Municipal Water

Staff directed to implement the plan to transition from selling bottled water to promoting and using municipal tap water in City of Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture facilities as follows:

Fall 2012 - Facilities (Concessions in City facilities or parks that are contracted or leased by the City)

1. Make improvements to drinking water accessibility by retrofitting or replacing water fountains as needed to allow for re-usable water bottle refilling.
2. Staff work with vendors and Concessionaires to ban the sale of bottled water in City-managed recreation and park facilities and promote tap water by providing cups and water to patrons.
3. Install signage near concessions and vending machines to promote the use of City drinking water.

2013 - Facilities (Concessions in City facilities or parks operated by community groups)

4. Staff work with community groups currently selling bottled water at community-run concessions to promote City tap water.
5. Staff promote the use of municipal tap water with operators and managers of community facilities on City property (i.e. Curling Club).

2014 - Special Events

6. Staff promote the use of municipal tap water with organizers of special events held at City venues to promote City tap water.
7. Evaluate the use of a community water wagon to be used at special events and community events.

PROCESS:

Staff to implement the plan to transition from selling bottled water to promoting and using municipal tap water in City of Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture facilities in the timeframes outlined in the policy.

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

N/A

REPEAL or AMENDMENT:

N/A