

District of Barriere
REPORT TO COUNCIL
Memorandum

Date: August 12, 2024	File: 530.20/Rpts
To: Council	From: Chief Administrative Officer
Re: Transient Population – Initial Bylaw and Policy Updates Timeline	

Purpose

To provide Council with a proposed timeline to update bylaws and policies to achieve compliance with best practices and case law in regard to working with the transient population.

Background

At the July 15, 2024, Council meeting, Staff reported on some interactions with persons within the transient population.

Based on the discussions at the meeting, Council’s aspirations at this time seem to be to reduce and prohibit the number of unlawful camps and encampments within the District, in which case being proactive is key.

Staff are continuing to review the various policies and bylaws to ensure that they comply with current legislation in relation to concerns with the transient population that may exist in a community.

In the meantime, Staff wanted to ensure that Council has an anticipated timeline presented to start addressing some of the concerns. The following items have already been identified that the District would benefit from establishing or updating:

Bylaw / Policy	Bylaw / Policy Number	Task
Parks Regulation Bylaw	No. 42	Update to exclude a park space and other items (legislated items)
Abandoned Property and Shelter Policy	NEW	Define process for Bylaw Enforcement purposes in relation to abandoned property and shelters

By enacting these policies and bylaws, Council would enhance the abilities for staff and the RCMP to work with transient individuals within legislated parameters, and greatly reduce the risk to the organization by establishing new procedure and codifying existing guidelines where applicable.

Anticipated Timeline

Bylaw / Policy	September 9, 2024	September 23, 2024	October 7, 2024
Abandoned Property and Shelter Policy	Introduction	Adoption	
Parks Regulation Bylaw	Introduction	3 Readings	Adoption

Please note that timelines may vary depending on emergencies, staffing resources available for these items, or other urgent priorities that may arise.

Other Bylaws

Other Bylaws may need to be reviewed and tweaked in due time in relation to being proactive when it comes to potential issues with the transient population.

Further, Staff is reviewing current legislation and case law on controlled substances in parks and potentials to implement a bylaw in relation. As legislation is continuously altered or tested in court, this type of bylaw may need to be presented to Council at a later stage.

Next Steps

- Staff will continue to review the guidelines, current practices, policies, and bylaws related to this topic and draft proposed versions of the documents listed in the tables above.
- Additional related policies and bylaws may be presented in addition to the above items for consideration if necessary.

Attachments

- N/A

Recommendation

**submitted for information*

Alternate Options

1. Council could direct Staff to not proceed with updating the District's bylaws and policies in relation to potential issues with the transient population.

Prepared by:
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