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## REPORT TO COUNCIL

**DATE:** December 28, 2017

**REPORT NO.:** 18-003

**SUBMITTED BY:** Brenda Ginter  
Director of Corporate Administration

**FILE NO.:** Policy

**SUBJECT:** Kindness Meters Policy Amendment

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### PURPOSE

To present an amendment to the Kindness Meters Policy to Council for consideration.

### SUMMARY/BACKGROUND

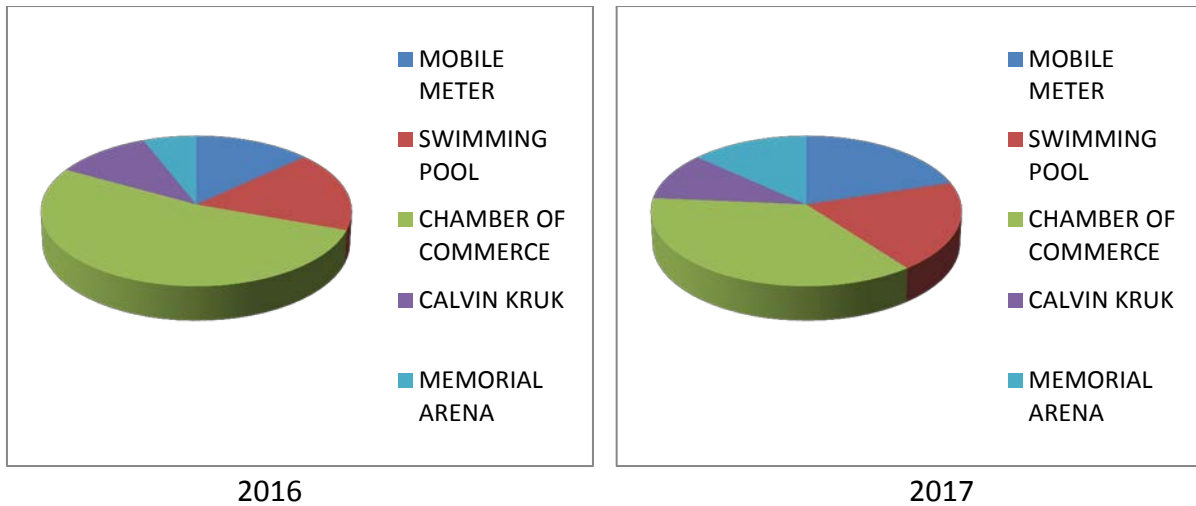
The Kindness Meters Policy was adopted by Council in February of 2016. Since that time, selected community organizations have benefitted from the funds donated to the meters, with matching funds provided by TransCanada Coastal GasLink.

The groups chosen to receive money in 2016 were the Dawson Creek & District Hospital Foundation and South Peace Community Resources, who each received \$587.25. In 2017, Kidsport and Young Life each received \$485.85 and the Special Olympics and Step Up and Ride will each receive the Kindness Meter donations once they are totalled at the end of the year.

Meters are located at the Kenn Borek Aquatic Centre, the Chamber of Commerce, Calvin Kruk Centre for the Arts and at the Memorial Arena. There is also a mobile meter, which is taken to various community events such as the annual trade show and the annual fall fair. The charts included on page two of this report compare the donations received at each of these locations on a yearly basis.

Recent discussions between Ms. Borek (the City's Kindness Meters representative) and TransCanada concluded that it may be best to select two benefitting groups for an entire year instead of every six months. This would provide a more substantial donation to each selected group.

This proposed amendment was discussed with Council in the December, 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting and there was no objection to the change. Therefore, this policy amendment is presented to Council for consideration.



**ALTERNATIVES**

1. Council may choose to leave the policy as originally adopted, with new groups being chosen every six months.
2. Council may wish to make other amendments to the policy prior to approval or may refer to the policy back to staff for further research.

**IMPLICATIONS**

**(1) Social**

This initiative provides an option for those in need to benefit from the generosity of others.

**(2) Environmental**

N/A

**(3) Personnel**

Funds are collected from the meters on a weekly basis and provided to the Finance Department, who ensure that all donations collected, plus matching funds from TransCanada Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project are provided to the selected groups at the end of each donation period. Administration Staff also arrange a presentation ceremony at the end of each period where the previous group is provided with their donation and the new groups are chosen for the next donation period.

Administration staff accepts applications on an ongoing basis for the program.

**(4) Financial**

There is currently \$1726.18 remaining from TransCanada’s initial donation to the Kindness Meter Fund. Discussions are underway and it sounds positive that TransCanada will continue with matching funding for this program.

**(5) Risk Assessment**     Compliance: Policy.

Risk Impact: Low.

Internal Control Process: If approved, the Administration Department will select two non-profit organizations from the applications received every January. Bylaw staff will collect the funds from the meters and the Finance Department will track the funds received and provide payment at the end of the one year period.

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

Creativity – We will foster a culture of creativity, innovation, and learning by encouraging cooperative and collaborative thinking.

Modern Economy – We will strengthen the community’s economic vitality by encouraging projects that serve the local community.

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**            N/A

**IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION**

Upon Council approval, staff will post the Kindness Meters Policy on the City’s website for a 30 day review period. Should any comments be received, they will be provided to Council for consideration.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Report No. 18-003 from the Director of Corporate Administration re: Kindness Meters Policy Amendment be received; further, that the policy be amended by increasing the donation period from six months to one year, pending the required 30 day review period.

Respectfully submitted,

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY**

Brenda Ginter  
Director of Corporate Administration

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Attachment: Kindness Meters Policy

**APPROVED FOR AGENDA BY CAO**