

	Report Title	RZone Policy – Responsible Behaviour in Recreation Spaces
	Report No.	RCP 19-36
	Author	Andrea Brown, Recreation Programs & Services Manager
	Meeting Type	Council Meeting
	Council Date	September 9, 2019
	Attachments	Draft RZone Policy

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receives Report RCP 19-36 RZone Policy - Responsible Behaviour in Recreation Spaces;

AND THAT By-Law 4340 to adopt an RZone Policy, be brought forward for Council's consideration.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the RZone policy and to seek approval to implement the policy for the Town of Tillsonburg.

BACKGROUND

The Town of Tillsonburg is committed to fostering an environment that ensures the safety of the general public, user groups, volunteers and staff in its Recreation, Culture and Parks programs, facilities and properties. The RZone policy originated in Oakville and has been adopted by many other municipalities and has been successful in reducing inappropriate behaviours in public spaces. The Town of Tillsonburg acknowledges permission from the Town of Oakville to adopt and adapt the policy for use in recreation facilities.

The policy provides community volunteers and Town staff with the tools to manage inappropriate behaviour effectively and enforcement guidelines to maintain fairness and consistency in how specific incidents are handled across the Recreation, Culture and Parks department.

The purpose of the RZone policy is to promote:

- Facilities that are free from violence, disrespect and other inappropriate behaviours;
- The safety and security of attendees, volunteers and staff at recreation facilities;
- An environment of **Respect** for others, and **Responsibility** for one's actions for all those attending Town of Tillsonburg recreation facilities;
- Reduced vandalism, violence and other inappropriate behaviours at recreation facilities, through enforcement of the policy.

CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

At the Recreation & Sports Advisory Committee meeting on June 26, 2019 the committee passed the following resolution:

THAT the RZone Policy as presented to the Recreation & Sports advisory committee be approved and endorsed by the committee and THAT this policy be adopted by the Council as town policy.

The committee would like to see the RZone policy in place in September in order to ensure there is time to educate user groups and contract holders about the expectations around appropriate behaviour in municipal facilities.

The Recreation, Culture and Parks department will educate facility users and program participants on the policy including: posting the RZone policy and related information on the Town website; making information pamphlets available at facilities and for program participants and user groups; and including RZone policy awareness in Recreation, Culture and Parks employee training programs.

FINANCIAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

The costs of signage associated with implementing and communicating the RZone policy will be funded through the 2019 RCP operational budget.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN (CSP) IMPACT

1. Excellence in Local Government
 - ☒ Demonstrate strong leadership in Town initiatives
 - ☐ Streamline communication and effectively collaborate within local government
 - ☒ Demonstrate accountability
2. Economic Sustainability
 - ☐ Support new and existing businesses and provide a variety of employment opportunities
 - ☐ Provide diverse retail services in the downtown core
 - ☐ Provide appropriate education and training opportunities in line with Tillsonburg's economy
3. Demographic Balance
 - ☒ Make Tillsonburg an attractive place to live for youth and young professionals
 - ☒ Provide opportunities for families to thrive
 - ☐ Support the aging population and an active senior citizenship
4. Culture and Community
 - ☒ Promote Tillsonburg as a unique and welcoming community
 - ☒ Provide a variety of leisure and cultural opportunities to suit all interests
 - ☐ Improve mobility and promote environmentally sustainable living