

## **BROKEN OR DAMAGED RECYCLING BIN FUNDING RECONSIDERATION**

WHEREAS given that progress has been made during this term of Council with regards to waste management, particularly in the area of recycling within our communities;

WHEREAS based on reports received at the Public Works Committee, increased recycling has been happening in Niagara, which delivers on one of the key principles in the new waste management policy;

WHEREAS a decision was made during our 2021 budget process to eliminate the waiving of fees for recycling containers (including blue bins, gray bins, green bins, organic kitchen catchers) that have been broken or damaged, reducing the budget impact by approximately \$111,000;

WHEREAS this change has had an unintended consequence of creating challenges at municipalities with regards to accounting and enforcement, given the various conditions that have now come into play for the replacement of recycling bins, which is now costing municipalities additional time and staff resources to deliver; and

WHEREAS this change may have had the further unintended consequence of creating a barrier for people in our communities when it comes to recycling bin replacement, which would be unfortunate given the community adoption of the new processes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Region of Niagara **REINSTATE** the broken or damaged recycling bin program that had been eliminated through the 2021 budget process;
2. That this program, which is expected to cost approximately \$111,000, **BE REESTABLISHED** back into base budget;
3. That for 2021, the cost **BE FUNDED** from the Operational stabilization fund; and
4. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to prepare the required budget amendment and present this to Council, including the required public notice.