



**TO:** GENERAL COMMITTEE

**SUBJECT:** TEXTILE COLLECTION PROGRAM – AGREEMENT EXTENSIONS

**WARD:** ALL

**PREPARED BY AND KEY CONTACT:** S. COULTER, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, WASTE MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, EXT. 5826

**SUBMITTED BY:** S. COULTER, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, WASTE MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

**NOTED:** R. PEWS, DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE FACILITIES

**GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL:** B. ARANIYASUNDARAN, GENERAL MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL:** M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

**RECOMMENDED MOTION**

1. That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute extensions to the following Sole Source Agreements with Talize Inc., and Cornerstone to Recovery for an additional two (2) years, 2024 and 2025, in accordance with the terms and conditions contained in the respective agreements:
  - a) Agreement for the Provision of Curbside Textile Pick-Up and Disposal Services; and
  - b) Agreement for the Provision of Site Access for Textile Bin Placement and Pick-up Services.

**PURPOSE & BACKGROUND**

2. On October 26, 2020, City Council adopted motion 20-G-166 regarding Sole Source Agreements with Cornerstone Residential which in paragraph 2, directed staff in the Corporate Facilities and Business Performance and Environmental Sustainability Department to enter into a sole source agreement for a period of two years with an option to renew for an additional two years with Cornerstone to Recovery Residential for Textile Collection Bin Placement and Curbside Textile collection opportunities for the sole purpose of funding their residential recovery services and that staff report back to the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee prior to consideration of the two year renewal with program metrics developed in consultation with Cornerstone To Recovery.
3. Cornerstone to Recovery has a formal arrangement with Talize Inc. whereby the textiles collected are sorted for their suitability for re-use. Talize Inc. receives and sells gently used textiles with remaining life and provides revenues to support Cornerstone to Recovery in exchange.
4. Staff in the Legislative and Court Services Department indicated that approval through the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee would not likely occur until sometime in October 2023 and program details associated with the development of the 2024 Waste Collection Calendar need to be confirmed by early September 2023 which includes the textile collection program. The Legislative and Court Services Department is supportive of this report being routed through General Committee to accommodate timelines.

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5. Both the Textile Bin Collections and Textile Curbside Collections sole source agreements expire on December 31, 2023.
  6. A pilot textile collections program was initiated in 2019 and operated through 2021 with regular updates and program details provided to council as follows:
    - a) Memo dated September 9, 2019, Re: Pilot Program – Clothing/Textiles Curbside Collection.
    - b) Memo dated May 25, 2020, Re: Pilot Program – Clothing/Textiles Curbside Collection.
    - c) Memo dated September 28, 2020, Re: Clothing/Textiles Curbside Collection Pilot Program.
    - d) Memo dated May 17, 2021, Re: Update – Clothing/Textiles Curbside and Bin Collection Program.
    - e) Memo dated November 8, 2021, Re: Update – Textiles Collection Program.
  7. It is important to note that in the May 17, 2021 memo, Council was advised that Cornerstone confirmed a formal partnership with Recycling Rewards who are licensed for-profit Canadian recycling company operating in Ontario and are leading the textile bin and curb-side collection initiatives on behalf of Cornerstone.
  8. Textile collections bins are currently located at the following City Facilities:
    - a) City Operations Centre, 165 Ferndale Drive North.
    - b) Barrie Wastewater Maintenance Facility, 167 Bradford Street.
    - c) Sadlon Arena, 555 Bayview Drive.
    - d) Allandale Recreation Centre, 190 Bayview Drive.
  9. An additional textiles collection bin was originally placed at the Barrie Public Library - Painswick Branch, 48 Dean Avenue and it was removed in December 2022 due to extensive targeting for garbage and non-textile bulky waste disposal.

#### **ANALYSIS**

10. Waste Management and Environmental Sustainability and Corporate Facilities Departments have collaborated on the development of this staff report and the Corporate Facilities Department is supportive of extending agreement associated with the Textile Bin Collection initiative.
11. Recycling Rewards handles all associated communications and inquiry management related to the Textiles Collections Program and collaborates with staff to ensure the smooth redirection of any program related inquiries received by Service Barrie. Recycling Rewards will also make any necessary revisions to website pages and communication pieces and will seek the City's concurrence on all communications related to the Barrie Textiles Collection Program.

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12. Recycling Rewards provides the City with data from each curbside collection event and provides reports on the performance of the Bin Collections. In a recent report received on August 2, 2023, Recycling Rewards indicated that the program continues to be a success and they have had positive responses from Barrie residents. They further advised that as the program progressed, process efficiencies developed through continuous improvement, and they are looking forward to continuing the program.
  13. From Barrie's 2023 spring waste audit data, the textile disposal rate was 0.14kg/household/week, this equates to approximately 412 tonnes of textiles disposed of annually by Barrie residents. The amount of textiles disposed of in Barrie is of a similar volume as other municipalities with textile recycling programs.
  14. Similar to the later part of the Pilot, full-scale Textile Curbside Collection occurs twice a year, in Spring (May/June) and in Fall (September/October). From the end of the pilot in 2021 to date, there have been 5 Textile Curbside Collection Events. The next Textile Curbside Collection Event is scheduled for September 11, 2023 to September 15, 2023.
  15. To date, through the 5 Curbside Collection Events, approximately 135 tonnes of useable textiles were collected from 20,165 participating homes.
  16. As a comparison, in Peel Region, between 2017 to 2019, 22 tonnes of textiles from 21,000 homes were collected. The City of Timmins runs a program similar to Barrie's and they expect their textile collection program will generate approximately 160 tonnes of textiles, they offer curbside collection four times a year and have permanent Textile Collection Bins.
  17. As shown in Appendix "A" (Summary of Barrie's Textile Curbside Collection Program) attached to Staff Report WMES001-23, the annual amount of textiles collected per participating home has increased from 2021 to 2023, from 6.35kg to 7.39kg.
  18. Over the last two years, the Textile Collection Bins on City Facilities have collected approximately 80 tonnes of textiles from 4 Textile Collection Bins. Appendix "B" to Staff Report WMES001-23 shows the collection breakdown per location.
  19. In comparison, City of Mississauga between 2018 and 2020 collected 225 tonnes of textiles from 49 Textile Collection Bins. The Township of Aurora has collected approximately 129 tonnes of textiles from 6 Textile Collection Bins since the inception of their program in 2016.
  20. Cornerstone to Recovery provided the following information in a report received on August 3, 2023:
    - a) Cornerstone is dedicated to anyone afflicted by addiction and wanted to provide unrestricted access to women experiencing addiction.
    - b) In September 2021 Cornerstone to Recovery purchased a building in Barrie at 236 Dunlop Street West. and in November 2022 "The Garden" was unveiled – a 13 bed non-medical facility equipped with a community kitchen, beautiful roof top garden and yoga space.
    - c) Since opening, the Garden has seen 20 admissions and is successfully building an alumnus of graduates. All graduates are encouraged to continue to use the facilities, including peer support counselling, attending programs, and having a like-minded support community to help them continue in their journey of recovery.
    - d) The Garden's 2023 operating budget is \$501,438 and approximately 14% of the required budget is acquired through revenue generated by the Barrie Textiles Collection Program.

- e) The textile collection program is invaluable to Cornerstone and The Garden and increasing the recycling program in Barrie would give The Garden the much-needed support to continue delivering this invaluable service to women and enabling these women to become success members of the Simcoe community.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT MATTERS**

- 21. The following environmental and/or climate change impact matters have been considered in the development of the recommendation:
  - a) Reduction in the amount of (textile) material destined for the landfill, increasing the landfill's lifespan.
  - b) Reduction greenhouse gas emission from textiles production and transportation through increased reuse and a reduction in the need for new products.
  - c) Promotion of Barrie's Circular Economy Framework and alignment with Barrie's Sustainable Waste Management Strategy as the collected textiles are either reused or transformed to another usable item.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

- 22. The following alternatives are available for consideration by General Committee:

#### **Alternative #1**

General Committee could alter the proposed recommendation by choosing not to extend both the Textiles Bin Collection and Textile Curbside Collections agreements.

This alternative is not recommended as the current textiles collection program (both bins and curbside) is running effectively and efficiently and achieving the desired results. Eliminating the program would be a direct contradiction to Barrie's approved Circular Economy framework and would negatively impact community efforts to operate a local addiction treatment centre.

#### **Alternative #2**

General Committee could alter the proposed recommendation by approving the extension of only one of the textile collection agreements.

This alternative is not recommended as the proponents have advised that both the textile bin collections and textile curbside collection initiatives are required to maximize usable textiles recovery and the revenues generated through the program.

### **FINANCIAL**

- 23. There are no negative financial implications for the Corporation resulting from the proposed recommendation. Both curbside and bin textiles collections are performed by Recycling Rewards at no cost to the City. The textiles that are diverted from disposal at the landfill will extend landfill lifespan and prolong landfill closure costs.

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**LINKAGE TO 2022-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN**

24. The recommendation(s) included in this Staff Report support the following goals identified in the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan:
- Infrastructure Investments
  - Responsible Governance
25. The recommended motions in this staff report support Council's strategic goal of Infrastructure Investments through direct connections with Barrie's Circular Economy framework and positive impacts on Climate Change.
26. The recommended motions in the staff report support Council's strategic goal of Responsible Governance by supporting the services our community needs while keeping tax increases low and financial stewardship including efficiencies and innovation. The textiles collection program is maintained and operated at no cost to the city.



APPENDIX "A"

Summary of Barrie's Textile Curbside Collection Program (2021-2023)

	2021		2022		2023	
	May 31 - June 4	Sept 27 - Oct 1	June 13- Jun 17	Sept 12- Sept 16	May 8 - May 12	Sept 11- Sept 15
Participating Homes	10,814	4,259	1,719	1,435	1,938	N/A
Material Collected (Tonnes)	68.68	27.06	11.80	12.76	14.32	N/A
Kilogram diverted per home	6.35	6.35	6.86	8.89	7.39	N/A
Total Annual Participating Homes	15,073		3,154		1,938	
Total Annual Material Collected (Tonnes)	95.74		24.56		14.32	
Annual Kilograms diverted per home	6.35		7.79		7.39	



APPENDIX "B"

Summary of Barrie's Textile Dropoff Bin Collection Program (2022-2023)

**Textile Collection Bin Dropoff - 2022**

Name	# of Bins	Weight (Pounds)	Weight (Tonnes)
165 Ferndale Drive North (Operations Centre)	1	16,650	7.552
167 Bradford Street (Wastewater Facility)	1	22,515	10.213
555 Bayview Drive (Sadlon Arena)	1	21,396	9.705
190 Bayview Drive (Allandale Rec Centre)	1	43,325	19.652
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>103,886</b>	<b>47.122</b>

**Textile Collection Bin Dropoff – 2023 (YTD)**

Name	# of Bins	Weight (Pounds)	Weight (Tonnes)
165 Ferndale Drive North (Operations Centre)	1	15,011	6.809
167 Bradford Street (Wastewater Facility)	1	13,762	6.242
555 Bayview Drive (Sadlon Arena)	1	16,708	7.579
190 Bayview Drive (Allandale Rec Centre)	1	26,950	12.224
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>72,431</b>	<b>32.854</b>