



Take the Plunge: Bottled Water Municipal Examples

Across Canada municipalities have taken action on bottled water. Here are a just a few examples of municipal actions that limit or end the use of bottled water and promote the consumption of tap water.

- *Region of Waterloo, Ontario:* Regional Municipality passed a resolution restricting the provision and sale of bottled water on regional property, except in locations where potable tap water is not available.
- *London, Ontario:* City Council passed a bottled water motion that prohibited the sale and distribution of bottled water on city owned and operated property and provided alternatives for the provision of accessible tap water.
- *St. John's, Newfoundland:* City Council banned the use of city money for the purpose of providing bottled water on city property, including during city-hosted events.
- *Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island:* City Council made the decision to stop purchasing bottled water.
- *Altona, Manitoba:* Municipality phased out the provision of water coolers and bottled water in its offices
- *Region of Metro Vancouver, British Columbia:* Council voted to launch a public campaign to support tap water and to encourage local municipalities to phase out the availability of bottled water in civic centres and install more water fountains.

Canadian Statistics:

- 24 Municipalities from six provinces in Canada have implemented restrictions on bottled water
- 16 Municipalities in Ontario have implemented restrictions on bottled water
- 15 Municipalities in Ontario are currently exploring restrictions on bottled water

CASE STUDY: CITY OF TORONTO

In December 2008 the City of Toronto passed a comprehensive bottled water motion that banned the sale or distribution of bottled water and provided alternatives for the provision of accessible tap water. Here are the details of the City of Toronto's approach to bottled water:

- Ban the sale or distribution of bottled water at Civic Centres immediately.
- Direct staff from all City Departments to work together to develop and implement a program that bans the sale and distribution of bottled water at all remaining City facilities, including in vending machines.
- Direct staff from all City Departments to improve accessibility to tap water at all City facilities.
- Launch a public awareness campaign that promotes the consumption of tap water
- Ensure that portable outdoor water trucks/trailers are available for outdoor city hosted and sponsored events.