



AMHERST TOWN COUNCIL

RFD# 2024038

Date: April 22, 2024

TO: Mayor Kogon and Members of Council

SUBMITTED BY: Andrew Fisher, Director of Planning & Strategic Initiatives

DATE: April 22, 2024

SUBJECT: Policy Review: North Tyndal Land Acquisition Policy 31700-04

ORIGIN: Scheduled review of Council Bylaws and Policies.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY: Municipal Government Act, S. 50(1) *A municipality may acquire and own property granted or conveyed to the municipality either absolutely or in trust for a public or charitable purpose.*

RECOMMENDATION: That Council approve the amendments to the North Tyndal Land Acquisition Policy.

BACKGROUND: This policy states that the town will consider the purchase of any lands within the wellfield protected zones as they come available. This policy aligns with the recommendations from the Wellfield Protection Strategy, as well as, the recent opportunity to acquire lands using funding from the Nature Challenge Fund.

The draft changes to the existing policy more accurately describe the area that is being protected, include the Water Utility in the consideration of acquisitions, and broaden the scope of the potential lands that might be acquired to include those “around” the protection zones. Expanding the policy this way reflects recent efforts to purchase property outside the protection zones that in turn can be traded for lands within.

DISCUSSION: This policy aligns with the town’s responsibility to protect its water source.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Acquisitions are subject to available finances.

SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPLICATIONS: Drinking water is a human right.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS: Drinking water protection and environmental stewardship are inherently linked.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: None specific to this issue.





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ALTERNATIVES: Direct staff to make further changes to the subject policy.

ATTACHMENTS: Draft Policy

Report prepared by:

Report and Financial approved by:

