

# **POLICY**

POLICY NO: 215 APPROVAL DATE: June 13, 2016

TITLE: Environmental Responsibilities **REVISION DATE**: May 3, 2021

SECTION: Community Services PAGE 1 OF 3

**DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Services

#### POLICY STATEMENT

The City of Grande Prairie ("City") is committed to a healthy environment, we consider the impact of our actions and lead by example. The City will exercise environmental responsibility in its operations, products and services, based on its commitment to:

- a) Prevent pollution;
- b) Continual improvement of its environmental performance by setting and reviewing environmental objectives and targets;
- c) Meet or exceed applicable environmental legal requirements to which it is accountable; and
- d) Continually improve its environmental management system.

All City employees and members of Council shall demonstrate leadership in environmental management performance with open communication and community participation to ensure a trusted and respected reputation in the community.

#### REASON FOR POLICY

The purpose of this Policy is to establish, understand and manage risks arising from environmental concerns. This will bring a focus on planning and implementing procedures to mitigate environmental risks associated with City operations and operations within City-owned facilities and lands or properties.

An environmental management system ensures environmental effects are anticipated and balanced solutions integrated early in planning stages of any project before irrevocable decisions are made. The environmental management system demonstrates due diligence necessary to reduce the risk of environmental prosecution.

This Policy will allow the City to employ best available management practices and due diligence through:

## POLICY NO: 215 ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

#### **Regulatory Compliance Assurance**

The City will ensure that City operations, including the work of contractors comply with all relevant legislation and regulations and openly communicate and participate with regulatory bodies.

## **Environmental Management System**

Manage and support an environmentally responsible workplace by identifying all environmental aspects and impacts and applying appropriate operational controls and improvements.

#### **Document Control**

Ensures that the City maintains documents deemed necessary to ensure effective planning, operation and control of processes relating to significant environmental aspects.

## **Continual Improvement**

All departments will review their environmental performance every three (3) years with the assistance of Environmental Services.

## **Environmental Impact Reduction**

Identification of all significant environmental aspects of the City's services and activities. Setting objective and measurable targets to ensure responsible efficient use of natural resource, energy and reduction or elimination of emissions, waste, and discharges that impact the environment.

## Cooperation

The City will cooperate as appropriate with all levels of government, industry, the public and other institutions to support the research, development and implementation of technologies which will reduce or eliminate the environmental impact of our activities and services and to ensure responsible efficient use of natural resources.

#### Communication

The City will communicate regularly through open forums to our stakeholders on our procedures and program for environmental management.

## **Management Commitment**

The City's management will routinely review corporate policies, procedures, objectives and targets and comply with applicable legislation to ensure they continue to meet the needs and expectations of the City, stakeholders and other interested parties.

## **RELATED INFORMATION**

Any plan or procedure developed will be compliant will all relevant legislation and regulations.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

Council - means the Council of the City of Grande Prairie.

Employees - means all workers and volunteers for the City.

**Regulatory Bodies** - means a Government body mandated under the terms of a legislative act or statute to ensure compliance with the provisions of the act, and in carrying out its purpose and enforce specific laws.

**Stakeholders** - means employees, contractors, suppliers, community groups or tenants and the community in which we live.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

City Council will review and approve any revisions to this Policy.

City Manager will review and approve any procedures related to this Policy.

City Administration will carry out the policy based on established procedures.