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May 15, 2018

Ms. Artina Gurski
Grade 5 Class
St. Francis School
675 Flinders Avenue
Fort Frances, ON

Dear Ms. Gurski

On May 9, 2018 the Town of Fort Frances Operations and Facilities Executive Committee considered the letter that were written to Council from your class. The committee wanted to take a moment to outline the recycle programs that the Town of Fort Frances offers to help collect and process recyclable materials such as plastic including water bottles.

The Town of Fort Frances operates both a curbside blue box collection program where we pick up mixed recycling, referred to as co-mingled, at each residence throughout the Town on a bi-weekly schedule. This material is hauled to our recycle transfer station where it is loaded into a compactor. This compacted co-mingled material is then trucked to Winnipeg where it is separated and sent out for further recycle by Emterra Environmental. In addition to the curbside collection the Town operates a public recycle depot where any town resident can, at any time, drop off co-mingled recycling at another compactor which too is sent to Emterra for processing. On average the curbside and depot operations in the Town of Fort Frances collect 419.16 tonnes of material annually which is equivalent to about the weight of 70 elephants.

The Town of Fort Frances, in an effort to reduce the use of single use water bottles, has drinking water fountains where you can fill a reusable bottle at the Lion's park, Legion Park as well as at the Rainy Lake Square. The Memorial Sports Centre, in partnership with the Northwestern Health Unit installed 2 bottle filling stations within that facility in 2017.

Unfortunately, the Town of Fort Frances Mayor and Council can not prohibit the use or sale of bottled water within the Town, however we share in your commitment to ensuring that these materials are properly handled and recycled. We are asking you to put together an informational sheet for the residents of the Town that we can put into every water bill that we send out to spread the word about plastics and recycling within the Town of Fort Frances.

Please contact the Operations and Facilities Division Manager, Travis Rob to coordinate this at 274-9893 or trob@fortfrances.ca

Sincerely,

Paul Ryan, Chairman
Operations and Facilities Executive Committee
Town of Fort Frances