

Corporate Bottled Water Use Policy



***Presentation to General Committee
By Mavis Urquhart
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Brief Background

- ***Introduced in 70's - bottled water industry began to boom in the early 1980s***
- ***In 1999 - 28.4 litres of water per person***
- ***In 2006 - 66 litres of water per person***
- ***In 2006, 3 in 10 Canadians used bottled water as a main source of drinking water***
- ***By 2008, bottled water sales in Canada were \$1.6 billion***

Others Actions

In Canada:

- ***71 municipalities “banned” bottled water***
- ***35 universities/colleges now have bottled water-free zones***
- ***2 universities “banned” it***
- ***6 school boards now have restrictions***
- ***Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) passed a resolution***

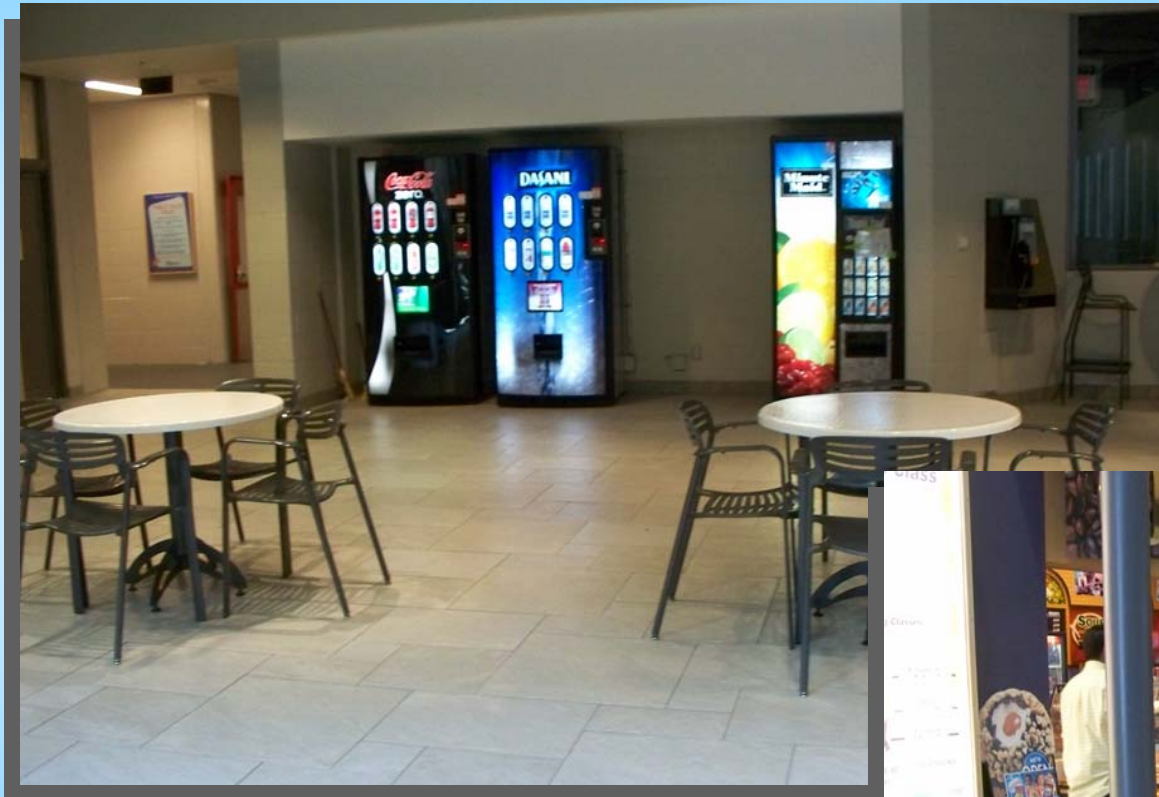
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- ***Many benefits of tap water and for bottled water in some cases as well***
- ***Markham has 90 facility buildings some w/o water service and was involved in about 200 community events in 2009***
- ***Some events +50,000 people***
- ***Prior to corporate bottled water restrictions - Staff is recommending a comprehensive corporate audit of its use***

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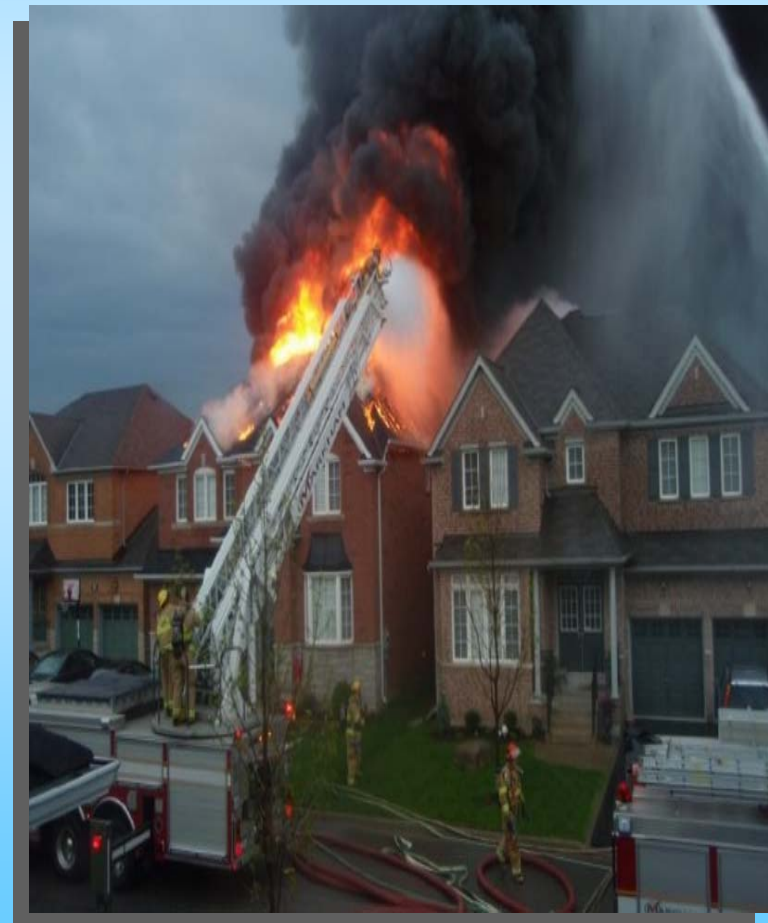
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Policy and Actions

- ***Determine how and why we use bottle water***
- ***Determine barriers to drinking tap water***
- ***Basis for the policy and awareness outreach***
- ***Establish a benchmark for future comparisons***

Recommendations

- 1. Comprehensive audit of corporate bottled water use (assessments at C.C.'s, Markham Theatre, Other municipal buildings and Town events)***
- 2. Report back with findings, Draft Corporate Policy and actions to restrict bottled water use***



