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| <b>Policy Number</b>  | 053-M-2013                              |
| <b>Policy Group</b>   | Membership                              |
| <b>Policy Name</b>    | Bottled Water, Potable Water, Tap Water |
| <b>Date of Origin</b> | 09-2013                                 |
| <b>Date Amended</b>   |   |
| <b>Date Reviewed</b>  | 11-2021, 10-2020, 12-2019               |

**PURPOSE** To provide guidance to members regarding the responsible use of bottled water, potable water and tap water.

**SCOPE** Members

**POLICY STATEMENT** The use of tap water over bottled water conserves energy, reduces fossil fuels and saves money; and most municipal water systems provide safe potable water; and access to a safe water source is a basic human need.

**PROCEDURE**

SUN will not endorse the sales or distribution of commercially bottled water nor supply commercially bottled water at SUN meetings or events, where potable tap water is available.

SUN will encourage members to choose potable tap water over bottled water.

Definitions\*:

- Bottled water: Water that can be purchased in individual sized bottles (plastic and glass).
- Potable water: Water that is safe for human consumption and domestic use.
- Tap water: Water that is provided by a municipal water treatment or distribution facility, and is a registered public drinking water supply.

The objectives of this policy are to achieve the following:

- Eliminate the purchasing of bottled water where potable water is available.
- Support the supply of, and encourage the use of, safe and potable municipal water.
- Increase member and staff awareness of the economic and environmental costs of widespread use of commercially bottled water.

\* Definitions taken from Government of Nova Scotia. (2010, June 2). Common services manual. Nova Scotia, Canada. p. 7-105. retrieved from:  
<http://www.gov.ns.ca/treasuryboard/manuals/PDF/300/30711-01.pdf>

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