



**The Kidney Foundation of Canada**  
**BC & Yukon Branch**  
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Dear Mayor,

The Kidney Foundation of Canada, BC & Yukon Branch has become aware that there is a major financial burden facing kidney patients who are on home dialysis therapies. These patients have end stage renal failure and must undergo dialysis multiple times per week in their home. This procedure generates significant waste and many patients do not have city garbage bins that will accommodate this extra load. Consequently, they are faced with **additional costs from their municipality** in order to appropriately dispose of this waste. Larger garbage bins tend to cost between \$110 and \$150 per year depending upon the municipality. Many kidney patients on dialysis are already faced with substantial financial challenges related to loss of income.

The Kidney Foundation is asking for each BC municipality to waive any additional garbage fees for those dialysis patients who present a doctor's note and indicate that this added expense constitutes a financial burden to their household.

The City of Burnaby is one example of a municipality that has taken the lead on this and recently enacted a policy that provides for free, additional waste receptacles to people whose in-home treatments generate increased garbage. This will be a huge support to those citizens who need the added costs to be offset.

Please let us know if your municipality enacts such a policy and eases the financial burden for home dialysis patients.

The Kidney Foundation produces a TV program, PLUGGED IN, that airs on SHAW TV in communities across the province. We would like to highlight those municipalities who deem to participate in this initiative.

Thank you for your prompt consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Pia Schindler  
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