

REGIONAL SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes from the meeting held on Thursday, February 15, 2024, via Zoom
commencing at 12:34 pm

PRESENT:

W. Cole-Hamilton	Co-Chair, RSWAC
D. Baar	Campbell River
D. Birtch	Campbell River
M. E. Walling	Campbell River
W. Semmelink	Comox
J. Best	Cortes Island
K. Lovely	Cumberland
R. Rowe	CVRD Area B
R. Telegus	Denman Island
K. Lukinuk	Hornby Island
M. Jeffs	Sayward
L. Bryan	BCWMA
D. Hadfield, Director of Operations	City of Campbell River
C. Thompson, Manager of Solid Waste Services	City of Courtenay
C. Perry, Engineering Manager	Town of Comox
R. Crisfield, Manager of Operations	Village of Cumberland
M. Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer	Village of Tahsis
K. Hamilton	Tavola Group
L. Eason, CSWM Community Educator	Consultant
M. Rutten, General Manager of Engineering Services	CVRD
V. Schau, Senior Manager of CSWM Services	CVRD
S. Willie, Manager of Solid Waste Planning & Policy Development	CVRD
M. Briggs, Branch Assistant – Engineering Services	CVRD
B. Meagher, Information Centre Assistant	CVRD

ITEMS:

Review of Agenda and Minutes

Co-Chair W. Cole-Hamilton acknowledged that the meeting is being hosted on the traditional unceded territory of the K'ómoks First Nation, and the Comox Strathcona Waste Management (CSWM) service area is located in the Coast Salish, Kwakwaka'wakw, and Nuuchah-nulth territories.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the December 14, 2023 Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee (RSWAC) meeting and no errors or omissions were noted. The advisory committee adopted the February 15, 2024 meeting agenda.

A new advisory committee member, K. Lovely, was introduced to the committee.

Presentation of Draft Engagement Plan for Step 3, 2024

K. Hamilton presented on the Step 3 Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) public consultation process. Provided an overview of the provincial requirements for a SWMP consultation and level of engagement planned by the CVRD, as well as the four steps of the SWMP process. Detailed the key topics and level of engagement for Step 3, as well as objectives of SWMP communications and consultation, with a new objective added for Step 3: "Clearly outline the challenges and opportunities facing the solid waste management system and strategies explored to address them." Summarized the stages of Step 3, including early targeted engagement (municipalities, neighbouring regional districts, meetings with key sectors, in-person engagement with rural and remote communities), refine strategies for evaluation, and broad public engagement (online survey, meetings with sectors affected by refined strategies, in-person engagement across service area). Staff have refined the list of stakeholders based on committee feedback, and will be consulting with First Nations in a separate engagement process. Summarized techniques used for communications and engagement for awareness-raising and collecting input. The CVRD will be hosting open houses at the landfill and organics facility. Timing for Step 3 consultation includes launch in May 2024, early engagement throughout rest of year and broad engagement next year, with a report summarizing engagement shared with the committee in spring 2025. Engagement plan to be distributed to advisory committee after meeting for committee feedback. Requested comments by Friday, February 23.

Advisory comments:

- M. Tatchell – For remote communities, staff may be unavailable or on vacation during summer. Zeballos only has two employees. Some facilities may be closed, so should reach out as soon as possible. Speaking specifically about public engagement.
 - Aiming to reach out to municipal councils in May or June. Will lean on staff less for public engagement, but will reach out and coordinate with staff at each location before the summer.
- R. Telegas – The Denman Island paper, the Grapevine, is undergoing some changes. Now there is a new community paper called the Barnacle. Staff should check the readership of various papers on Denman and consider advertising in other papers.

- Was Grapevine typically the channel for advertising, and there would be greater reach if considering other papers?
 - Grapevine is experiencing issues with advertisers pulling out, so may not be viable in future.
- K. Lukinuk – Hornby has Tribune paper distributed to all properties. Best time for public engagement for Hornby is July and August since most that's when there are the most people on the island.
- L. Bryan – Had spoken with CVRD previously about not being able to engage earlier with haulers. Have current contacts for haulers and will share up-to-date info.
- S. Willie – Working with M. Stewart to fill in gaps in engagement for marginalized or low-income communities in SRD and Campbell River area.

Review of Feedback from Last Meeting and Incorporation into Today

S. Willie summarized the topics discussed at previous meetings and to be discussed today, including identified strategies for rural communities, access to recycling and for remote communities, and share sheds.

Advisory comments:

- L. Eason – Letter to editor published in Courtenay about multi-family building getting removed from City system and now spending more on private, so should be added to priority list.
- R. Telegus – Multi-family have option to hire private haulers and recyclables are not documented in that case. Multi-family dwellings should be included in provincial program. Nanaimo implemented a bylaw requiring all multi-family and ICI waste falls under provincial program, so should follow their example.
 - Future meeting will discuss policy tools, and will incorporate into meeting.

Service Levels and Accessibility

S. Willie provided an overview of the curbside services offered in the CVRD using 2023 costs, as well as the east coast of the SRD due to gaps in service in that area. Listed estimated kg/household of materials handled through curbside, with data missing for Cortes since waste is dropped off at transfer station where there isn't a scale. SRD received letter from RecycleBC that Cortes has lowest participation for recycling curbside across province (partly due to using the depot instead), which has led to a reduction in compensation from RecycleBC. Noted Cumberland has lower garbage waste, which may be due to higher participation in organics program or driving to landfill instead. Listed communities without organized curbside service or free waste drop-off, which includes most of the electoral areas, and the landfills and depots where their garbage and recycling is usually dropped off if they don't use a private hauler. Summarized number of visitors and average tonnage to Comox Valley and

Campbell River waste management centres, as well as tonnage of recycling to waste management centres and Oyster River drop-off.

Provided a brief history of rural waste collection in the electoral areas, noting three private haulers and the previously proposed rural collection services. In 2020 consultation, broke up engagement into various regions to determine interest amongst different communities and to create a service focused on those that want the service. Noted timing coincided with closure of unstaffed depots at Courtenay Country Market and Canex, which were closed due to high level of contamination and costs. Shared statistics from survey for various communities, showing breakdown of how household garbage and recycling were handled in rural areas and interest in curbside pick-up. Noted lower uptake of recycling where optional, convenience of self-hauling for those living near landfill, use of unstaffed depots if nearby, preference for more customized service, perceived impracticality of rural service, higher support for service from those with private haulers, etc. Received 74 per cent favourable survey responses, but over 10 per cent of forms received in Alternate Approval Process (AAP) so did not go forward. Mixed response from community following result of AAP.

Summarized feedback received during Step 1 of SWMP process, including willingness to recycle, satisfaction with recycling depots, willingness to divert waste, etc. Noted barriers to diversion, such as costs, vehicle access, wildlife concerns, lack of facilities or services, accessibility issues and storage issues. Compared examples from Denman and Hornby to show impact of self-haul versus curbside collection, with waste consolidated into fewer loads from Hornby while Denman residents not utilizing curbside self-haul to landfill. Discussed pressure on facilities from rising use.

Discussed alternative options. Expanded depot network seems counterintuitive after closing unmanned depots, but didn't include looking at turning depots into staffed depots with RecycleBC funding. Could potentially include staffed depots in Merville, Union Bay and Fanny Bay, with options for expanding the Oyster River depot. Staff have received approval from RecycleBC for Quadra Island depot. Also considering options for depot in south Campbell River/north Area D.

Shared statistics of recycling from RecycleBC programs with material collected by kilogram per service or depot. Dramatic spike in recycling collection for Comox Valley and Campbell River after closure of unmanned depots. Significant amount of material collected at Oyster River depot but entirely funded by CSWM, so looking to partner with RecycleBC to add as catchment area.

Shared details on rural services/depots including costs/revenues, staffing, operating hours, services offered, etc. Looked at Hornby Island and Cortes Island, and

compared unstaffed recycling drop-off at Oyster River and Quadra Island. Explained the Unified Transportation Model, which shares costs across the CSWM service area as waste is centralized at the Comox Valley Waste Management Centre (CVWMC).

Sought input from the committee on statements of agreement, as well as how this could be applied to recycling collection, including:

- We collectively fund the end of life management of waste in our regional landfill in Cumberland.
- We will collectively fund the transfer of waste and recyclable to the regional landfill.
- We will all be responsible for the disposal (tip fee) cost of the waste that we individually generation, or collectively as a municipality or service area.

Shared comparable examples of services at depot, including costs per household and per tonne. Looked at funding impacts for various levels of service. Curbside service, if contracted out, would include all costs in collection fee, while if operated by CSWM staff, would require purchase of trucks and/or bins. Depots would require additional investment and expenses, and would increase the cost of the unified transportation agreements.

Questions for the committee:

1. What is convenient and accessible, is it curbside, is it a depot?
2. If curbside is not selected as a preference, who should fund the expansion of the waste transfer system?
3. Curbside only includes the collection of typical blue box recycling, is that the baseline for a depot?
4. If there is a depot built, subscription curbside will still be available, how will that impact use?

Advisory comments:

- R. Telegus – Denman Island are 8 bags for \$20, with weekly collection in the summer.
- M. Tatchell – Tahsis has weekly curbside garbage pickup for residential and business.
- K. Lovely – Is the weight of waste from each community a total weight per household? Is it just household or ICI?
 - It is kg/household. Just have household data at this time. ICI based on collection data at landfill, with average per capita likely closer to 512kg.
- R. Telegus – Where does the AAP process come from? Is it a regional district bylaw or provincial process?
 - Provincial. One of the ways to achieve electoral assent under the *Local Government Act*. During an AAP process, once you have 10 per cent of

people in opposition, you can either abandon issue or go to referendum. Included as option due to expensive nature of referendum.

- M. Tatchell – Can you please reiterate what you plan to do with rest of SRD? Will we not cover service levels currently in places? Should be included to be fair to residents in the areas.
 - 20 per cent population gap. Look at cost of depots and performance metrics for depots. Conversation will continue to apply to west island, but for the purposes of today, broadly looking at accessibility, noting different facilities, etc. Can cover service levels for west island in future. In terms of expansion and cost implications, west coast is included in budget for landfill closures and expansion of services. Gap in east coast is not included in financial planning.
- J. Best – Why was AAP process used if it just gives voice to opposition? Was it to save costs? Why not just go forward with service?
 - Can't legally create service without approval. CVRD was coordinating multiple AAPs to save costs, and other AAPs received far less responses. Did not expect to receive such high opposition going into process.
- D. Baar - Recycling is revenue generating. How do the revenues per tonne look compared to costs?
 - We recover roughly about \$500k per year in recycling.
- K. Lukinuk – Concerned about costs for Hornby being higher. Pay about double for waste services compared to Denman. Should Hornby be considered for curbside collection like Denman to reduce costs and greenhouse gas (GHG) emission? Are there alternatives to reduce costs? Should be similar to Denman. Cars may be idling in lines, and some seniors have difficulty using depot. Would the CVRD be willing to trial and support?
 - If not reducing level of service at depot and just adding garbage collection, don't expect costs to go down.
 - Would expect costs reduced from less roll-off bins shipped from depot. Also see less people travelling to landfill.
 - Cortes Island delivers to transfer station, but then sent to Campbell River in roll-off bins, so similar model would not see reduction in number of roll-off bins. If offered garbage with no recycling, would that decrease or improve interest in recycling?
 - Year-round residents will recycle, but seasonal residents can't be bothered to separate recycling from garbage. Should look at just garbage collection first without dropping off at depot.
 - Can explore and discuss further, but not sure it will have the desired results.
 - Stark difference between service levels on Denman and Hornby. Hornby has most exhaustive list of diverted material in CSWM compared to

Denman just having basic RecycleBC program. Depot staff oversees all recycling diversion. Won't see much cost difference without reduction in service.

- No depot staff involved with garbage, so only looking at garbage stream.
- D. Baar – Accessibility acceptance level may also depend on personal mobility situations for aging population and others.
- M. Rutten – Curbside is very convenient in a general sense. Depots do work well in certain communities.
- J. Best – Convenience of curbside can't be overstated. Should determine who gets curbside primarily based on what's feasible for density of community. Can also consider options to reduce GHG emissions.
 - For Cortes where there is not optimal uptake of curbside service, should that be cautioned against? Could use previous Hornby example, where curbside would be added where there is already a well-used depot.
 - Don't see why people on Cortes wouldn't take advantage of curbside if offered. Also cautionary tale with people going to depot anyway. Curbside should be considered the norm, but consider culture that favours an alternative or does not make sense for density.
- M. Jeffs – Supportive of curbside.
- R. Crisfield – Density is key factor when considering curbside service. Looking at rural areas near Courtenay and Comox boundaries, curbside would reduce trips from residents to landfill, but also number of trips from collection companies with 3-4 different companies operating in area. Higher density areas should be targeted for curbside. Not one-size-fits-all scenario, with mixed service maybe working better on rural islands.
- D. Baar – We have necessary data to set threshold for where curbside would be practical.
 - RecycleBC does have density data available and staff did evaluate areas against their criteria to see what areas could be considered for service. Led to emphasis on areas along highways, while isolated areas like Forbidden Plateau or Mount Washington or area near the landfill had more opposition.
- R. Rowe – Supportive of curbside. Recommend shifting perspective in educational promotion to expand term of cost to not just look at it from financial perspective but also include other costs like carbon emissions. Will allow for better understanding of long-term consequences and provide more holistic approach.
 - Working with contractor on emissions inventory and will highlight in addendum of report. Will try to include in public engagement.
- M. E. Walling – Expanding the conversation to include other costs like GHG emissions for individual transportation of recycling is a good idea. Expanding the

depot program could also be helpful. The challenge is changing an existing pattern of behaviour.

- W. Semmelink – Supports recycling collection being mandated for multi-family and strata and those cut out of service, and to incorporate organics for higher density areas. Higher charge for garbage, but lower costs for organic waste and recyclables to encourage greater diversion. Could we adopt a higher tip fee for residents with a curbside program?
- S. Willie – Potential for coordinating with local stakeholders to provide services, such as bins at community halls run by non-profit organizations.
- M. E. Walling – Seeing people moving from urban areas expecting a higher level of service.
- R. Rowe – Any thought of adding glass to curbside collection with move to automated?
 - Would have to check with municipality. RecycleBC requires it to be separated out which leads to additional costs. Usually requires separate bin for curbside and separate compartment in collection vehicle.
 - Safety issue with glass breaking?
 - Yes, since glass breaks and is also more likely to contaminate other streams. Less revenue from glass.

Break

The advisory committee broke for recess at 2:37pm and resumed its session at 2:49pm.

Service Levels and Accessibility (Continued)

S. Willie gave an overview of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program diversion with all collection partners. Recycling programs go beyond typical blue-box recycling and residents have various access to these services. Province mandates EPR programs be free and reasonable, and each EPR program establishes their own accessibility. Staff are aiming to include a statement on level of accessibility for EPR programs. Ministry is reviewing policy, which was initially based around drive time.

EPR groups products based on level of usage (daily, weekly, yearly, less than yearly), size (small, medium, large), and hazardousness (non-hazardous, hazardous). Statistics Canada created categories for communities called Index of Remoteness, which considers distance from population centres and size of population centres. All of CVRD, Campbell River and SRD electoral areas B, C, D are accessible; SRD Area A, Gold River, and Sayward considered less accessible; and Zeballos and Tahsis considered remote. Index does not consider remoteness within electoral areas, like Denman or Hornby. Accessibility framework suggests single- & multi-family pickup for blue-box recycling products at weekly/bi-weekly for accessible communities, bi-weekly for less accessible, and monthly for remote areas. Population target

decreases from 95 per cent for accessible to 50 per cent for remote communities. Suggests that direct pick-up should be offered 1-4 times per year for all items except beverage containers. For permanent collection facilities, have recommended drive time and hours for depots targeting a minimum percent of the population. Accessible communities are recommended as having curbside for 90 per cent of population for packaging and paper products. Beverage containers and EPR products have lower threshold. Temporary collection facilities and events, such as community events to collect recyclables in remote communities, aren't considered feasible for most recycling, but recommended for other EPR products 1-4 times a year and that events be held together.

Question for the committee:

1. Does it align with our expectation of service levels for communities?
2. How do we account for island communities that are not provided their own Index of Remoteness value?
3. How do we think this will impact our service?

Advisory comments:

- M. E. Walling – Lots of core services not offered north of Nanaimo. Index of Remoteness attempts to propose urban mindset on our diverse grouping of communities with varying challenges.
 - Recognize that we need to address the individuality of each community and determine appropriate level of convenience.
- M. Tatchell – Tahsis collects Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and electronics.
- R. Telegus – On Denman would welcome community event for collection of HHW.
- M. Tatchell – Gold River, Zeballos, and Tahsis currently collect, pallet up, and ship out electronic waste. Move to event would see reduction in service. If Stats Canada came up with level of remoteness, will vary from province to province. Transportation between islands and along logging roads should be considered.
 - Index of Remoteness does not necessarily align with the CSWM's objectives.
- J. Best – Each program only needs to meet a certain percentage of service. Does CSWM have access to whether CSWM services are meeting the criteria for EPR programs?
 - Staff can calculate or hire consultant, but information not readily available.
 - Should reach out to ministry for more information. Would be helpful to know if the programs are meeting the standards.
 - Ministry will be looking at some communities as case studies, but may not include CSWM. Do have option to create own accessibility standards as part of SWMP and can fund based on what is agreed as reasonable level of service. Will require getting EPR programs on board and may involve subsidizing program.

- S. Willie – If accessibility framework was enforced, would require significant increase in number of depots.
- R. Rowe – For tire stewardship program, had contractor go around picking up tires and dropping off at single location. Ensured material brought to one location. Not sure if that applies to other EPR programs.
 - Each program has their own standards. Tires tend to accumulate and be stockpiled. For lights, may come out to commercial businesses when replacing multiple light fixtures. Companies for fire safety may have individual pickup for smoke alarms.

Free Stores, Share Sheds, Swap Shop

V. Schau notified the advisory that a technical memo on the topic would be distributed to the advisory committee after the meeting. Step 2 of the SWMP emphasized the first 7 Rs, and free stores were discussed at September CSWM Board. Explained what free stores and share/swap sheds are, where individuals can donate items and take items for free. Goal is to divert items from landfill and encourage reuse and sustainability, and tend to fit with rural community mindset and lower level of access, as well as areas with lower income. Shared information on existing free stores in CSWM service area, detailing their ownership, funding, insurance, and staffing. Includes free stores on Denman, Hornby, Cortes, Tahsis, and Sayward, with Gold River having closed theirs down since COVID-19.

Staff are looking at potential for free stores in urban areas, and investigated benefits and drawbacks. Want to avoid competing with existing non-profit groups and thrift stores. Will share list of 52 stores that currently serve urban areas in CSWM service area in technical memo. CSWM does organize events to improve diversion, such as pop-up clothing swaps, repair cafes and educational workshops. Potential for free stores to become dumping grounds and require oversight to manage, and also requires additional costs to run and build. Shared examples of how other jurisdictions handle free stores and events, including Cariboo Regional District, qathet Regional District, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Capital Regional District, Regional District of Nanaimo, District of Squamish and City of Vancouver. Important to consider existing services, convenience, minimizing operating costs, customer and staff safety, supporting reuse organizations and logistics. Proposed free store could accept furniture, art, household items, tools, unused building materials, and electronics, but would exclude textiles, carpets, non-functioning EPR items, HHW, and used building materials. Options include establishing pilot for non-profit at CVWMC with term staffing, a pop-up event with non-profit at CVWMC with volunteers/staff, or update CVWMC/Campbell River Waste Management Centre master plans as part of SWMP. Next steps include full report to advisory committee for feedback by February 22 with revised report to March CSWM Board.

Advisory comments:

- M. Tatchell – Tahsis Free Store is staffed, in that Village staff clean and maintain it with no cost to taxpayers.
- D. Baar – There are some parallels between free stores and pet shelters.
- M. E. Walling – Setting these up as free-standing options would put them in direct competition with the many thrift stores operating in Cumberland, Courtenay, Comox and Campbell River. An option could be to set aside items and provide to not-for-profits.
- D. Baar – There is also to some degree competition with free and non-free online services (e.g. Craigslist and Facebook Marketplace). However, if the end goal is to increase re-use, it's all good as long as there is enough good stuff to go around.
- K. Lukinuk – Hornby has gone through growing pains developing free store that works and dealing with illegal dumping of garbage. Items now screened before accepting. Working with thrift store great idea, as long as they're willing to take on additional material.
 - Hornby is good model, but also exception to rule as entirely volunteer-based example.
 - Hornby free store is only open two hours for two days a week. Seven days a week doesn't seem viable.
- R. Rowe - My hunch on the free/share stores would be that primarily low-value items would be dropped off. With the non-profit or charitable organizations that exist, or with online options like marketplace or Facebook groups, most higher value items would typically be disposed/sold/given away there first.
- J. Best – Even with 50+ thrift stores/existing options in the region, combined with online options like Facebook Marketplace, there is still an egregious amount of reusable material landfilled daily in the region. Opportunities should definitely be explored to partner with thrift stores to divert material that otherwise would have been thrown away at the landfill, but it's not realistic to expect them to staff it. Material should be delivered to them on a regular basis from landfill-based free stores, assuming they want it. If they don't, then it wasn't taking material from them in the first place.

Next Steps & Wrap-Up

S. Willie gave an overview of next steps for the SWMP. Requested that the committee review the engagement plan and draft memos and then provide staff with feedback. Parking lot includes west coast communities and multi-family. Shared example of recycling depot in New Zealand.

Advisory comments:

- M. Tatchell – West coast communities missing in analysis, so should include information for SWMP.

Co-Chair W. Cole-Hamilton thanked the committee for their input and time, and adjourned the meeting.

GENERAL:

The next Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee is scheduled for April 4, 2024, at 1:00 pm.

TERMINATION:

The meeting terminated at 4:03 pm.

Recorded by:

Certified correct:

M. Briggs

Michael Briggs
Branch Assistant – Engineering
Services

S. Willie

Sarah Willie
Manager of Solid Waste Planning
and Policy Development

Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting

SWMP Renewal Meeting #8

Feb 15, 2024

Zoom

12:30 pm to 4 pm

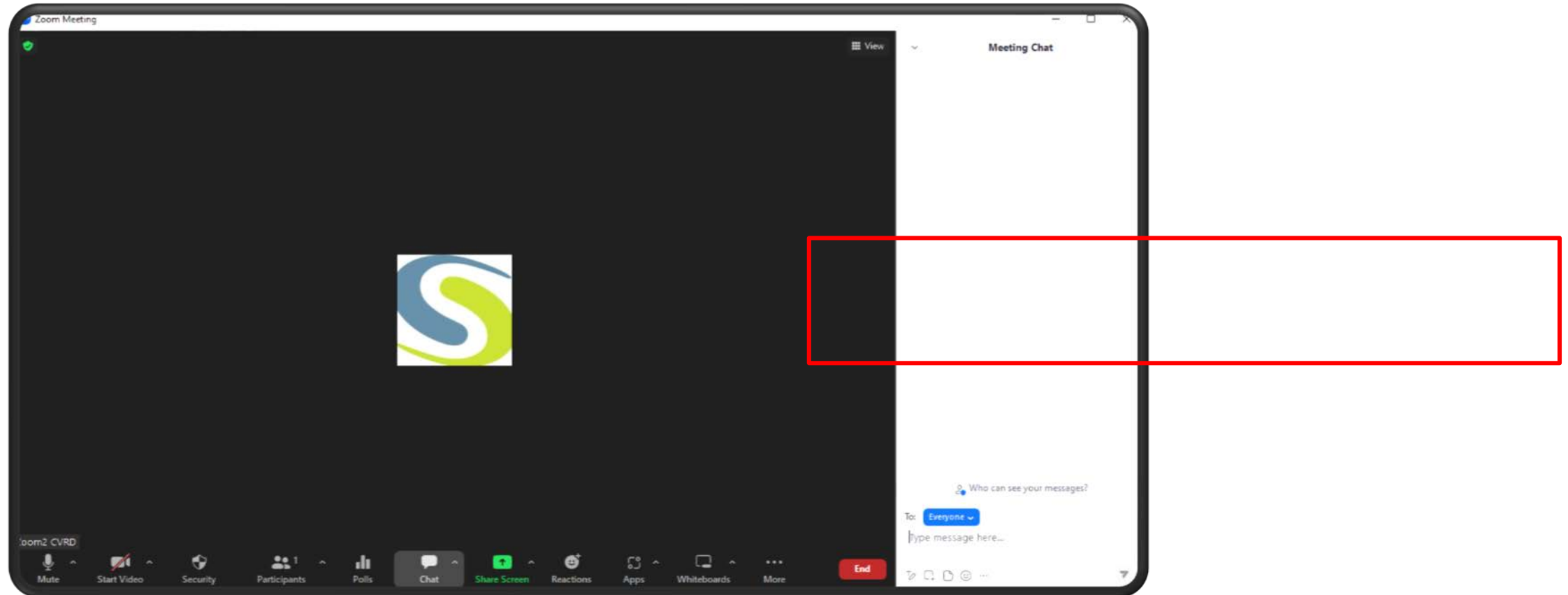




Welcome and Questions

- Questions can be asked anytime throughout the meeting today
- Use your virtual hand raising feature and we will call on you to unmute
- Alternatively you can type in the chat function to make comments, or to ask questions of us or your colleagues

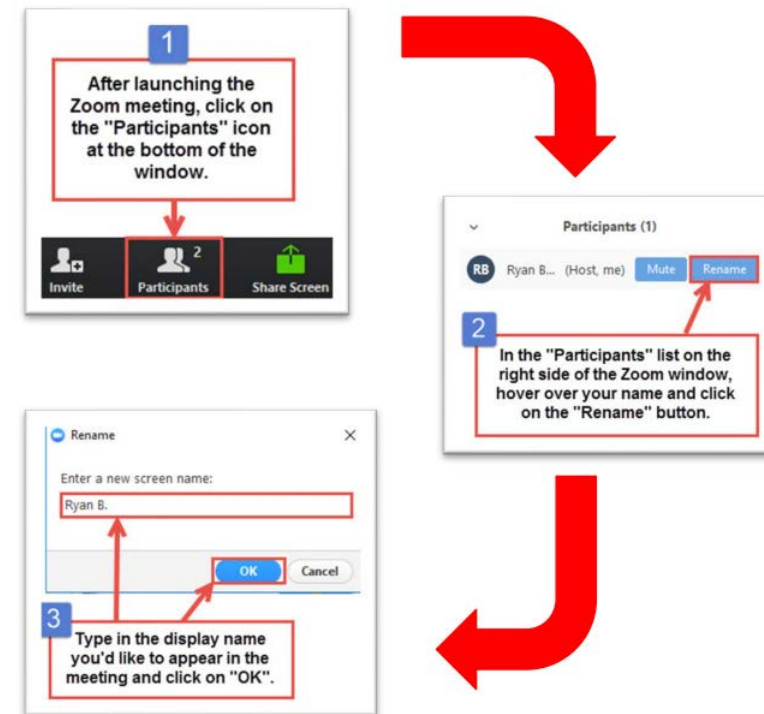
Zoom Meeting Tools



Recording for Minutes

- We are recording this meeting for note taking purposes.
- The recording will not be distributed or published.
- To ensure those participating are meant to be with us, please ensure your name is visible and use your camera if you can.

How to change your name.



Review of Agenda and Minutes

Co-Chair

10 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 8.1

Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge we are hosting this meeting on the traditional unceded territory of the K'ómoks First Nation, and the Comox Strathcona Waste Management service area is located in the Coast Salish, Kwakwaka'wakw, and Nuuchahnulth territories.



Purpose of the Meeting

- Presentation of the Draft Engagement Plan
- Discuss Accessibility and Service Levels
- Explore Free Stores, Share Sheds and Swap Shops



Adoption of Minutes and Agenda

Approval of Minutes

- Any modifications to minutes?

Agenda for Today

- Take a quick look at the agenda, is anything missing?

Parking Lot
Issues or questions that come up as we go along can be placed in the 'parking lot' for discussion at the end, or future meetings.



Welcome New Member!
Katie Lovely
Cumberland Resident

Take a moment to introduce yourself
in the chat to Katie



Draft Engagement Plan

Katie Hamilton

45 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 8.2

Any Questions or
Observations?



Review of Feedback from Last Meeting

Sarah Willie

10 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 8.3

Identified Strategies – Rural Diversion

- Emphasize reduction, reuse, and neighborhood-based initiatives.
- Implement single-stream recycling for both depot and curbside.
- Provide curbside pickup for electronics, appliances, and large items in rural areas.
- Use volume metrics in the absence of scales.
- Combat illegal dumping with pop-up depots and special events.



Identified Strategies – Access

- Ensure easy access to recycling, including return options in shopping centers.
- Specifically target remote communities, including rural areas and islands, rather than a broader rural classification.
- Clearly define remote, rural, and limited-access communities.
- Organize waste sheds instead of adhering strictly to municipal boundaries.
- Address the lack of recycling options in remote areas.
- Explore taxation across electoral areas to fund increased accessibility.

Identified Strategies – Share Sheds



- Establish fully enclosed volunteer-based free stores to reduce food waste and packaging.
- Establish sharesheds and share knowledge.
- Emphasize reduction, reuse, and neighborhood-based initiatives.

Any Questions or
Observations?

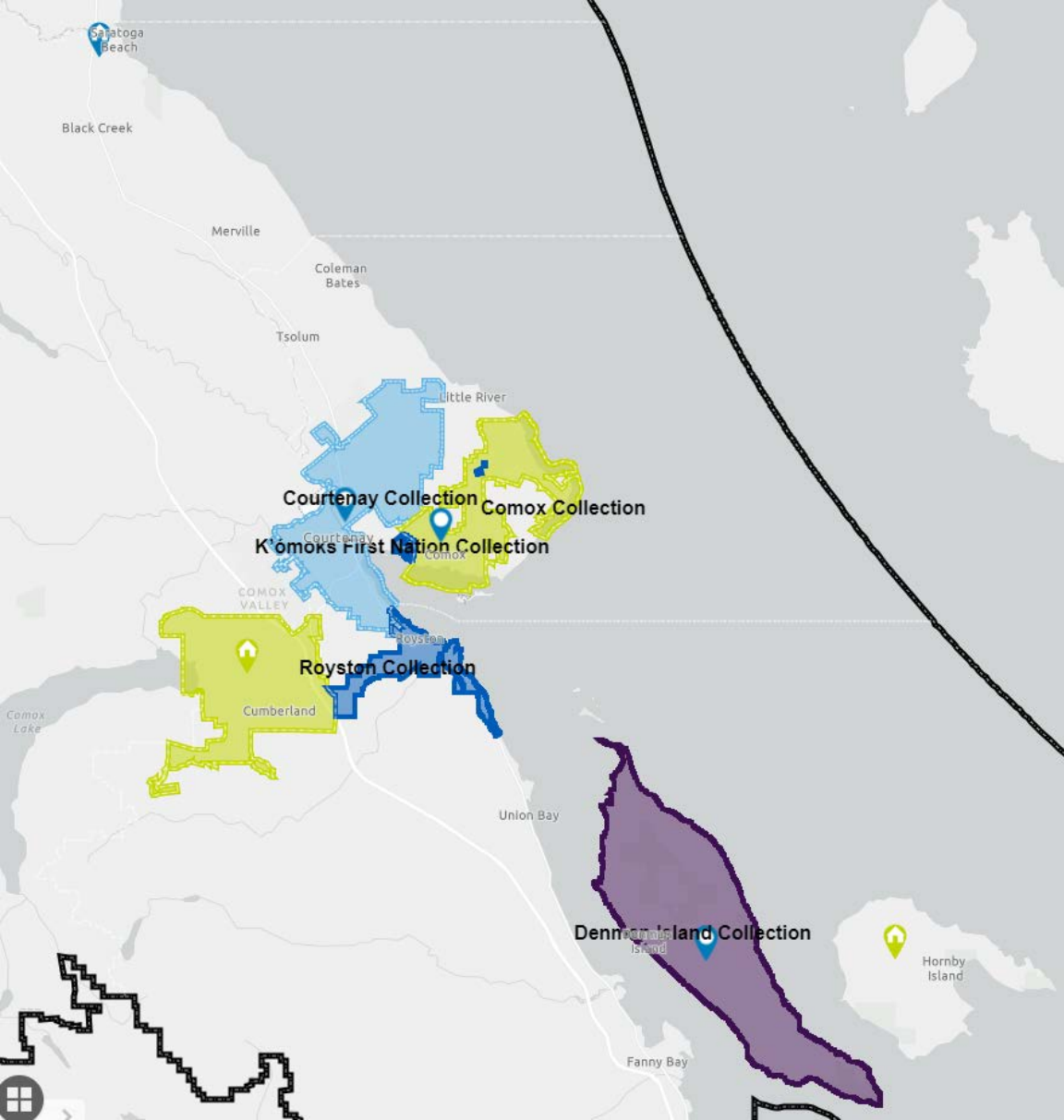


Service Levels and Accessibility

Sarah Willie

90 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 8.4

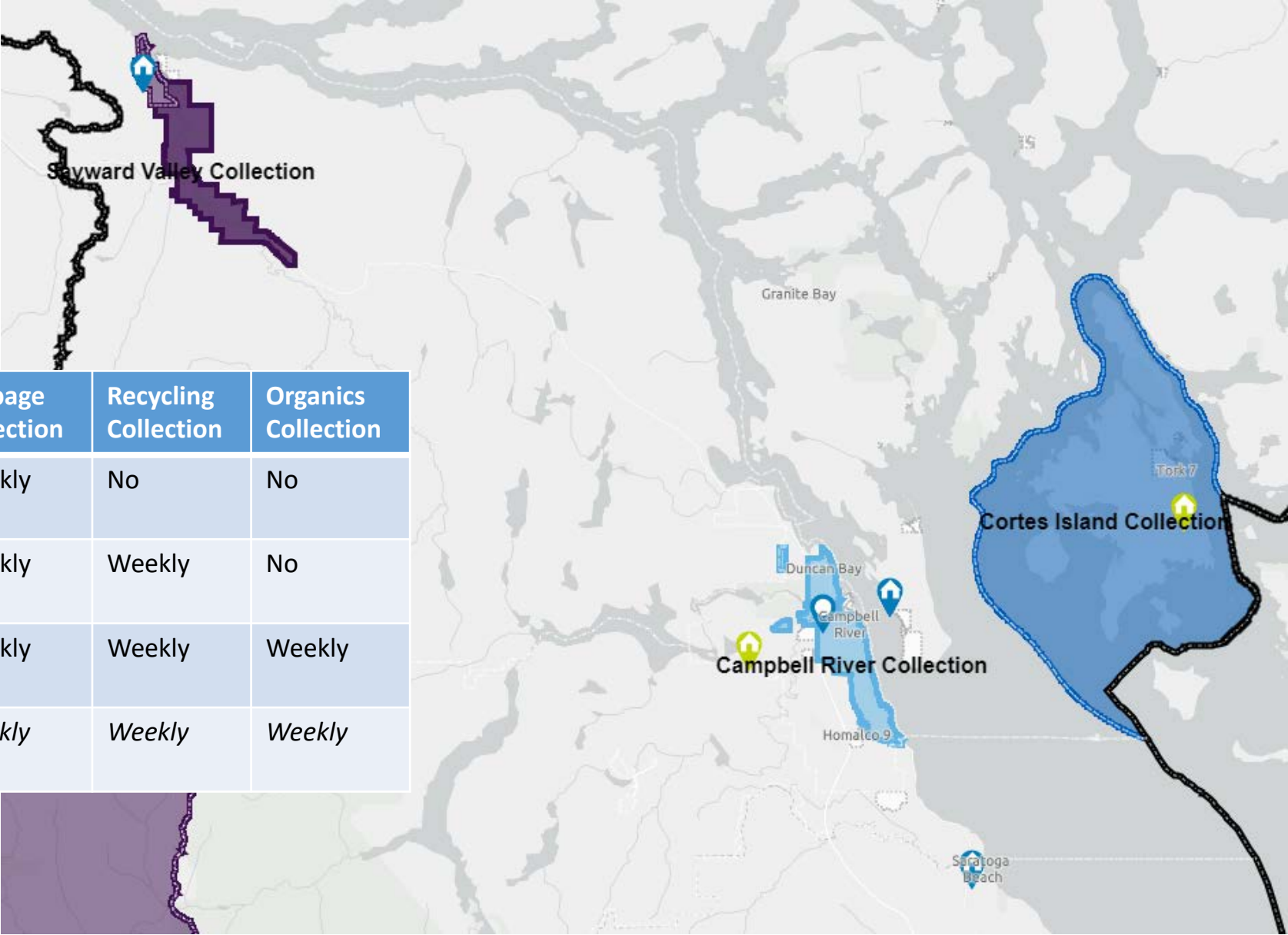


Curbside Services in the CVRD

Curbside Collection Service	2023 Cost per hh	Garbage Collection	Recycling Collection	Organics Collection
Denman Island (manual)	\$3/bag + P/U	Bi-Weekly	No	No
Royston (manual)	\$134	Weekly	Bi-Weekly	No
Cumberland (manual)	\$174	Weekly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly
Comox (manual)	\$261	Weekly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly
Courtenay (manual)	\$238	Weekly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly Yd
<i>Courtenay (2024 carts)</i>	<i>\$358</i>	<i>Bi-Weekly</i>	<i>Bi-Weekly</i>	<i>Weekly</i>

Curbside Services on the SRD East Coast

Curbside Collection Service	2023 Cost per hh	Garbage Collection	Recycling Collection	Organics Collection
Sayward Valley/Village (manual)	\$264	Weekly	No	No
Cortes Island (manual)	\$99 for P/U only	Weekly	Weekly	No
Campbell River (manual)	\$233	Weekly	Weekly	Weekly
<i>Campbell River (2024 manual)</i>	<i>\$245</i>	<i>Weekly</i>	<i>Weekly</i>	<i>Weekly</i>



Materials Handled through Curbside Collection

Kg/household	Garbage	Recycling	Organics	Estimate of Units
Campbell River (2023)	405	115	202	10,600
Courtenay (2021)	419	138	274	9,624
Cumberland (2023)	209	110	231	2,006
Royston (2022, 2020)	409	115	N/A	1,134
Cortes Island (2023)	Not weighed	20	N/A	673
Sayward Village & Valley (2022)	472	N/A	N/A	409 (2021)
Denman Island	157	N/A	N/A	650

Populations Without Organized Curbside Service or Free Waste Drop-Off

Community	Pop'n	Garbage To?	Recycling To?
SRD Area D - Oyster River	4,153	Campbell River	Oyster River Drop-off, CRWMC, CR Return-It
SRD Quadra Isl. & Cape Mudge	2,850	Campbell River	Quadra Drop-off, CRWMC, CR Return-It
CVRD Area A – excluding HI, DI and Royston	2,519	Cumberland	CVWMC, Return-It Courtenay
CVRD Area B – Lazo North	7,392	Cumberland	CVWMC, Return-It Courtenay
CVRD Area C – Dove Creek, Merville, Black Creek	9,158	Cumberland	Oyster River Drop-off, CVWMC, Return-It Courtenay
CVRD Hornby Island	1,225	Hornby Island	Hornby Island Recycling Depot

ABC and D's of Rural Waste

Electoral Areas SRD D, CVRD C, CVRD B and CVRD A (excluding Royston, Hornby and Denman)

- 19,692 trips to CV or CR WMC
- 4 main haulers, 41% of waste average 4.3 t per load
- Cash customers, 41% of waste average 150 kg per load
- >50 customers a day



ABC and D's of Rural Recycling

- Use of Oyster River Drop-off is high, 10 bins are emptied every day
- 526 tonnes est. 2023
- CV and CR WMC also relied on by rural residents, use has increased with closure of unstaffed depots
- 563 tonnes on average PPP at CVWMC
- 289 tonnes on average PPP at CRWMC
- Missing 2 private depots data, and small amount of curbside pick-up



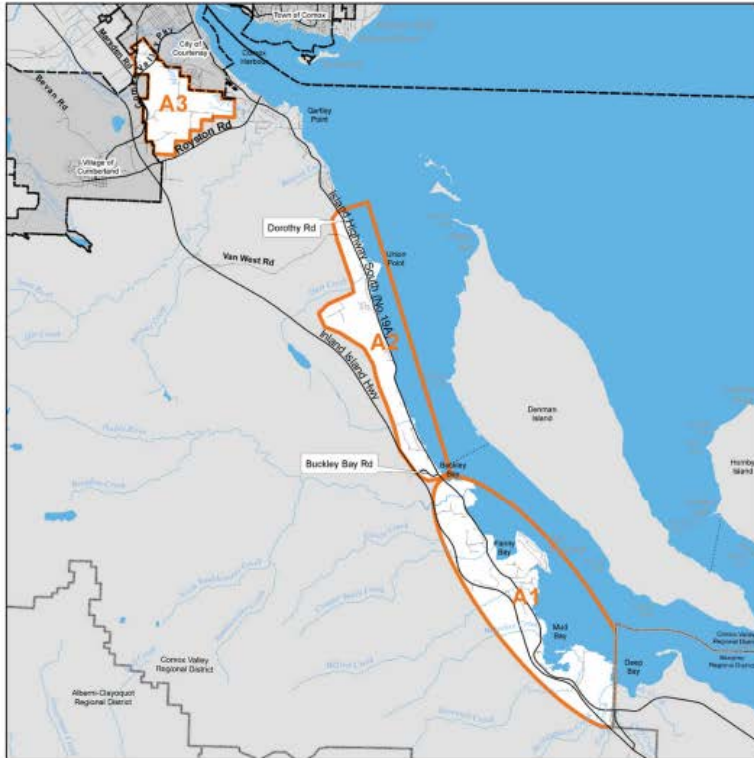
Rural Waste Collection

- Currently 'Waste Management Canada', 'Waste Connections' and 'Strathcona Recycling and Disposal' are offering services
- 2021 and 2013 residents in CVRD rural areas opposed a consolidated contract for waste collection by the CVRD
- Service proposed in 2021 was estimated to be \$200-\$275/yr for recycling, garbage and seasonal yard waste
- This compared to \$400-\$500 for bi-weekly garbage collection through the private sector at the time

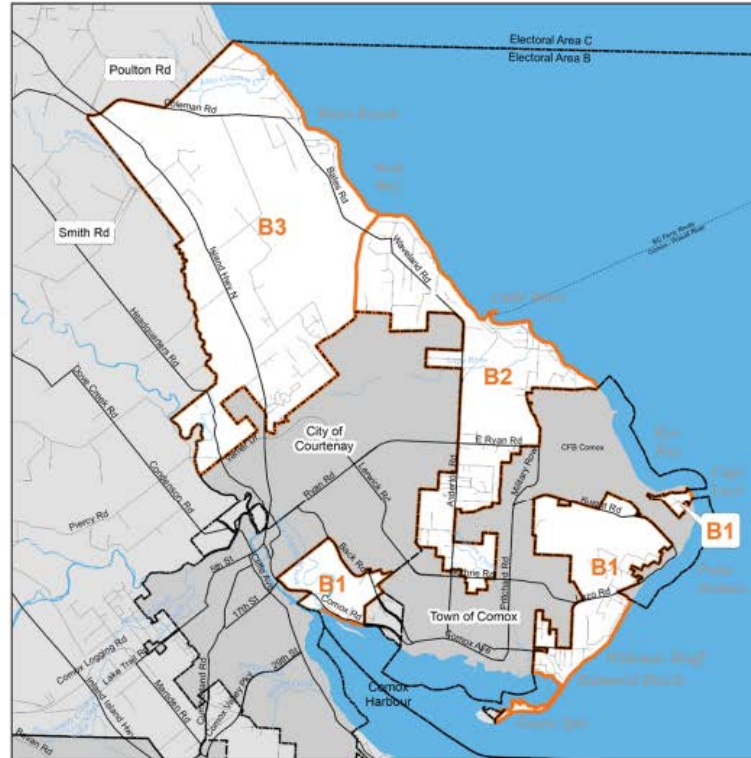
2020 Survey of Rural Garbage and Recycling Use

[Link to Full Report](#)

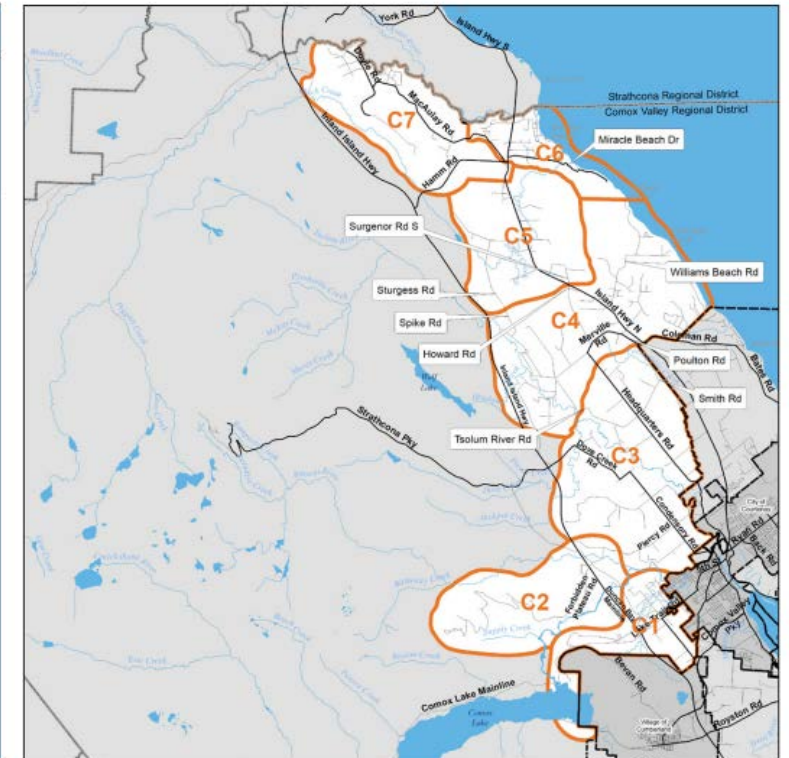
Area A



Area B



Area C

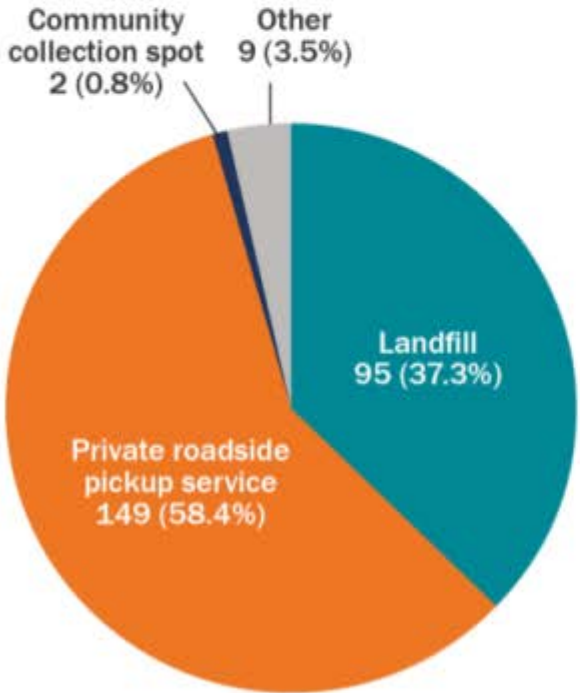


3.2.1 AREA A1 – FANNY BAY AREA



255 people participated
in online survey

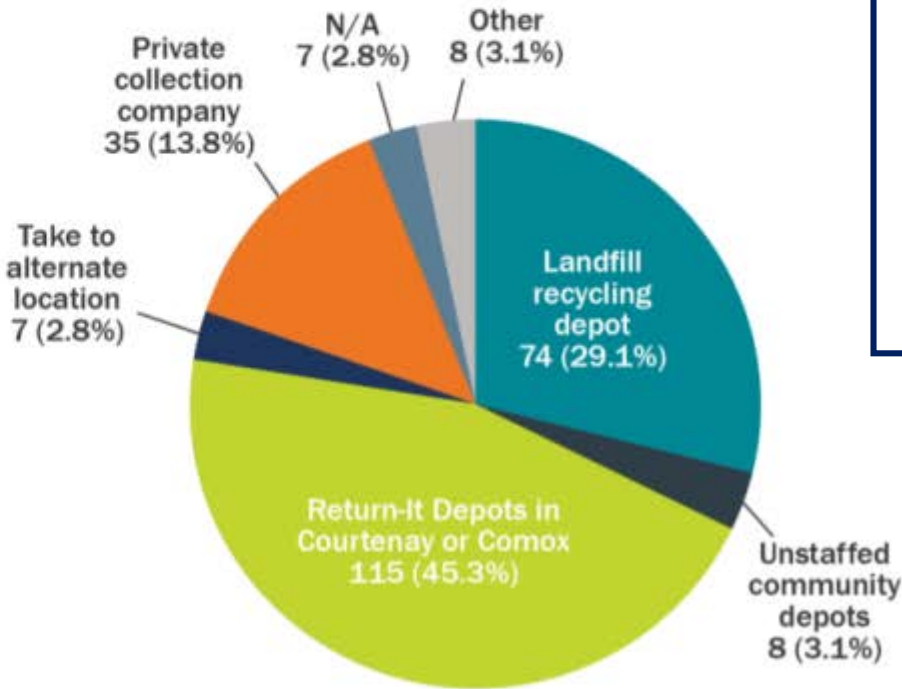
Current management of household garbage:



Interested in curbside pick up, based on \$150-\$250/year per household:



Recycling facility used most often:



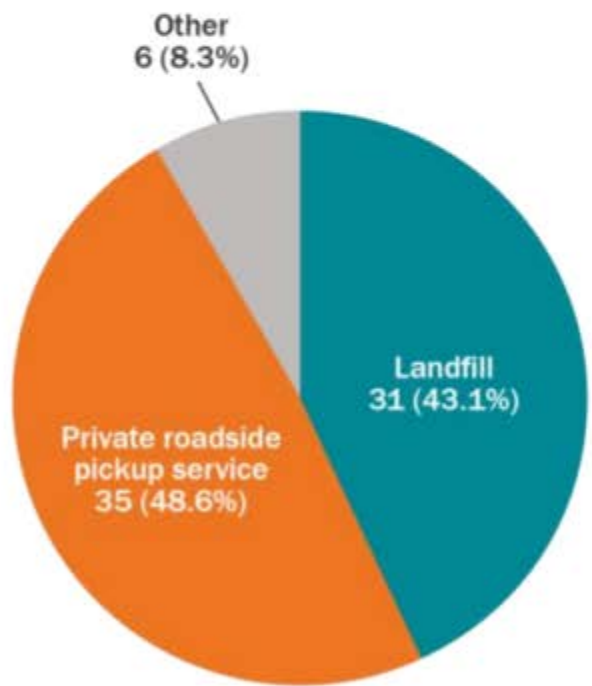
Lower uptake of private recycling pick-up by residents when optional.

3.2.3 AREA A3 – MINTO ROAD AREA



73 people participated
in online survey

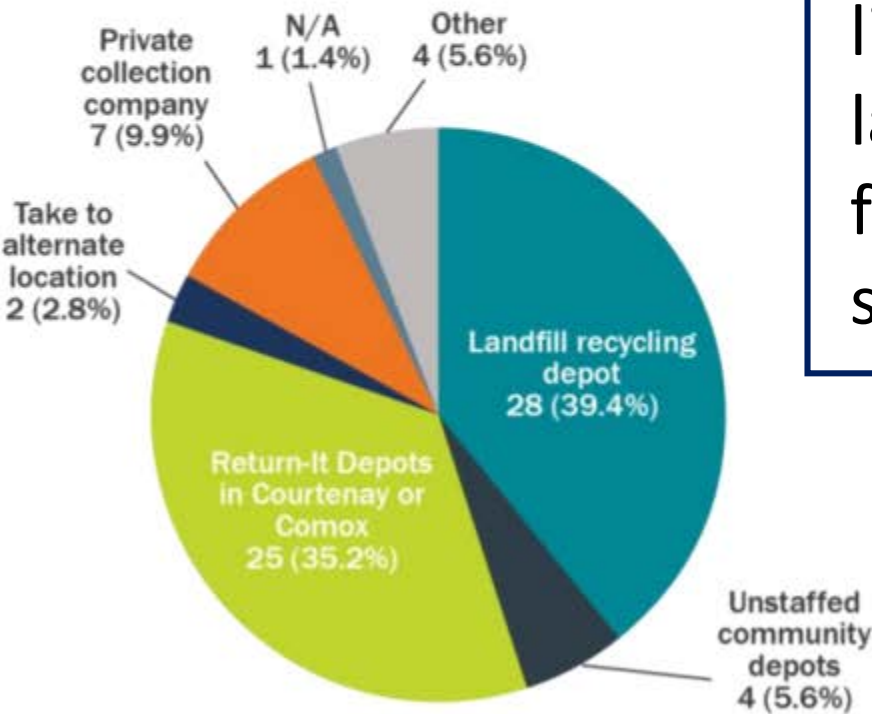
Current management of household garbage:



Interested in curbside pick up, based on \$150-\$250/year per household:



Recycling facility used most often:



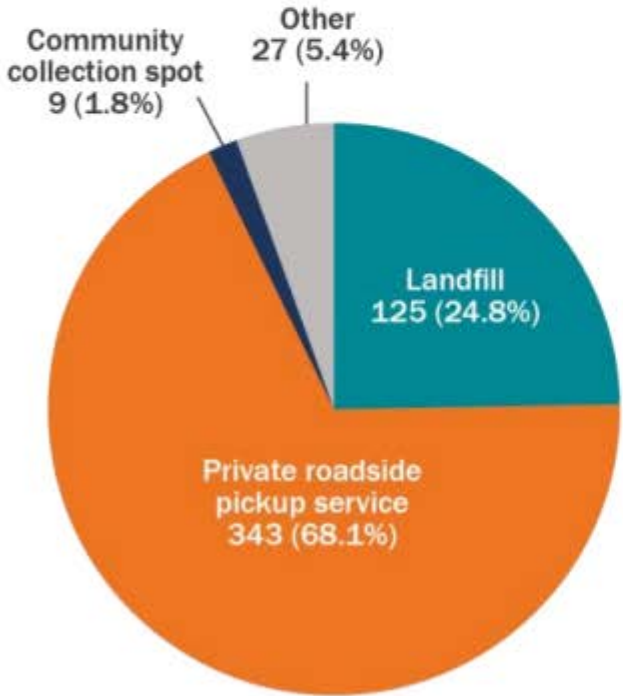
Convenience of self-haul for those living closer to the landfill resulted in fewer subscriptions.

3.3.3 AREA B3 – BATES BEACH AREA



504 people participated
in online survey

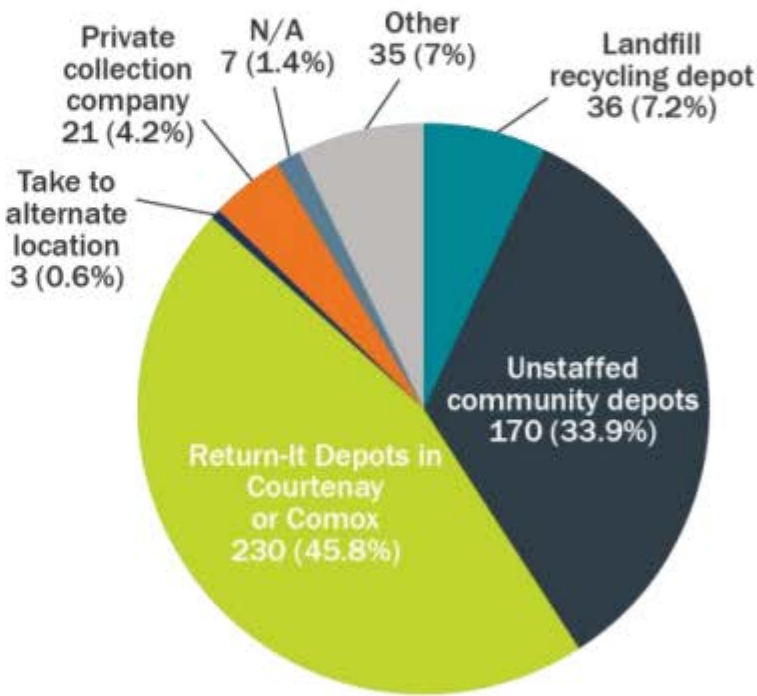
Current management of household garbage:



Interested in curbside pick up, based on \$150-\$250/year per household:



Recycling facility used most often:



Higher use of
unstaffed depots
due to proximity,
than the landfill.

3.4.4 AREA C4 – MERVILLE AND WILLIAMS BEACH AREA

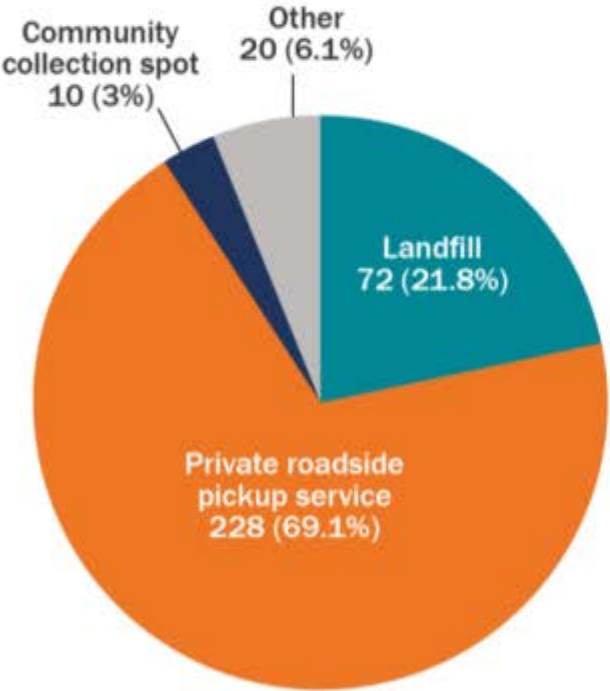


331 people participated
in online survey

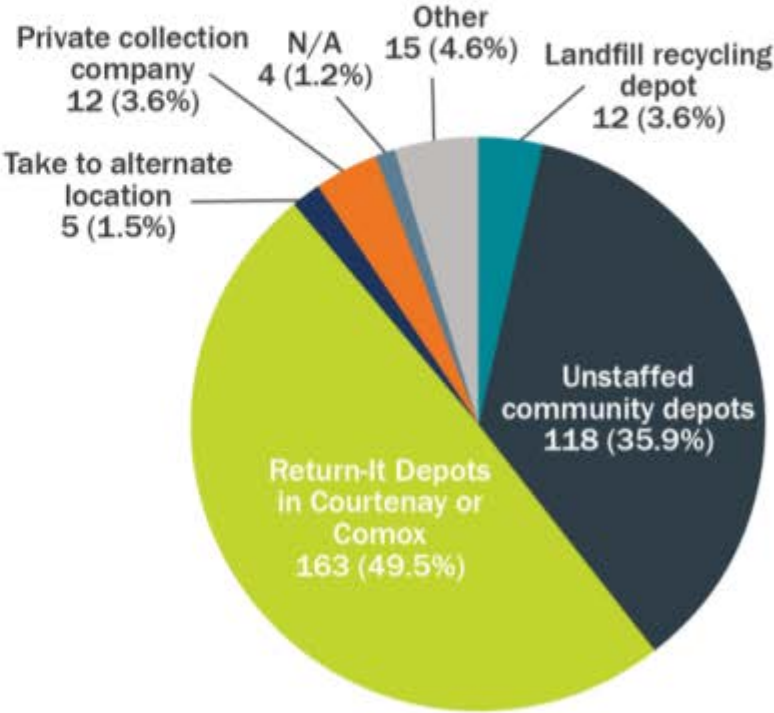
Interested in curbside pick up, based on \$150-\$250/year per household:



Current management of household garbage:



Recycling facility used most often:



Why Not?
Liked choice. Felt their costs for self-haul were lower than proposed service.
Impractical to have a rural service.

3.4.7 AREA C7 – MACAULAY ROAD AREA

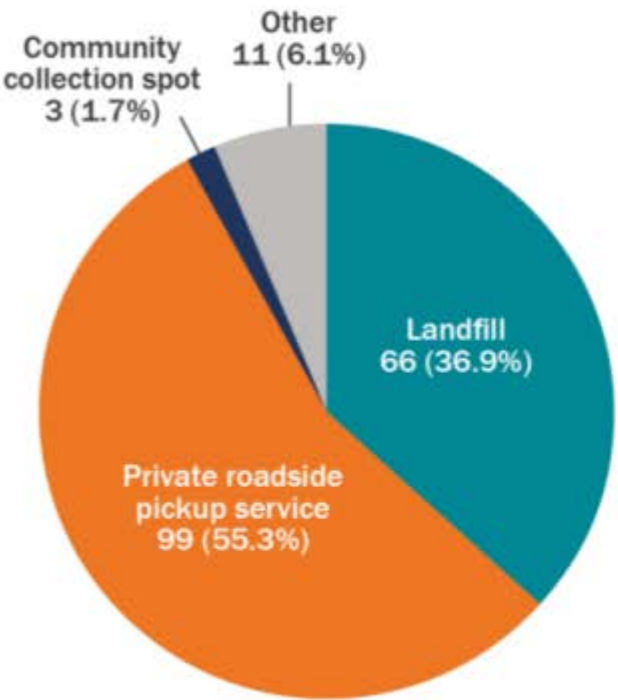


179 people participated
in online survey

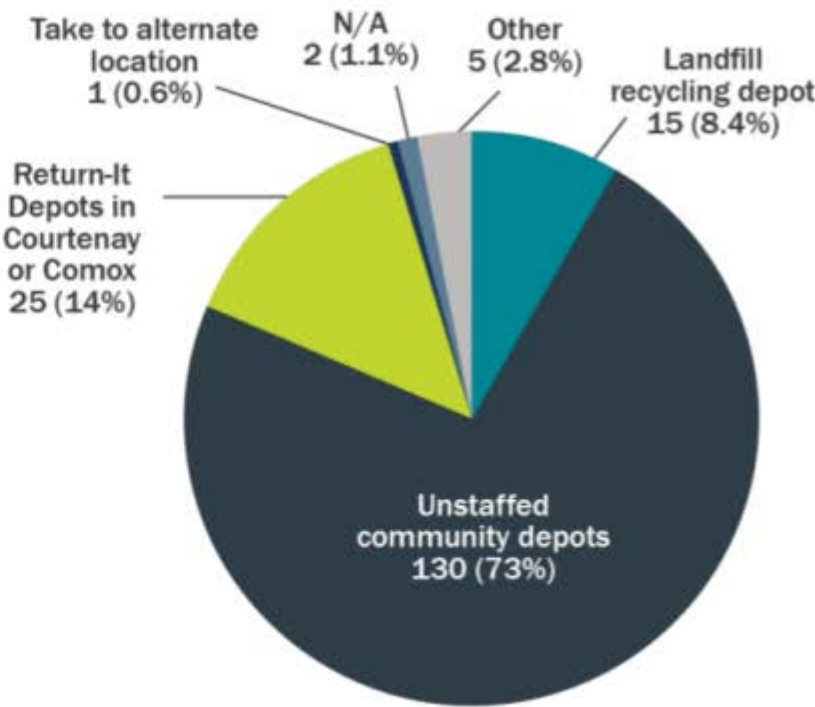
Interested in curbside pick up, based on \$150-\$250/year per household:



Current management of household garbage:

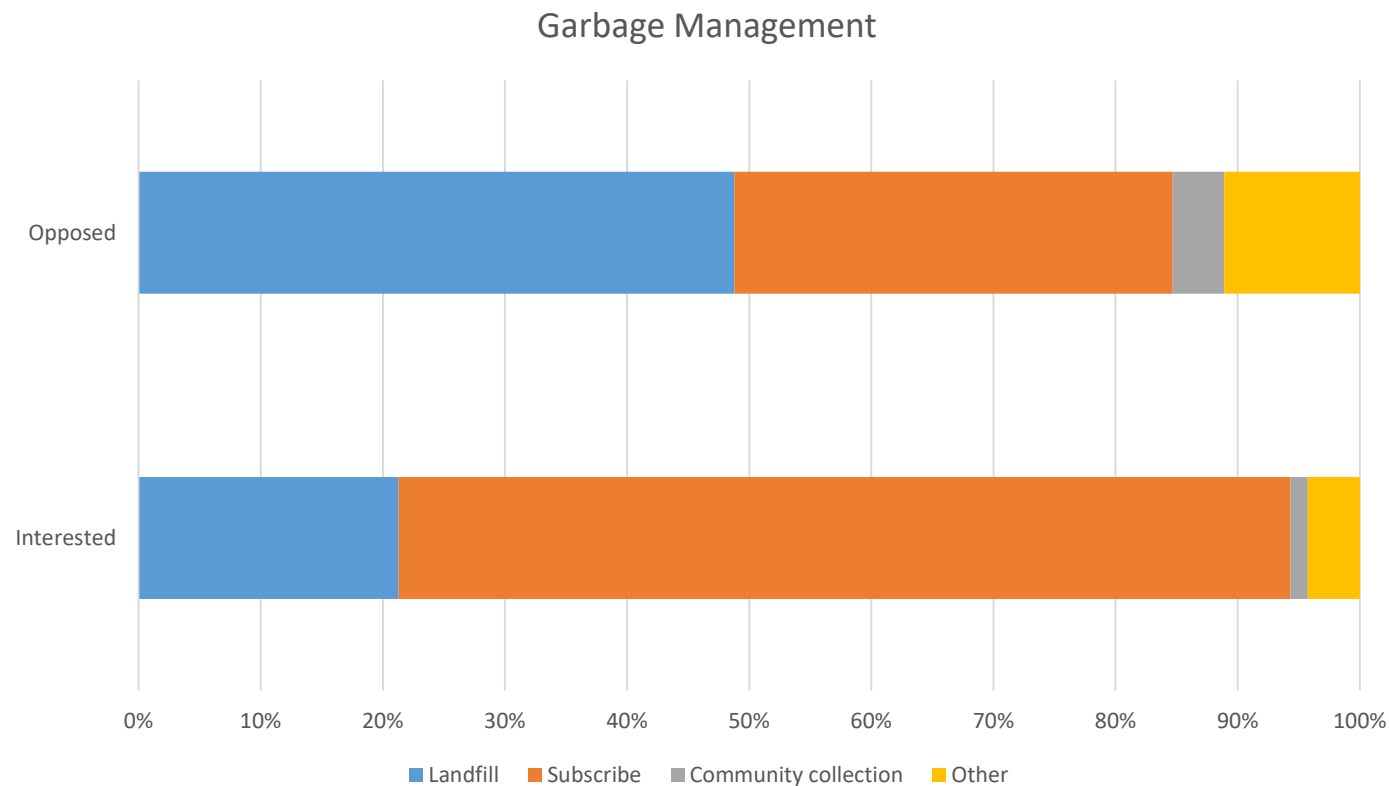


Recycling facility used most often:



Improved convenience.
Reduced carbon footprint.
Cost savings.
Physical accessibility.

Satisfaction with Subscription Service for Garbage



Of the 3056 responses 2273 were interested in a roadside service, and 783 were not.

Those with a private hauler, used to garbage pick up, were more likely to want an expanded organized service.

2020 Rural
Roadside Survey
3073 responses
74% in favour

2021 Alternative
Approval Process
>10% of electorate
were opposed to
the service
2,601 Forms
Received



**NEW ESTIMATED COST OF CVRD
SERVICE – \$200-275/YR**
Roadside pick-up of garbage,
recycling and seasonal yard waste



BI-WEEKLY
Unlimited
recycling
collection



BI-WEEKLY
Two can limit
garbage
collection

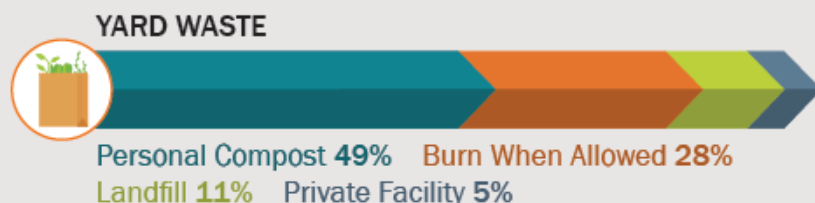
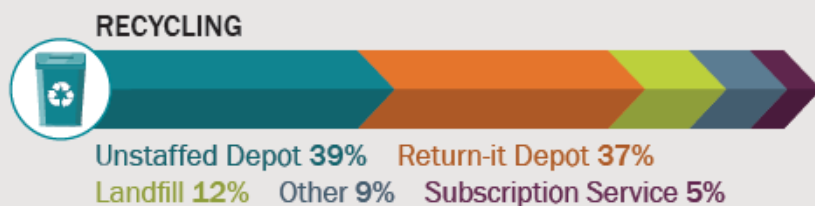
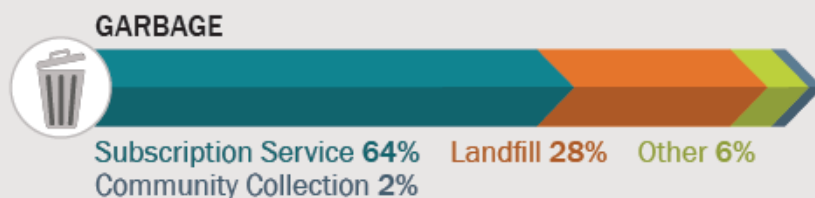


SEASONAL
Six bags/month
limit yard waste
collection

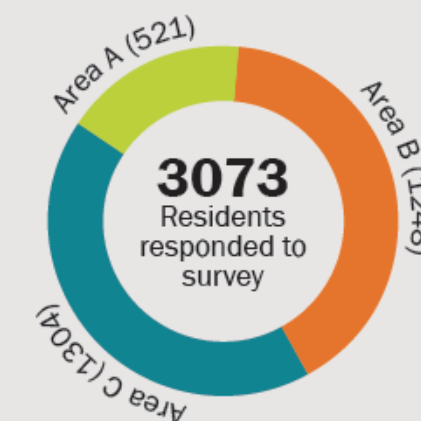


**FIND OUT IF YOUR HOME
IS INCLUDED VISIT:**
[www.connectcvrd.ca/
ruralroadsidecollection](http://www.connectcvrd.ca/ruralroadsidecollection)
*NOTE: Exclusions/Exemptions are
listed on the website

HOW WASTE IS CURRENTLY MANAGED



SURVEY RESULTS – SUMMER 2020



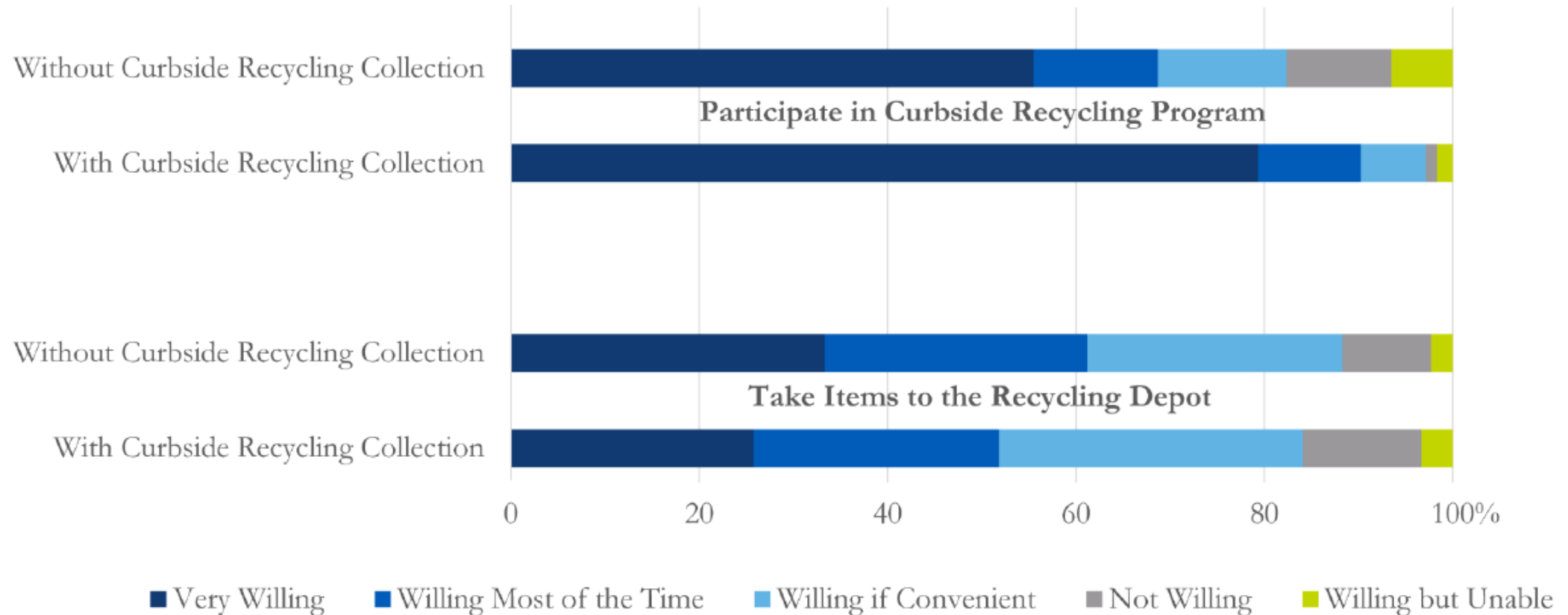
74% of respondents
support a new service



Based on survey results, 11 (of 13) communities were
moved forward for technical review

2022 Step 1 of SWMP Survey

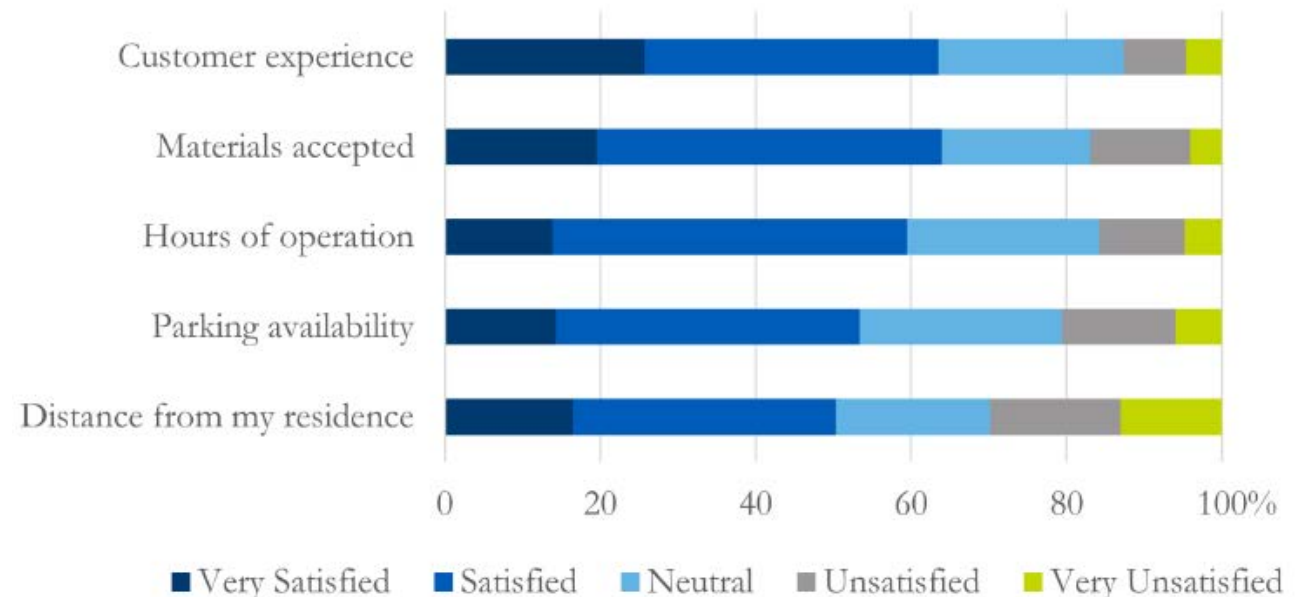
Curbside or Depot?



Recycling Drop-Off Facilities

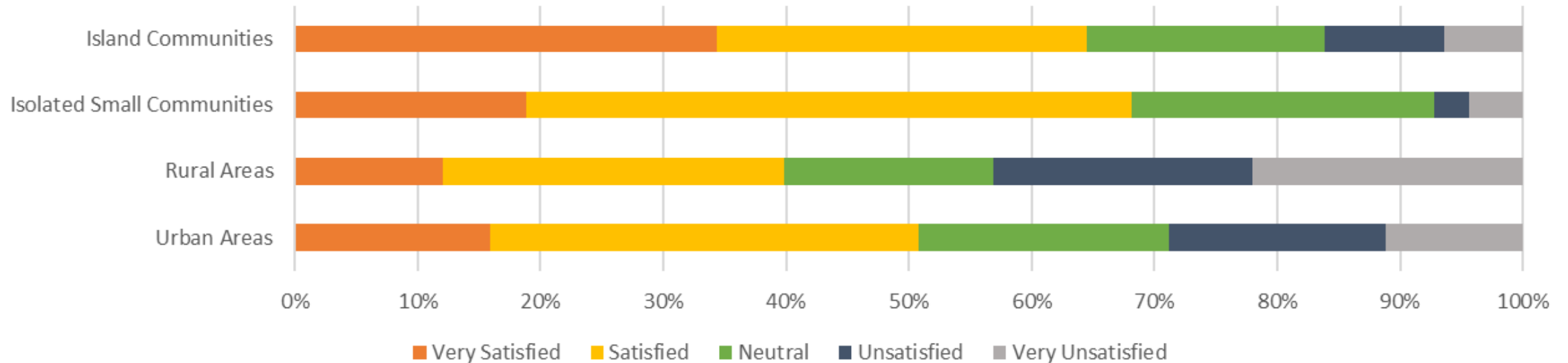
- Services offered by the 'local' recycling depot vary by community
- Generally positive, shows community support for CSWM and private depots
- Dig into distance...

Satisfaction with Local Recycling Drop-Off Facility



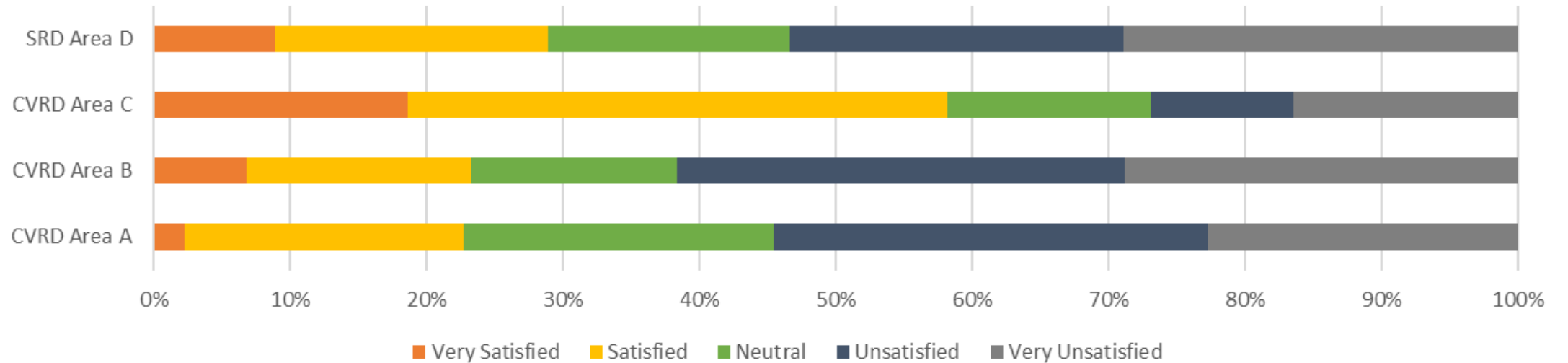
Recycling Drop-Off Facilities

What is your level of satisfaction with your local recycling drop-off facility (e.g. Return-It depot, recycling depot, unstaffed recycling drop-off) and the distance from your place of residence?

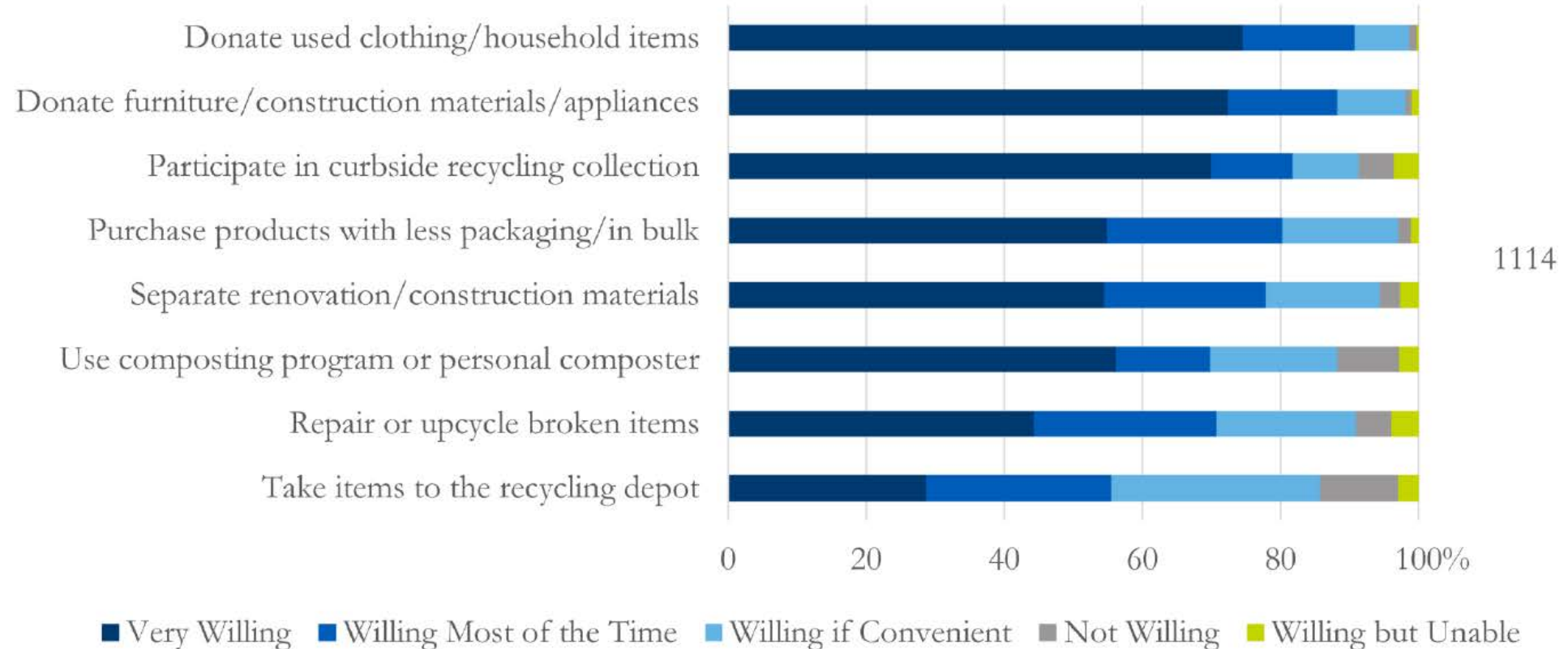


Recycling Drop-Off Facilities

What is your level of satisfaction with your local recycling drop-off facility (e.g. Return-It depot, recycling depot, unstaffed recycling drop-off) and the distance from your place of residence?



Willingness to Take Waste Diversion Actions



Barriers to Diversion

- High cost of driving, access to vehicles
- Concern for attracting wildlife
- Lack of nearby facilities and services
- Personal accessibility issues, such as lifting or driving
- Storage issues at residence

Impact of Self-Haul vs Consolidated Collection on Traffic and Trips



Denman Island

102 t by curbside
34 loads
Avg. 3,000 kg

156 t self-hauled
1364 loads
Avg. 114 kg



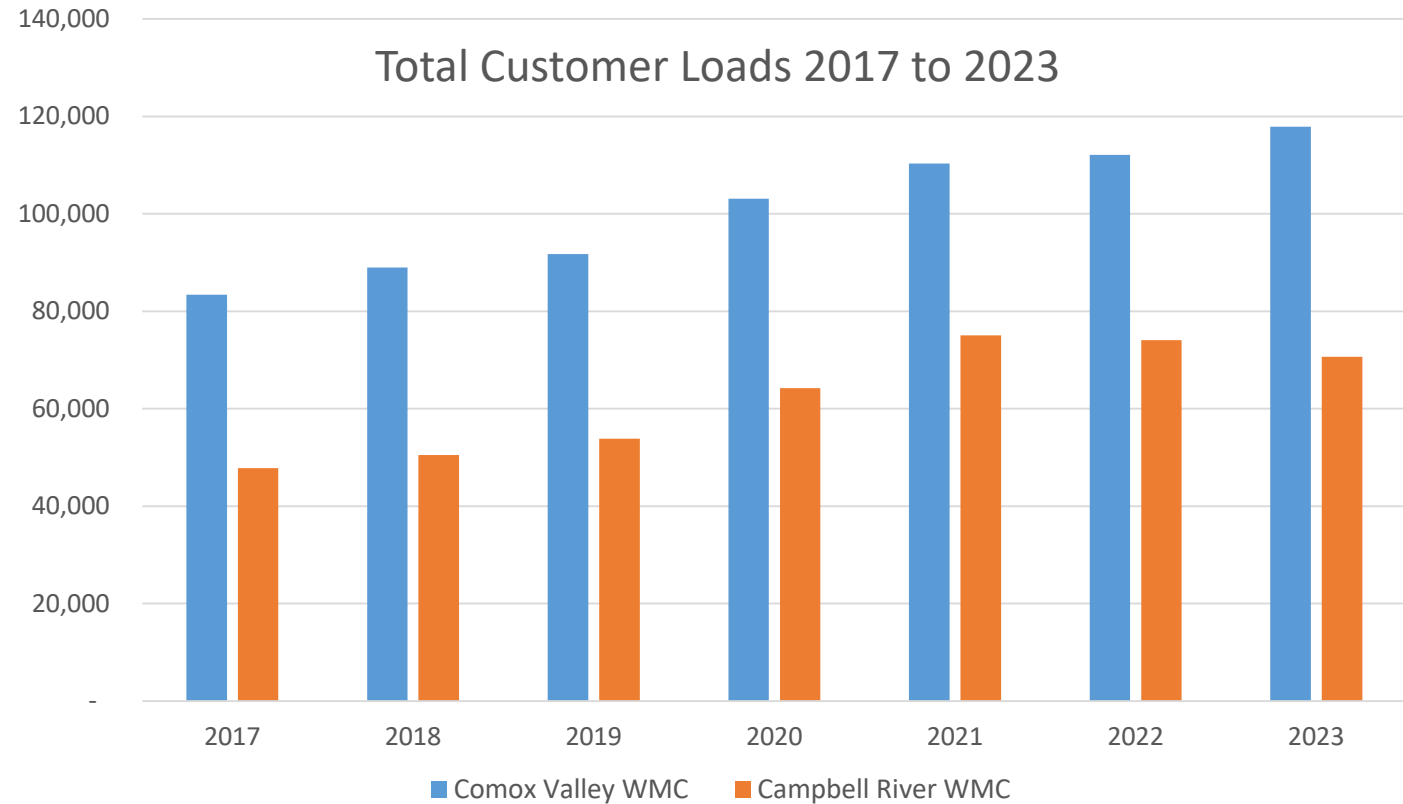
Hornby Island

465 t hauled by CSWM
62 loads

79 t self-hauled, 140 loads

Facility Pressure from Rising Use

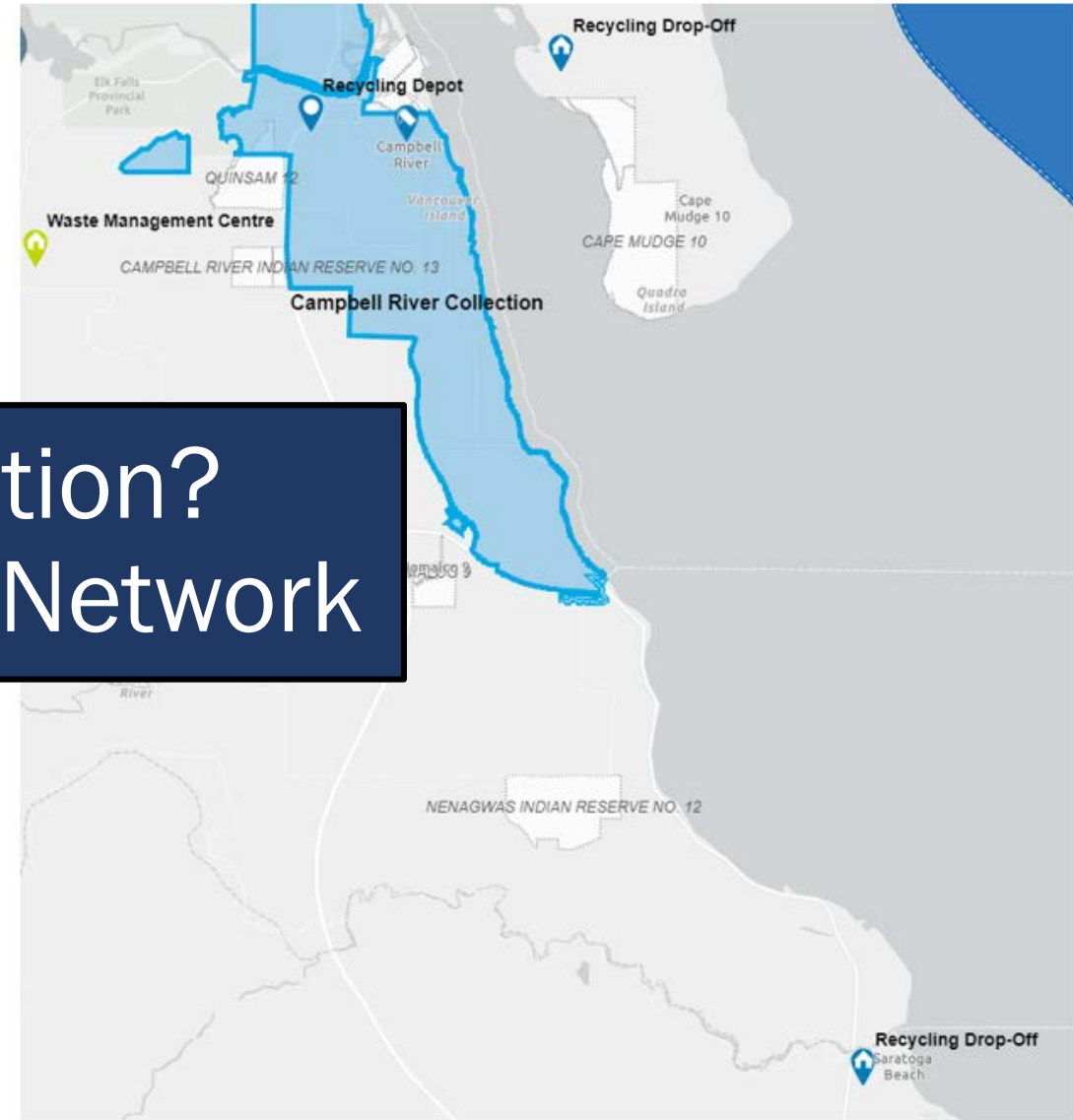
- 2006 was 101,595 ppl
- 2021, 15 years later 120,595 ppl
- 19% increase, 1.2% per year avg
- Can the existing system support another 23,000 people over the next 15 years?



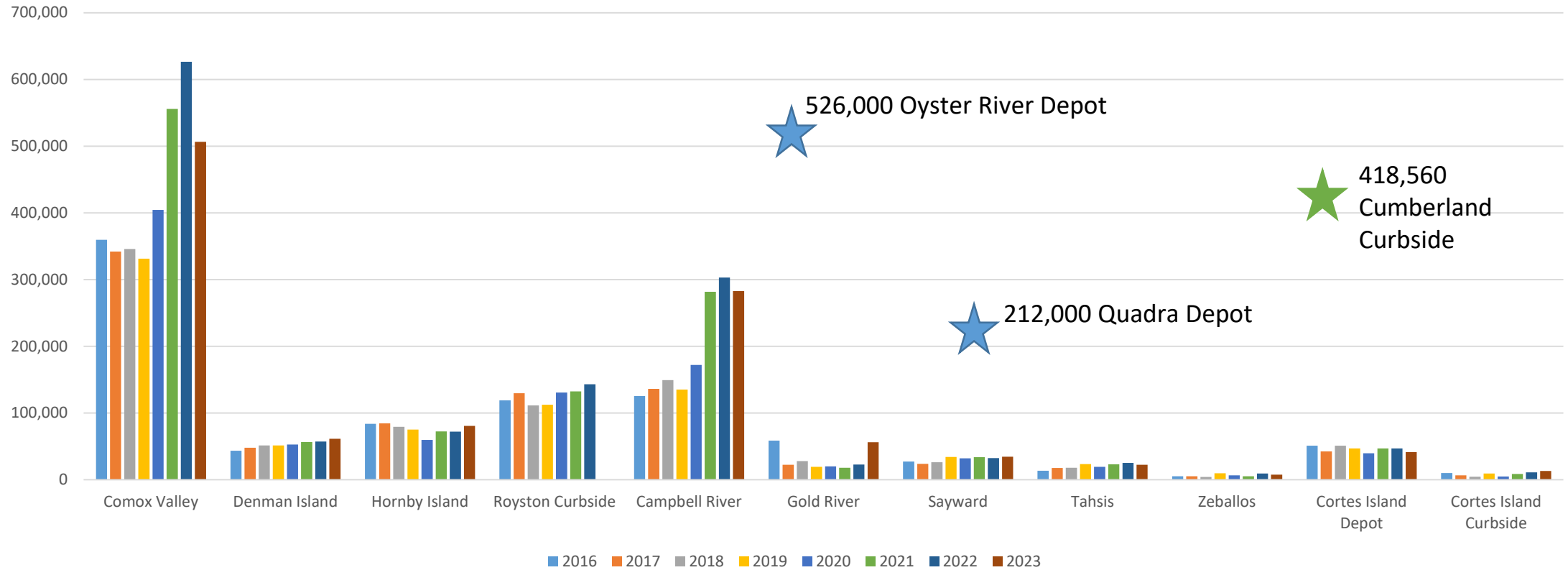
Any Questions or
Observations?



Alternative Option? Expanded Depot Network



Kilograms Recycle BC Material Collected 2017-2023



Hornby Island Depot and Transfer Station



- Population Estimate: 1,225 permanent residents
- Highest proportion of non-resident dwellings in the service area, popular tourist area and increase in population in summer months
- Depot operated by Hornby Island Residents and Ratepayers Association

Hornby Island

- Cost to operate excluding tip fees \$312,206
 - Didn't include allocation to core services or deduct revenue generated
- 1 manager, operator, 4 staff
- Generate around \$20,000 in revenue from bottles, and another \$25,000 from metal and EPR
- 784 hours a year - Open Friday to Sunday, expands to include Thursday and Monday in Summer



Hornby Island

- Residents and businesses pay to drop-off garbage at the Recycling Depot
- Fees are collected by volume and go to HIRRA to offset tip fees paid at CVWMC
- Revenue from tip fees by volume exceed what is paid at CVWMC by about \$60,000/yr
- No curbside collection of garbage or recycling
- 465 tonnes waste shipped off island, \$72,000



Hornby Island

- Waste generated is about double recyclables, adds economies of scale when staffed
- Estimate of cost per tonne handled: \$444/tonne
- Accounting for recycling revenue: \$378/tonne
- Estimate of cost per household: \$273-466/ Total-Occ. Dwelling



Cortes Island Waste Management Centre



- Population Estimate: 1,059 permanent residents
- Known to grow to over 3,000 in the summer months
- Also has curbside collection of garbage and recycling delivered to depot
- Depot operated by contractor hired by CSWM

Cortes Island

- Cost to operate excluding tip fees \$144,860
 - Didn't include allocation to core services or deduct revenue generated
- 1 manager, operator, 2 staff
- Generate around \$23,000 from metal and EPR
- 832 hours a year - Open Thursday to Sunday, year-round 9 am to 1 pm



Cortes Island

- No fee to drop off waste at CIWMC for residents or businesses, pay through SRD Function 374.
- Klahoose First Nation also have curbside collection for garbage and recycling. They are a 'customer' under SRD bylaw.
- 481 tonnes of waste shipped off the island, \$148,950 – higher cost per trip



Cortes Island

- Curbside service does not collect as much recycling as Recycle BC would like, lowest in the province. More recycling is collected at the depot, than through curbside (42 vs 13 tonnes).
- Estimate of cost per tonne handled: \$214/tonne
- Accounting for recycling revenue: \$179/tonne
- Estimate of cost per household: \$157-242/ Total-Occ. Dwelling

Unstaffed Recycling Drop-Off

Oyster River

- \$160,000, 526 tonnes of PPP
- 5,457-6,280 dwellings, occ-total
- 84-96 kg/hh
- \$304/tonne with hauling and processing
- \$26/household

Quadra Island

- \$85,900, 212 tonnes of PPP
- 1,420-1,741 dwellings, occ-total
- 122-150 kg/hh
- \$406/tonne with hauling and processing
- \$49/household

Unified Transportation Model

The purpose of the unified transportation concept is to unify solid waste transportation for all waste owned by the CVRD under the concept that once ownership is assumed at transfer stations or landfills by the CVRD, then all handling, transportation and long term care of the waste is the legal responsibility of the CVRD.



Unified Transportation Model

- Reduction in transportation service costs due to scale
- Reduced liability, provides cost effective and equitable service delivery across the CSWM area



Transferred \$67,000 (2012)
dollars from local services to the
regional service

Statements of Agreement

- We collectively fund the end of life management of waste in our Regional Landfill in Cumberland.
- We will collectively fund the transfer of waste and recyclables to the Regional Landfill.
- We will all be responsible for the disposal (tip fee) cost of the waste that we individually generate, or collectively as a municipality or service area.
- Now what about recycling collection?



Comparables

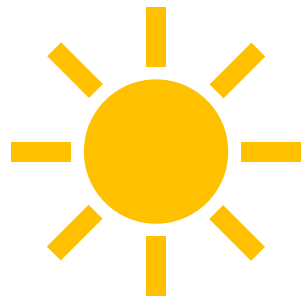
	Oyster River	Quadra	Cortes	Hornby	Sayward Curbside	Campbell River Curbside
Service	Bluebox Recycling outside EPR	Bluebox Recycling outside EPR	Waste, BB, EPR, HHW, bulky	Waste, BB, EPR, HHW, bulky	Waste P/U Only	Waste, PPP (funded), organics
Per hh	\$26	\$49	\$157	\$273	\$264	\$245
Per tonne	\$304	\$406	\$179-214	\$378-444	\$559	\$340

Funding Impacts

- Curbside service, if contracted out, includes the cost of assets in the annual collection fee. No cost to CSWM for assets.
- Curbside service, if operated by CSWM staff, would require the purchase of trucks and potentially carts/bins.
- Depots and transfer stations would require a capital investment, annual maintenance and an operating expense.
- Depots would increase the cost of the unified transportation agreement as CSWM would fund the movement of waste and recycling to the regional landfill, whereas curbside vehicles deliver to the landfill directly.

Questions for the Group

1. What is convenient and accessible, is it curbside, is it a depot?
2. If curbside is not selected as a preference, who should fund the expansion of the waste transfer system?
3. Curbside only includes the collection of typical blue box recycling, is that the baseline for a depot?
4. If there is a depot built, subscription curbside will still be available, how will that impact use?



Break Time



2020 EPR Diversion by all Collection Partners

Recycling and Diversion				
2020 EPR Program Quantities Collected	Reported Quantities			Units
	CVRD	SRD	CSWM	
Recycle BC	3566	1694	5260	tonnes
Encorp Return-it	1574	794	2368	tonnes
Brewers Recycling Container Collection Council	268	179	447	tonnes
CESA Electronic recycling	109	35	144	tonnes
CBA - Canadian Battery Assoc	321	226	547	tonnes
EPRA - Electronic Recycling	201	98	300	tonnes
Household Batteries (Call2Recycle)	14	7	21	tonnes
BCUOMA	913	611	1525	tonnes
PCA - Alarm Recycle	0.2	0.1	0.3	tonnes
PCA - Light Recycle	28	9	37	tonnes
PCA - Paint and HHW	93	44	137	tonnes
Major Appliance Stewardship (included in scrap)	3957	4084	8041	units
Tire Stewardship	571	672	1243	tonnes
Pharmaceuticals	2	1	3	tonnes
Stewardship Program Totals	7,660	4,371	20,072	tonnes

Includes local
government curbside
programs

Return to Retail

Private Depots

Thrift Stores

Large Volume

Generators

CSWM Sites

Hang in There.



- “Free and Reasonable”
- Each EPR program establishes their own accessibility through their program plan renewals.
- Ministry is reviewing their policy after the release of this report.
- Not a lot of precedent to know where they will go.

EPR Product Categories for Accessibility

Product Group	Product Examples
Daily, Small, Non-Hazardous	Packaging and Paper Products, Flexible Plastics, Foam and Glass
Weekly, Small, Non-Hazardous	Beverage Containers including Milk, Beer Containers
Yearly/Less than Yearly, Small/Medium, Hazardous	Paint, Pesticides, and Flammable Liquids, Used Motor Oil, Filters, Containers and Antifreeze, Medications, <i>Compressed Cylinders</i>
Yearly/Less than Yearly, Large, Hazardous	Auto Batteries/Lead Acid Batteries, <i>Lithium Ion Batteries</i>
Yearly/Less than Yearly, Small/Medium, Non-Hazardous	Electronics, Light Bulbs and Light Fixtures, Small Appliances, Alkaline and Rechargeable Batteries, Smoke Alarms, Carbon Monoxide Detectors, Telecommunication Equipment, Thermostats, Cell Phones
Yearly/Less than Yearly, Large, Non-Hazardous	Outdoor Power Equipment, Tires, Large Appliances, <i>Mattresses</i>

Index of Remoteness

Community	Index of Remoteness	Category	Community	Index of Remoteness	Category
Village of Gold River	0.428	Less Accessible	Town of Comox	0.288	Accessible
SRD A – West and Sayward	0.399	Less Accessible	City of Courtenay	0.286	Accessible
Village of Sayward	0.409	Less Accessible	Village of Cumberland	0.287	Accessible
Village of Zeballos	0.516	Remote	CVRD A - Baynes	0.287	Accessible
Village of Tahsis	0.517	Remote	CVRD B - Lazo	0.288	Accessible
SRD B - Cortes	0.356	Accessible	CVRD C - Merville	0.293	Accessible
SRD C - Quadra	0.315	Accessible			
SRD D - Oyster	0.298	Accessible	City of Campbell River	0.310	Accessible

Accessibility Framework for Single Family Curbside / Multi-family Collection / Direct Pick-Up

For Daily, Small, Non-Hazardous Packaging and Paper Products, Flexible Plastics, Foam and Glass

- Weekly/Bi-weekly for Accessible Communities
- Bi-Weekly for Less Accessible
- Monthly for Remote Areas

The population target decreases with increasing remoteness from 95 to 50%

Also offers that direct pick-up could be offered for other categories 1-4 times per year for our community types.

That includes all items except beverage containers, which they state are not feasible due to the deposit return.

Accessibility Framework for Permanent Collection Facilities

Product Group	Community Type	<u>Primary Factor</u> Drive Time	Min. Weekday Hours Open	Min. Weekend Hours Open	Consumers Satisfied, %	Population Target %
Packaging and Paper Products	Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	90
	Less Accessible	15 min	20	5	80	85
	Remote	20 min	20	5	80	50
Flexibles and Glass (assume foam too)	Accessible	10 min	32	8	80	90
	Less Accessible	15 min	20	5	80	85
	Remote	20 min	20	5	80	50

Accessibility Framework for Permanent Collection Facilities

Product Group	Community Type	<u>Primary Factor</u> Drive Time	Min. Weekday Hours Open	Min. Weekend Hours Open	Consumers Satisfied, %	Population Target %
Beverage Containers	Accessible	10 min	32	8	80	90
	Less Accessible	15 min	20	5	80	85
	Remote	20 min	20	5	80	50
Other EPRs	Accessible	20 min	32	6	80	90
	Less Accessible	30 min	20	5	80	85
	Remote	40 min	15	4	80	50

Accessibility Framework for Temporary Collection Facilities and Events

Product Group	Community Type	<u>Primary Factor</u> <u>Drive Time</u>	<u>Frequency of</u> <u>Collection/Event</u>	Minimum Hours Open	% Collaborating with EPRs	Population Target %
Packaging and Paper Products	Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	90
	Less Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	85
	Remote	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	50
Flexibles and Glass (assume foam too)	Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	90
	Less Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	85
	Remote	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	50

Accessibility Framework for Temporary Collection Facilities and Events

Product Group	Community Type	<u>Primary Factor</u> <u>Drive Time</u>	<u>Frequency of</u> <u>Collection/Event</u>	Minimum Hours Open	% Collaborating with EPRs	Population Target %
Beverage Containers	Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	90
	Less Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	85
	Remote	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	Not Accessible	50
Other EPRs	Accessible	20 min	4 times per year	10	50	90
	Less Accessible	30 min	2 times per year	8	50	85
	Remote	40 min	1 time per year	8	50	50

Group Questions

1. Does it align with our expectations of service levels for our communities?
2. How do we account for Island Communities that are not provided their own Index of Remoteness value?
3. How do we think this will impact our service?

Any Questions or
Observations?



Free Stores, Share Sheds and Swap Shops

Vivian Schau

45 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 8.6

Promoting Reuse Initiatives at CSWM Facilities

Why are we talking about Free Stores/ Swap/Share Sheds?

Step 2 of SWMP

Goal #2

Emphasizing the first 7 R's:

redesign





What are Free Stores and Share/Swap Sheds?

- Community-based facilities where individuals can donate unwanted items and other can take those items for FREE
- Typically run by volunteers and rely on community donations for their inventory
- Common items:
 - Clothing, household goods, furniture, books, toys
- Goals:
 - Divert usable items from the landfill
 - Provide to individual with desire to reuse

Philosophy

- Operate on a philosophy of mutual aid and resource sharing
- A social and environmental response to waste diversion by repurposing used goods formerly destined for the landfill



Key Considerations

Cost

- Staffing
- Operations
- Infrastructure

Space

- Storage
- Location

Time

- Illegal Dumping
- Logistics

Current Free Store Landscape in Rural Areas within CSWM

Location	Ownership	Funding	Insurance	Staffing
Denman Island Free Store	Building: rent	Residents of Denman Island through DIRA	Insured by CVRD, paid for by DIRA	Volunteers 1 paid staff 1 hr/wk
Hornby Island Free Store	Building: CVRD Property: CVRD hold lease with Province	Residents of Hornby Island through HIRRA	Insured by CVRD, paid for by HIRRA	Volunteers
Cortes Island Free Store	Building: Unknown Property: CVRD hold lease with Province	Residents of Cortes Island	Not insured	Volunteers
Village of Gold River * CLOSED *	Building: Village of Gold River Property: Village of Gold River	Village of Gold River	Village of Gold River	Unstaffed
Village of Tahsis	Building: Village of Tahsis Property: Village of Tahsis	Village of Tahsis	Village of Tahsis	Unstaffed
Village of Sayward	Building: Village of Sayward Property: Village of Sayward	Village of Sayward	Village of Sayward	Volunteers

What about the Urban Areas and Existing Services?

- Urban areas lack free stores, relying on non-profits and thrift stores.
- Existing urban services must be balanced with potential free store introduction.
- CSWM organizes events to improve diversion:
 - Pop-up clothing swaps
 - Repair cafes
 - Educational workshops

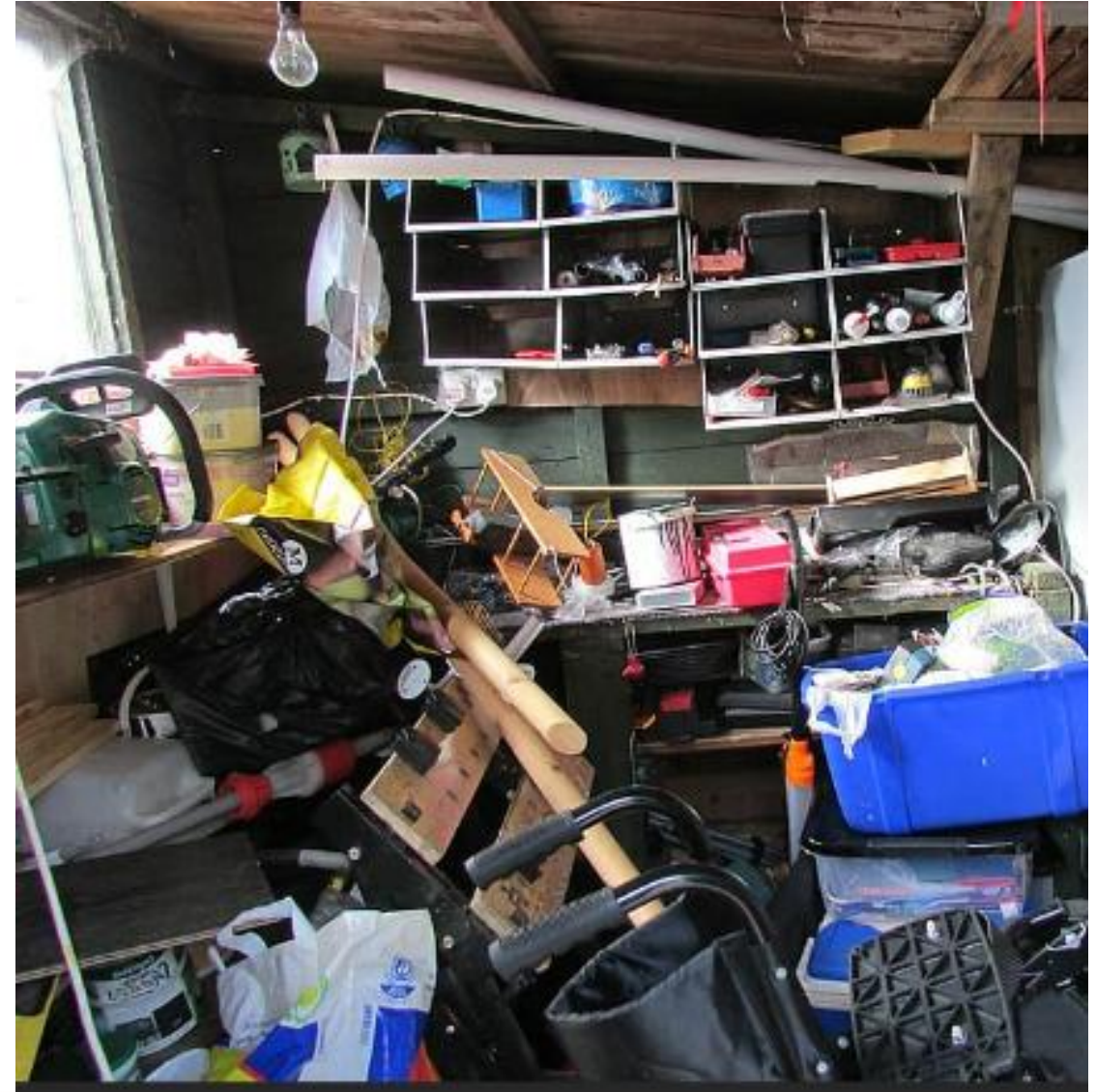


What about the Urban Areas and Existing Services?

Business	Contact Information	Hours of Operation	Details
Too Good to Be Threw Thrift Shop (Part of the Comox Valley Transition Society)	367-6th Street, Courtenay	Donations accepted	Accepts the following:
	250-338-0601 tgtbt@cvts.ca	Monday to Saturday	GENERALLY ANYTHING THAT IS: clean, free from stains, as well as items that are complete and NOT missing pie
	ww.cvts.ca	10am-4pm at the back of building	Electronics/appliances/books that are relatively up to da
		*Please ring the bell & wait for service	
		Store Hours:	The goals of the thrift shop are:
		Mon-Sat 9:30am-5pm	•To generate funds to support current and future progr •To provide clothing and household goods at no cost to
Value Village	350 Old Island Highway	Mon-Sat 9am-9pm	Also provide a pickup service.
	Courtenay, BC V9N 3P3	Sun 10am-8pm	Accepts the following:
	(250) 334-3085		Clothing & Shoes, Men's, Women's, Children's, Hats, Mi Hardback and Paperback Books, Magazines, Records, T Pots, Pans, Utensils, China Cups, Vases, Dishes, Cutlery, Electrical Toasters, Radio, Power Tools, Irons, Blenders,
			Last year alone, Value Village repurposed over 650 millio
Salvation Army		Generally 9am-5 pm (Check for individual store hours)	Accepts the following:
			Clothing, housewares, furniture, electronics, toys, medi computer.
	2966 Kilpatrick Ave, Courtenay (250) 338-8151	Dropoff Hours: 9am-4:30	The goals of the Salvation Army are:
			National Recycling Operations' (NRO) role, within the co

Benefits and Drawbacks

- Existing Alternative Services
- Operational Challenges
- Infrastructure Costs
- Legal and Safety Concerns



What's everyone else doing?

Cariboo Regional District

- manages 20+ share sheds for smaller communities
- Varying management: some volunteer-run, others staff-supported
- Challenges include excessive demand, staffing reliability, and clothing disposal issues
- Largest shed in Williams Lake faced fires, needle disposal, and vandalism
- Williams Lake shed remained closed post-COVID, unlike other sites

What's everyone else doing?

qathet Regional District

- Lasqueti Island operates a free store with paid staff
- Staff carefully manage to prevent misuse
- Outdoor area for item drop-offs
- Staff sort items, mainly clothing for removal or donation
- Free store located alongside recycling depot for recycling unusable items

What's everyone else doing?

Cowichan Valley Regional District

- Operated three free stores pre-COVID
- Faced challenges when left unstaffed
- Unwanted items dumped, lack of space for desired materials
- Loitering and conflicts arose, leading to break-ins and theft
- Temporarily closed during COVID
- Board decided to close all three post-COVID
- Increased resource requirements, safety risks cited
- Focus shifted to regional reuse through collaborations
- Collaborations with organizations like Habitat for Humanity ReStore
- Results highlighted need for dedicated staff
- Demonstrated mutual benefits of long-term collaboration

What's everyone else doing?

Capital Regional District

- Service for item donations only
- Customers can deliver reusable items
- Overseen by dedicated staff
- Donated items gathered by charities

What's everyone else doing?

Regional District of Nanaimo

- Supported Nanaimo Recycling Exchange
- Facility closed in March 2018
- Not considering reuse options currently
- Prefers directing traffic to existing non-profits

What's everyone else doing?

District of Squamish

- Hosts successful annual one-day swap event
- Residents plan garage sales around event
- Sole opportunity for furniture sharing in town
- Residents exchange unwanted items for free

What's everyone else doing?

City of Vancouver

- Launched pilot program for free swaps
- Ran from June to August
- Integrated with local activities
- Influenced by high cost of land

What's everyone else doing?

Northern Rockies Regional Municipality

- Fort Nelson - only community with essential services
- Pilot program faced challenges
- Share shed cost: \$12,000 to build
- Additional \$4,300 for management
- Items free, tipping fee for scale use
- Staffing required for operation
- Filtering donations to ensure resaleability

What's everyone else doing?

Metro Vancouver

- Metro Vancouver prioritizes boosting diversion rates of reusable materials.
- Collaboration with local partners is crucial.
- Key projects:
 - Reuse Days Event Pilot:
 - Conducted in 2023 with Urban Repurpose.
 - Collected 9,105 kg of reusable materials.
 - Highlighted need for proper staffing.
 - Innovative Reuse Programs:
 - Collects clothing, books, and bicycles at designated bins.
 - Research Study to Scale Reuse:
 - Partnered with Share Reuse Repair Initiative.
 - Assessed existing opportunities and proposed strategies.
 - Workshop held on October 10, 2023.
 - Providing recommendations for sustainability and community welfare.

Where do we go from here?

Step 2 of SWMP

Goal #2

Emphasizing the first 7 R's:

redesign



Important Considerations

- Impact to Existing Services
- Convenience is key to successful waste diversion
- Ensure minimal operating costs to keep requisition low
- Ensure customer and staff safety
- Support reuse organizations that rely on donations to fund their services

Important Considerations

Cost

- Labour – to provide coverage
 - \$134,020 per location to provide 7 day coverage
- Infrastructure – to ensure dry and secure storage of reuse inventory
 - varied depending on scope (shelving, electrical and HVAC not considered)
 - \$15,000 for ocean container
 - \$250,000 for standalone structure
- Communications/education - varied

Important Considerations

Logistics

- Garbage fee covers disposal if items are unsuitable
- Data, data, data
- CSWM attendant identifies and sets aside valuable items
- Items not removable on-site
- Non-profit staff visit weekly to recover valuable items
- Non-valuable items disposed of/recycled

Important Considerations

What to accept? Not accept? Example:

Accepted	Not Accepted
Furniture	Textiles
Art	Carpets
Household items	Non-functioning EPR items
Tools	Hazardous waste (HHW)
Unused building materials	Used building materials
Functional electronics	

Potential Solutions

Short-Term

1. Establish a pilot with non-profit(s) at CVWMC to be identified through an EOI with the necessary term staffing to support this new initiative to ensure its success.
2. Establish a pop-up event with non-profit(s) at CVWMC to be identified through an EOI, overseen by their volunteers/staff.

Longer-Term

1. Update the CVWMC/CRWMC masterplans as part of the SWMP



FEEDBACK

Next Steps

- Full report to follow, along with the full listing of existing thrift stores
- Feedback for revisions, edits
 - Deadline February 22, 2024
- Revised report will be forwarded to March Board for information

Any Questions or
Observations?



Next Steps and Wrap Up

Sarah Willie

5 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 8.7

Next Steps for the RSWAC

- Review the Engagement Plan and Draft Memos to be provided summarizing today's discussions. Respond with feedback, corrections promptly.
- Next meeting is an in-person meeting Thursday afternoon **April 4, 2024**

Wrap-Up

Parking Lot

- Any outstanding questions, comments, thoughts?

Roundtable

- Inspirations or frustrations?
- How did the meeting go?



Thank YOU.



Any questions or comments, email or call Sarah.

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Final Word and Meeting Adjournment from Co-Chair

