

REGIONAL SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes from the meeting held on Thursday, April 4, 2024 in the CVRD Civic Room at
770 Harmston Ave, Courtenay commencing at 1:00 pm

PRESENT:

W. Cole-Hamilton	Co-Chair, RSWAC
D. Baar	Campbell River
D. Birtch	Campbell River
M. E. Walling	Campbell River
J. Ellis	Courtenay
K. Lovely	Cumberland
K. Stubblefield	CVRD Area C
R. Telegus	Denman Island
K. Lukinuk	Hornby Island
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
S. Fisher, Engineering Services Coordinator	SRD
A. Milwid, First Nations Liaison	SRD
M. Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer	Village of Tahsis
L. Eason, CSWM Community Educator	Consultant
L. Bryan, Executive Director	Waste Management Association of BC
A. McLellan, Environmental Consultant	Let's Talk Trash
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
J. Sexton, Financial Planning Analyst	CVRD
K. Broughton, Senior Accounting Technician	CVRD
B. Meagher, Branch Assistant – Engineering Services	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 Nuuchahnulth territories.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the February 15, 2024 Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee (RSWAC) meeting and no errors or omissions were noted. The advisory committee adopted the April 4, 2024 meeting agenda.

Opening comments:

K. Stubblefield - The Capital Daily News recently featured an article on the Capital Regional District approach to cost reduction versus waste reduction.

(<https://www.capitaldaily.ca/news/cost-reduction-waste-reduction-focus-crd-waste-management>)

S. Willie – The article would be of interest. The CRD has some interesting initiatives.

Presentation on Repair Café Support – Technical Memo #3

A. McLellan from Let's Talk Trash presented on repair café support within the Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP). Repair cafés were identified in Step 2 of the SWMP public consultation process as one of the key actions residents felt should be considered. They align with the goal to support regional circular economy approaches towards zero waste. Repair cafés are part of the grassroots movement to reduce waste. Events are usually free to attend and held in public spaces with skilled volunteers on-site. They offer a low barrier entry point to community participation in the circular economy and foster a shift in perspective.

The first repair cafes started in 2019, paused during pandemic, and restarted in 2022. The community educator worked with local community organisations to hold events where hundreds of participants had hundreds of items repaired. Repair café events in Courtenay, Cumberland, Quadra Island, Campbell River were well attended with 78 percent of items being repaired. This year, there are plans for repair cafés in Courtenay, Cumberland, Campbell River, Tahsis, Denman Island, and Quadra Island. The community educator supports the cafés by providing resources and educational assistance. The fixers are volunteers. Posters are provided, event sandwich boards, registration forms, and tinker items for children to take apart and explore.

A jurisdictional scan was done across BC. Generally, community organisations act as host with support from local government. These events pause due to lack of resources, rather than lack of participation. Some organisations apply for grants. For example, the Capital Regional District solid waste plan includes community grants to support zero waste initiatives, which would cover repair cafés.

Options for implementation were outlined:

Strategy 3a: Maintain current repair café support: Community Educator continues to support five or six events annually. No significant change in operation and staffing time. Diversion impact is low because items fit within existing recycling programs. No financial implications as this current level of service budgeted within existing 2024 CSWM Educators' contracts.

Strategy 3b: Repair Café Event Coordination Grants: – Offer grants to community groups to facilitate events, support intergenerational learning, and create new pathways of accessibility. No significant change in operational and staffing time; current levels maintained and enhanced through more formal partnerships with local organisations. Estimated diversion potential is low, although anticipated to be higher than Strategy 3a. Financial implications involve pilot grants in the amounts of \$500 to \$2,500 for a maximum of \$10,000 grant funding available per year. No increase in assets owned by CSWM.

Strategy 3c: Repair Café Tool Kits: Invest in a basic set of supplies and tools to streamline coordination of events. No power tools included due to training and safety needs. No significant change in operational staffing impacts. Diversion impact is estimated to be low. Financial impact is low with total cost estimate of \$1,000 per tool kit, with two kits suggested to ensure support across the region.

Requested comments by Friday, April 12.

Advisory comments:

D. Baar and L. Eason provided comment on facilitating repair cafés.

D. Baar – Repair cafés are well-organised community building events. Many items are repaired successfully. The challenge is having the right parts and tools on hand for repair-on-demand. A vast range of supplies is needed for electronic repairs. Roughly a third of the items couldn't be repaired due to lack of supplies on hand. He took these items home. He would support monthly or bi-monthly events if there's demand. It's valuable to raise awareness of the ability to repair items and the impact repair can have on greenhouse gas reductions from an increase in lifespan

L. Eason – It would be helpful to have a supply kit to readily provide what's needed. Many people like using their own tools. The Courtenay Museum requested to host repair café. The aim is to schedule it around the Lake Trail School repair café. It may be worth having an event every two or three months. Quadra and Denman Islands discussed doing repair cafés on specific items such as textiles. Looking at consistent ways to organize and document these events. Repair cafés are also planned in Tahsis and at Cumberland School on April 27.

S. Willie – Lindsay is getting more and more requests. There's a set amount of funding in the budget. We need to make decisions about which initiatives to focus on. We'll put the options forward and choose which ones to prioritise and move forward. We want to hear if options are practical, effective, and providing value for money. Also, we want feedback on anything we might have overlooked.

K. Lukinuk – Do you suggest a list of which items to bring for repair cafés in advance?

L. Eason – We usually see which fixers can attend and stipulate whether it'll be small electronics and appliances (no televisions or phones). Then we make a poster to put out in the community.

S. Willie – Repair Cafes can sometimes focus on one item such as bicycles. During the pandemic, we had online repair cafés where instruction was provided on fixing major appliances people couldn't bring in. It can be helpful to think outside the box at initiatives such as app development, although this is beyond the scope our options.

M. Tatchell – These options raise questions about the mandate of CSWM. For social equity, repair cafés offer advantages for saving money on consumer items. In Tahsis, residents need to drive five hours to buy a new appliance in Campbell River. It's helpful to think about how CSWM initiatives address broader social issues, especially in small remote communities with many residents on fixed incomes and living below the poverty line.

A. McLellan – From an education standpoint, people start to look at consumables as repairable. They may look to see how repairable items are and purchase accordingly. Key to partner with other organisations and provide resource support to reduce workload for local government staff. Involving children in hands-on activities with tinker stations is a wonderful low-cost initiative.

S. Fisher – If focus is on diversion, how often are items in need of a makeover rather than repair? Sometimes items can be saved with cleaning or repainting to change how they look.

M. Walling – Repair skills provide community empowerment and a cultural shift. Every community has different needs and there is a role for us to play.

S. Willie – Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs lack repair management data. Local government can encourage a shift away from a sales perspective. We're exploring potential greenhouse gas (GHG) savings if electronics and textiles are kept in service, seeking data for a draft report in the summer.

R. Telegus – Would you clarify whether it's up to individual organisations to seek the grants out? Has Denman Island received grants and from whom?

A. McLellan – Currently, Lindsay helps organize and provide resources for organisations to hold repair cafés. We're looking at how other regions facilitate grants. We could do a one-year pilot with up to \$10,000 in grants where organisations apply on a first come first serve basis. CSWM would be the funder and the organisations would hold the events.

S. Willie – Grants would allow expansion of repair cafés with limited increase in funding and CSWM staffing resources.

K. Stubblefield – Do people bring in items for the fixer to repair, or are they tutored?

D. Baar – Typically it's a hand-off because participants are unprepared and there are safety concerns with electronics. There may be fewer safety issues with other types of items. David will talk participants through the repairs.

L. Bryan – What kind of opportunities are there for further engagement with schools and getting students involved in repairs?

L. Eason – Lots of potential. We have a school educator. Also, some schools such as Lake Trail and Cumberland have community school societies to help build skills. I see these initiatives growing in future, especially with tinker stations. Cumberland, kids are using tinker kits at the Cumberland recreation centre. Sewing kits also work well.

D. Baar – We often point out that most repairs are easy and don't require more than a high school electronics repair shop. It doesn't require a high level of education and skill for most appliances to be repaired safely. There's lots of potential to get students involved.

S. Fisher – It might be helpful to quantify how much of the community educator's time would be needed for each option.

S. Willie – The role could be expanded. Currently, we have rural and urban educator contracts and a school educator contract. It's listed as a contract or salary increase under option two.

S. Fisher – If we're not suggesting an increase in budget and staffing, it would be helpful to quantify how much we could do with current staffing.

S. Willie – If we say no change in budget/staffing, repair café initiatives would need to fit within current approach. Would anyone like to see removal of repair cafés from our approach?

M. Walling – Given that these initiatives scored highly in community consultation, I think we should continue with them.

R. Telegus – There's a lot of variability in the grant amounts of \$500 to \$2,500. I agree with S. Fisher about specifying whether we're in favour of fairly substantial grants.

S. Willie – The grant amounts are per group. The total amount is \$10,000.

S. Fisher – Do all three options equate to the same amount of staff time/effort?

S. Willie – No. One or more or none of the options can move forward. We couldn't implement them all without increased funding. We'll explore the options and have some further conversations about affordability. Members of our Finance team are here to listen. There'll be financial analysis coming forward.

L. Eason – We could clarify the amount of time required for these events. In rural areas such as Quadra and Denman Islands with active organisations, volunteers, and budgets, less CSWM involvement is required. A community educator shows up on the day with materials. We can also send them all the information and materials to run without a community educator. For some schools, there are paid staff in community school societies to do planning. However, these societies have time constraints and the community educators have needed to take lead this year. For the Cumberland Community School event, it was a fifty-fifty split of time between the community educators and the Cumberland School Society. Sometimes community educators buy materials and resources for events, approximately \$100.

K. Lukinuk – Does CSWM have goals to enhance certain areas of recycling or waste diversion?

S. Willie – We have a target from the province to reduce waste annually from 500 kg per person to 350kg per person. Many different options. Some are nontangible, such as building awareness and teaching skills. Some are tangible like banning single use plastics. We set targets, look at we can reasonably achieve and afford, and also set some stretch goals. Bottom line is to increase diversion.

Presentation on Community Education, Communication and Outreach – Technical Memo #2

A. McLellan from Let's Talk Trash presented on community education, communication and outreach. Throughout Step 2 of the SWMP engagement process, community education was identified an important factor in community behavior change.

Community education initiatives align with the goal of having informed residents, business and community partners empowered to participate in proper waste management practices. They support the guiding principles of promoting a zero waste approach, preventing organics and recyclables from going into the garbage, and promoting the seven R's (refuse, rethink, redesign, reduce, reuse, repair, and recycle). Preventing organics and recyclables from going into the garbage was the highest ranked guiding principle in the consultation process.

There's a lot of support for communication and education. CSWM has events tables and tents with an inviting appearance. It's worthwhile spending money on good infrastructure. A key strategy to boost diversion is to equip every sector of the community to optimize waste diversion. It's important to have a variety of communication and outreach methods because everyone takes in information differently. The more varied the approach, the larger amount of people we reach.

The more solid a foundation we have in community education, the more resilient we'll be when new services or changes come along. We can use our communication tools to address issues we can't anticipate. Communication and education are essential for a holistic waste management strategy where we build trust in the system and services.

There are two contracted community educators covering three roles in schools, urban communities and rural communities. A recent staff report provides details on the school curriculum being provided. The school educator has visited nearly all the schools in the CSWM service area with focus on Kindergarten to Grade 9. The community educator engages with approximately 5,000 residents per year by attending community events, and providing presentations and workshops for waste reduction efforts with community groups. They provide information on waste diversion, curbside collection, zero waste initiatives, and safe handling of construction waste.

There are additional resources such as a dedicated web page of regional services, links to videos, downloadable resources, and bookable tours. Planned improvements include expanding accessibility with a search chatbot and partnership with the Recycling Council of BC (RCBC) for easier access to information with an increased response time to queries. Residents prefer to have a variety of communication

methods such as social media, YouTube videos, and the Recollect app. The Recollect app is helpful for service disruption notices and collection reminders. Users can customize the app to choose how to receive messages.

Options for implementation were outlined:

Strategy 2a: Maintain education and engagement levels: Maintain the current level of engagement in schools and community with an additional communications staff member planned to join CSWM in 2024. No significant change in operational and staffing time. The diversion impact is low with anticipated incremental improvements each year as we reach more people. Financial impact is not applicable with no increase in cost to the CSWM budget.

Strategy 2b: Increase education, outreach and communications capacity: Increase outreach capacity to engage more community sectors. Tailor content for different communities or groups. Have more local outreach in publications to provide regular updates in solid waste news and to maintain awareness. The business sector represented only a small number of survey respondents in the public consultation process and could be targeted with added capacity. Likely almost half of business sector waste is divertible, e.g. restaurants and food waste. Operational and staffing impact is low with an increase in time and resources to implement new programs and service providers. Diversion potential is low to medium depending on where efforts are targeted, with more impact if directed toward the business sector. Financial implications would involve the cost to increase capacity

Strategy 2c: Invest in portable waste diversion infrastructure: Events produce a large amount of waste. We could provide waste diversion infrastructure such as different types of bins for organics, recyclables and garbage. Annual events are unlikely to invest in bins, whereas we could create a standardized system to provide the infrastructure. For example, Ribfest 2018 reported 64 percent waste diversion with infrastructure support provided by the CSWM Services Coordinator; Relay for Life Comox 2019 reported 75 percent waste diversion with similar infrastructure. Emergency centres may also benefit from having waste infrastructure available.

The community would become familiar with the waste infrastructure across different events if it's branded and standardised. Contamination can be limited with signage and people acting as monitors. Bins need to be portable in a car, no truck and trailer required. Preferable to have bins that don't stack due to cleanliness issues.

Operational and staffing impacts would include an increase in time required to research collection bins and create complimentary signage. On average, the CSWM Services Coordinator spends 20 hours per event to on-board, support and train event

coordinators. Diversion impact is low because events are infrequent. High impact for visibility by event attendees and encourages diversion in home. Financial implications are more significant. Collection bins can be costly, with an estimated \$40,000 to purchase portable event diversion infrastructure and another \$1,000 to \$1,500 per event to implement. A zero waste events coordinator may be needed.

Strategy 2d: Invest in Regional District facility diversion:

High frequency publicly accessible local government facilities could have permanent waste diversion infrastructure. Infrastructure could be standardized to normalize waste diversion in public spaces. Examine the balance between having too much versus too little information, bins of various shapes and sizes, visual images rather than text for accessibility. There are some free options such as collection bins for refundable containers and bear safe containers.

Operational and staffing impacts would be low to medium with an increase in time associated with coordinating waste collection and disposal. Diversion potential is low overall but with a high level of engagement through interaction with facility bins and potential for behavior change. Financial impacts would be medium with the cost of a two or three stream set of containers estimated at \$800 to \$3,000, or \$100 to \$350 for one. Refundable collection containers are free of charge, sometimes need cement platform. Estimated costs for four to six sets per location is \$2,000 per set for a total of \$40,000 plus signage costs.

Requested comments by Friday, April 12.

S. Willie – We're looking for feedback on how to prioritise spending, as well as anything we might have missed in our reports.

Questions for the group:

1. Have we gone far enough or too far?
2. Are these options practical, do they provide value for money, and do you think they will be effective?
3. Anything we overlooked?

Advisory comments:

R. Telegus – Impressed with the scope of the presentations. We should emphasize why waste diversion is so important to grab people's attention (e.g. plastics in ocean, groundwater contamination, area used for landfill). We could give talks at organisations, in addition to providing information on social media.

M. Walling – It's important to restate the goal of reducing waste from 500kg to 350kg per person in a ten-year window and to describe what it would look like. How many

garbage cans per person? Large events are great opportunity for brand engagement, e.g. MusicFest. If we decide how many people constitute a large event, it would help us develop a more phased approach to implementing this initiative. Appreciative of the monitoring piece, not an appealing role for many. Might help to train students to do monitoring shifts.

V. Schau – Our CSWM Services Coordinator categorises events and goes out into the community to promote diversion. As a service, we have exemptions for organics diversion if monitored for contamination.

S. Fisher – Are you including the member regions like Strathcona Regional District (SRD)?

S. Willie – If member municipalities want to participate, we would support them.

A. McLellan – Also, local government facilities can model diversion efforts.

K. Lovely – When quantifying the amount of waste per person, what is included? Organics, recycling?

S. Willie – Both reduction in waste and diversion are included in quantifying the amount of garbage per person, e.g. reducing food waste, packaging. We've only conducted one waste audit in 2017. Planning another waste audit this year looking at impact of expanded organics program. Some people have budgeting or capacity issues, e.g. they buy in bulk and items are double-packaged.

L. Bryan – Did you attend Coast Waste Management Association webinar on waste diversion at events last week? Good information from the City of Victoria about having waste sorters at recycling areas during events.

A. McLellan – I'll check out the recording.

W. Semmelink – Comments submitted in writing: Advertising needs to be short, to the point and memorable. Proliferate the R's. Get people to support the repair cafés by making the circular economy central to what it means to be a good person. Divert resources to support the caring people who will help make repair cafés happen. With the ability to recycle all our plastics, I am amazed that anyone without disposable diapers or invasive vegetation (if they have organic recycling) to put on the curbside can't reduce their waste stream to less than 100 kg per year. Also, I'm disappointed that invasive plants have not been allowed in our compostable waste in Campbell River. Many commercial nursery plants are invasive and most of us are unaware that they should not be grown, let alone thrown away.

Service Levels and Accessibility for CSWM Residents

S. Willie – I gave you information last meeting about accessibility. I would like the committee to discuss what might define accessibility for our communities. We will divide into three groups: highest density communities (e.g. Campbell River), in-between communities (e.g. Electoral Areas), and most remote communities (e.g. Tahsis). We need to determine recycling collection service levels and funding. Airspace saved through diversion is challenging to measure, but there is a long-term benefit to saving space in our landfills through recycling. Consider needs rather than wants. Identify the financial support needed to provide baseline service levels for waste collection and depots.

Consider EPR product categories for accessibility, e.g. daily/small/non-hazardous material such as paper products, yearly/less than yearly/large/hazardous materials such as auto batteries. Look at size and hazard level of different materials. Index of Remoteness doesn't always reflect the actual conditions in a community.

Parameters to consider: How long should it take to drive to recycle this material? How frequently should we hold collection events to prevent disposal or recyclable items, e.g. bulky item curbside pickup, electronics? How long can items be stored? Is the material hazardous to the environment or landfill and staff if improperly disposed of? Does garbage convenience match diversion convenience? You have 45 minutes to discuss 33 different materials in your three groups.

Steps for each discussion group

1. Discuss and choose what communities you think fit within your representative level of accessibility.
2. Review the sticky notes of materials and decide how you think each is best collected for your level of accessibilities.
3. Provide a suggested drive time in minutes for a "local drop-off" and a "regional drop-off" location.
4. If you need to add materials in multiple places, or modify the activity, use the blue sticky notes.
5. We will present to each other at the end.

M. Tatchell – Do you have the CSWM waste shed map?

S. Willie – Things have changed significantly since it was created. You can put a transfer station wherever you want in this exercise. You can also add materials if you think something is missing.

Group presentations:

After the break-out groups, each smaller group briefly presented their findings to the entire RSWAC. The results are summarized in Tables 1-5 following the minutes.

Next Steps and Wrap-up

S. Willie – Review pending memo on service level standards and accessibility, provide your feedback in advance of the next meeting. Are there any ways we can improve these meetings?

Contamination photos show curbside organics collection challenges. Challenges have increased with the new municipal collection bins. It's helpful to have municipal ambassadors in the community. Want to expand curbside organics but need to work on contamination issues through transition to new garbage collection bins. Continue to advocate in your community.

Co-Chair Cole-Hamilton – Thank you for putting this beautiful afternoon together. The two presentations were inspiring with the outreach possibilities. It made me feel good about garbage.

V. Schau adjourned the meeting.

GENERAL:

The next Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee is scheduled for May 2, 2024 at 1:00 pm.

TERMINATION:

The meeting terminated at 4:30 pm.

Recorded by:

Certified correct:

B. Meagher

Bridget Meagher
Branch Assistant – Engineering
Services

S. Willie

Sarah Willie
Manager of Solid Waste Planning
and Policy Development

Table 1: Accessibility by Community Groups

		CSWM (Most) Remote Communities					CSWM (Medium Density) Rural Communities					CSWM Urban (Highest Density) Communities					
Grouping of Remote, In-Between and Dense Communities	Material or Product	Local Private or Public Depot, or Retailer	Regional CSWM Depot	Local Government Curbside Collection	Collection Event or Special Curbside Service	Other	Local Private or Public Depot, or Retailer	Regional CSWM Depot	Local Government Curbside Collection	Collection Event or Special Curbside Service	Other	Local Private or Public Depot, or Retailer	Regional CSWM Depot	Local Government Curbside Collection	Collection Event or Special Curbside Service	Other	Material or Product
Suggested Most Remote Communities	Household Garbage			Weekly					Bi-Weekly					Bi-Weekly			Household Garbage
	Packaging and Paper	10-20 minutes					10-30 minutes		Bi-Weekly					Bi-Weekly			Packaging and Paper
	Yard Waste					Annual Fire Smart Collection Backyard Composting Support				Twice a year				Weekly (Muni's Only)			Yard Waste
	Food Scraps										Backyard Composting			Weekly			Food Scraps
	Clean Wood Waste	10-20 minutes						60-90 minutes		Once a year							Clean Wood Waste
Cortes Island	Drywall		60-90 minutes					60-90 minutes									Drywall
	Major Appliances	10-20 minutes						60-90 minutes		Twice a year							Major Appliances
	Mattresses		60-90 minutes					60-90 minutes		Twice a year							Mattresses
	Scrap Metal	10-20 minutes					10-30 minutes			Once a year		Undecided between Local or Regional				Private Collectors	Scrap Metal
	Tires				Annual Collection			60-90 minutes		Once a year		Undecided between Local or Regional					Tires
Suggested In-Between Communities	Cooking Oil		60-90 minutes					60-90 minutes									Cooking Oil
	Fire Extinguishers		60-90 minutes							Once a year							Fire Extinguishers
	Household Hazardous Waste				Annual Collection			60-90 minutes		Twice a year		Undecided between Local or Regional					Household Hazardous Waste
	Large Lithium Batteries					Return to Retailer/Dealer				Twice a year							Large Lithium Batteries
	Lead Acid Car Batteries	10-20 minutes					10-30 minutes			Twice a year		Undecided between Local or Regional					Lead Acid Car Batteries
SRD Electoral Area D (East)	Motor Oil, Antifreeze and Containers	10-20 minutes								Twice a year		20-25 minute drive					Motor Oil, Antifreeze and Containers
	Propane Tanks (inc. single use)				Annual Collection			60-90 minutes		Twice a year							Propane Tanks (inc. single use)
	Beer Containers (with a deposit)	10-20 minutes					10-30 minutes					20-25 minute drive					Beer Containers (with a deposit)
	Beverage Containers (with a deposit)	10-20 minutes					10-30 minutes					20-25 minute drive					Beverage Containers (with a deposit)
	Clothing and Textiles					Free Stores, Charity Collection					Reuse	20-25 minute drive					Clothing and Textiles
Suggested Highest Density Communities	Electronics, Cell Phones, Modems etc.	10-20 minutes					10-30 minutes										Electronics, Cell Phones, Modems etc.
	Film Plastics	10-20 minutes					10-30 minutes										Film Plastics
	Foam	10-20 minutes					10-30 minutes										Foam
	Glass Jars	10-20 minutes					10-30 minutes					Undecided between Local or Regional					Glass Jars
	Household Batteries	10-20 minutes					10-30 minutes					Undecided between Local or Regional					Household Batteries
Village of Gold River	Light Bulbs and Fixtures	10-20 minutes					10-30 minutes					20-25 minute drive					Light Bulbs and Fixtures
	Small Appliances	10-20 minutes					10-30 minutes										Small Appliances
	Smoke and CO Alarms	10-20 minutes					10-30 minutes					Undecided between Local or Regional					Smoke and CO Alarms
	Thermostats				Annual Collection		10-30 minutes					Undecided between Local or Regional					Thermostats
	Outdoor Power Equipment		60-90 minutes				10-30 minutes			Twice a year							Outdoor Power Equipment
City of Courtenay	Pesticides	10-20 minutes						60-90 minutes				Undecided between Local or Regional					Pesticides
	Flammables		60-90 minutes					60-90 minutes				Undecided between Local or Regional					Flammables
	Paint				Annual Collection		10-30 minutes	60-90 minutes				Undecided between Local or Regional					Paint
	Prescription Medications					Return to Pharmacies Charity Collection and Free Stores					Pharmacy	20-25 minute drive					Prescription Medications
	Books										Reuse	20-25 minute drive					Books
* Duplicates colour coded Gold River is listed in all 3 areas.	Marine Debris - Added												With Partners				Marine Debris - Added
	Little Lithium Ion Batteries - Added	10-20 minutes															Little Lithium Ion Batteries - Added
	Bulky Items - Added																Bulky Items - Added
Additional Group Comments							All local depot items should be at the regional as well.					Garbage convenience should match diversion. Relative danger to the size of the items (i.e. batteries) Convenience for smaller high toxic/HHW items					

Table 2: Local Depot Materials

		Remote	In-Between	Dense
Grouping of Remote, In-Between and Dense Communities	Material or Product	Local Private or Public Depot, or Retailer	Local Private or Public Depot, or Retailer	Local Private or Public Depot, or Retailer
Suggested Most Remote Communities	Household Garbage			
	Packaging and Paper	10-20 minutes	10-30 minutes	
	Yard Waste			
	Food Scraps			
	Clean Wood Waste	10-20 minutes		
	Drywall			
	Major Appliances	10-20 minutes		
Suggested In-Between Communities	Mattresses			
	Scrap Metal	10-20 minutes	10-30 minutes	Undecided
	Tires			Undecided
	Cooking Oil			
	Fire Extinguishers			
	Household Hazardous Waste			Undecided
	Large Lithium Batteries			
Suggested Highest Density Communities	Lead Acid Car Batteries	10-20 minutes	10-30 minutes	Undecided
	Motor Oil, Antifreeze and Containers	10-20 minutes		20-25 minute drive
	Propane Tanks (inc. single use)			
	Beer Containers (with a deposit)	10-20 minutes	10-30 minutes	20-25 minute drive
	Beverage Containers (with a deposit)	10-20 minutes	10-30 minutes	20-25 minute drive
	Clothing and Textiles			20-25 minute drive
	Electronics, Cell Phones, Modems etc.	10-20 minutes	10-30 minutes	
Suggested Highest Density Communities	Film Plastics	10-20 minutes	10-30 minutes	
	Foam	10-20 minutes	10-30 minutes	
	Glass Jars	10-20 minutes	10-30 minutes	
	Household Batteries	10-20 minutes	10-30 minutes	Undecided
	Light Bulbs and Fixtures	10-20 minutes	10-30 minutes	20-25 minute drive
	Small Appliances	10-20 minutes	10-30 minutes	
	Smoke and CO Alarms	10-20 minutes	10-30 minutes	
	Thermostats		10-30 minutes	Undecided
	Outdoor Power Equipment		10-30 minutes	
	Pesticides	10-20 minutes		Undecided
	Flammables			Undecided
	Paint		10-30 minutes	Undecided
	Prescription Medications			20-25 minute drive
	Books			20-25 minute drive
	Marine Debris - Added			
	Little Lithium Ion Batteries - Added	10-20 minutes		
	Bulky Items - Added			

Table 3: Regional Depot Materials

		Remote	In-Between	Dense
Grouping of Remote, In-Between and Dense Communities	Material or Product	Regional CSWM Depot	Regional CSWM Depot	Regional CSWM Depot
Suggested Most Remote Communities	Household Garbage			
	Packaging and Paper			
	Yard Waste			
	Food Scraps			
	Clean Wood Waste		60-90 minutes	
	Drywall	60-90 minutes	60-90 minutes	
	Major Appliances		60-90 minutes	
	Mattresses	60-90 minutes	60-90 minutes	
	Scrap Metal			
	Tires		60-90 minutes	
Suggested In-Between Communities	Cooking Oil	60-90 minutes	60-90 minutes	
	Fire Extinguishers	60-90 minutes		
	Household Hazardous Waste		60-90 minutes	
	Large Lithium Batteries			
	Lead Acid Car Batteries			
	Motor Oil, Antifreeze and Containers			
	Propane Tanks (inc. single use)		60-90 minutes	
	Beer Containers (with a deposit)			
	Beverage Containers (with a deposit)			
	Clothing and Textiles			
Suggested Highest Density Communities	Electronics, Cell Phones, Modems etc.			
	Film Plastics			
	Foam			
	Glass Jars			
	Household Batteries			
	Light Bulbs and Fixtures			
	Small Appliances			
	Smoke and CO Alarms			
	Thermostats			
	Outdoor Power Equipment	60-90 minutes		
	Pesticides		60-90 minutes	
	Flammables	60-90 minutes	60-90 minutes	
	Paint		60-90 minutes	
	Prescription Medications			
	Books			
	Marine Debris - Added			With Partners
	Little Lithium Ion Batteries - Added			
	Bulky Items - Added			

Table 4: Curbside Materials

		Remote	In-Between	Dense	
Grouping of Remote, In-Between and Dense Communities	Material or Product	Local Government Curbside Collection	Local Government Curbside Collection	Local Government Curbside Collection	Material or Product
Suggested Most Remote Communities	Household Garbage	Weekly	Bi-Weekly	Bi-Weekly	Household Garbage
	Packaging and Paper		Bi-Weekly	Bi-Weekly	Packaging and Paper
	Yard Waste			Weekly (Muni's Only)	Yard Waste
	Food Scraps			Weekly	Food Scraps
	Clean Wood Waste				Clean Wood Waste
Village of Zeballos	Drywall				Drywall
	Major Appliances				Major Appliances
	Mattresses				Mattresses
	Scrap Metal				Scrap Metal
	Tires				Tires
Suggested In-Between Communities	Cooking Oil				Cooking Oil
	Fire Extinguishers				Fire Extinguishers
	Household Hazardous Waste				Household Hazardous Waste
	Large Lithium Batteries				Large Lithium Batteries
	Lead Acid Car Batteries				Lead Acid Car Batteries
SRD Electoral Area D (Eastern)	Motor Oil, Antifreeze and Containers				Motor Oil, Antifreeze and Containers
	Propane Tanks (inc. single use)				Propane Tanks (inc. single use)
	Beer Containers (with a deposit)				Beer Containers (with a deposit)
	Beverage Containers (with a deposit)				Beverage Containers (with a deposit)
	Clothing and Textiles				Clothing and Textiles
Village of Tahsis	Electronics, Cell Phones, Modems etc.				Electronics, Cell Phones, Modems etc.
	Film Plastics			Possible?	Film Plastics
	Foam				Foam
	Glass Jars				Glass Jars
	Household Batteries				Household Batteries
Denman Island	Light Bulbs and Fixtures				Light Bulbs and Fixtures
	Small Appliances				Small Appliances
	Smoke and CO Alarms				Smoke and CO Alarms
	Thermostats				Thermostats
	Outdoor Power Equipment				Outdoor Power Equipment
CVRD Electoral Area C	Pesticides				Pesticides
	Flammables				Flammables
	Paint				Paint
	Prescription Medications				Prescription Medications
	Books				Books
Village of Gold River	Marine Debris - Added				Marine Debris - Added
	Little Lithium Ion Batteries - Added				Little Lithium Ion Batteries - Added
	Bulky Items - Added				Bulky Items - Added

Additional Group Comments

Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting

SWMP Renewal Meeting #9

April 4, 2024

In-Person

1:00 pm to 4:30 pm



Review of Agenda and Minutes

Co-Chair

10 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 9.1

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.



Meeting Agenda

- Presentation of two technical memo's
 - Repair Café Support
 - Education, Communication and Outreach
- Further Explore Accessibility and Service Levels



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.



Repair Café Support

Abby McLennan, Let's Talk Trash

60 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 9.2

Repair Café Support

TECHNICAL MEMO #3



Outline

1. STRATEGY DESCRIPTION
2. CSWM BACKGROUND
3. OPTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION
4. SUMMARY OF STRATEGIC ACTIONS



Strategy Description

– REPAIR CAFÉ – SUPPORTING THE REPAIR ECONOMY–

Goal

1

To support regional circular economy approaches, and to work towards a goal of zero waste.



Guiding Principle

1

Promote and support zero waste approaches and support a circular economy.

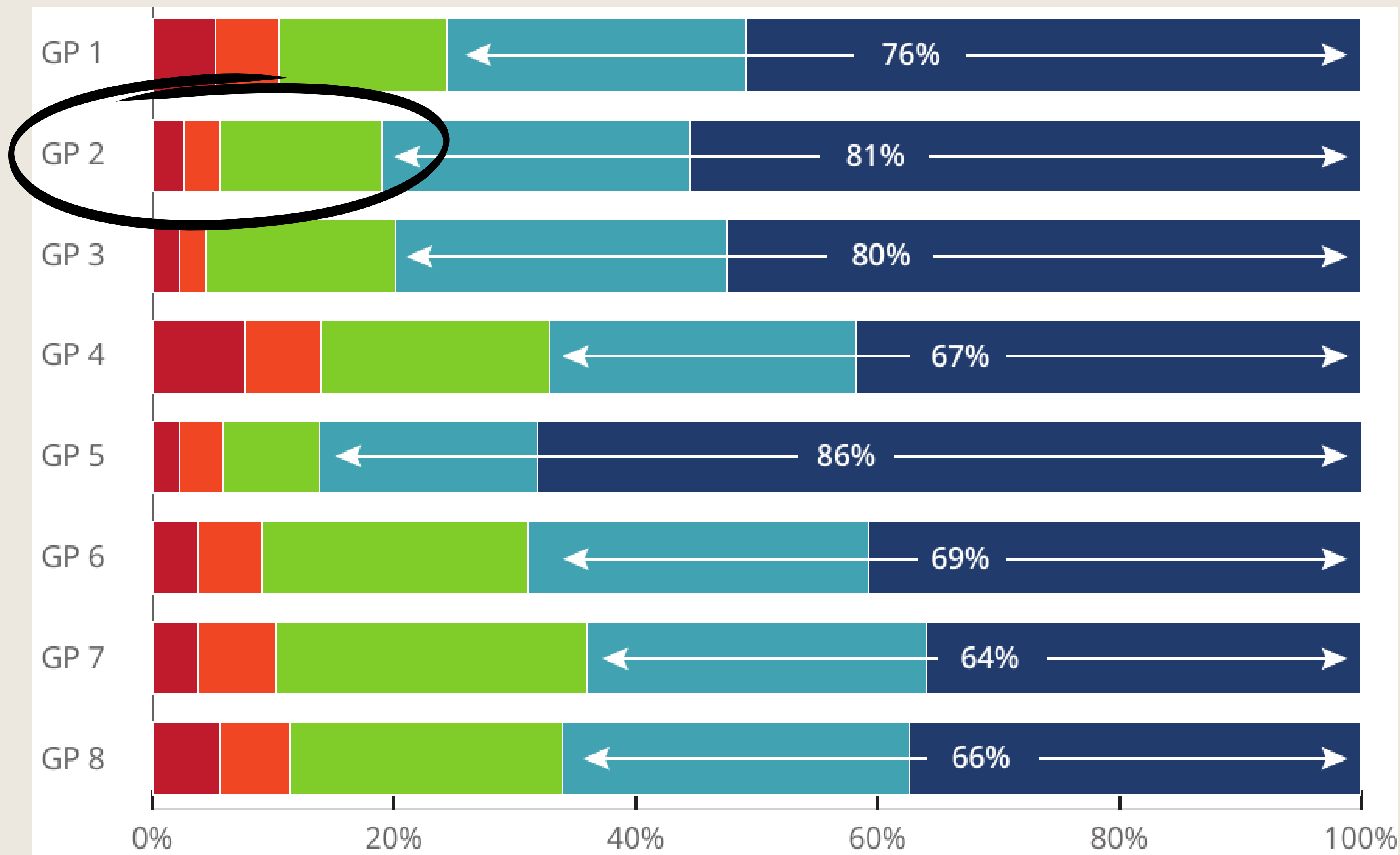


Guiding Principle

2

Promote the first 7 R's – Refuse, Rethink, Redesign, Reduce, Reuse, Repair, and Recycle.





Repair Cafés were identified during Step 2 of the Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) renewal public consultation process as one of the key actions residents felt should be considered.



- This grassroots movement aims to reduce waste, curb consumption, combat planned obsolescence, and foster regional resilience.

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- These events are usually free to attend and are often held in a public and accessible space that is equipped with tools and supplies where individuals, assisted by skilled volunteers, can repair or mend everyday items.

- This grassroots movement aims to reduce waste, curb consumption, combat planned obsolescence, and foster regional resilience.
- These events are usually free to attend and are often held in a public and accessible space that is equipped with tools and supplies where individuals, assisted by skilled volunteers, can repair or mend everyday items.
- Repair Cafés encourage a shift in perspective, viewing waste as a resource, something that has value, rather than a mere cost or burden.

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- These events are usually free to attend and are often held in a public and accessible space that is equipped with tools and supplies where individuals, assisted by skilled volunteers, can repair or mend everyday items.
- Repair Cafés encourage a shift in perspective, viewing waste as a resource, something that has value, rather than a mere cost or burden.
- Supporting a circular model that embraces practices such as reuse, repair, refurbish, remanufacture, repurpose, recycle, and compost empowers community members to actively contribute to the principles of a circular economy.

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- These events are usually free to attend and are often held in a public and accessible space that is equipped with tools and supplies where individuals, assisted by skilled volunteers, can repair or mend everyday items.
- Repair Cafés encourage a shift in perspective, viewing waste as a resource, something that has value, rather than a mere cost or burden.
- Supporting a circular model that embraces practices such as reuse, repair, refurbish, remanufacture, repurpose, recycle, and compost empowers community members to actively contribute to the principles of a circular economy.
- Promote a shift in behaviour and offers tools to prolong an item's lifespan, promotes valuing natural resources, advocates for reduced consumption, initiates discourse on repairable purchases, and educates residents on recycling options for irreparable items.

Goals of the Repair Café:

1. To bring back repair into local society in an inclusive and collective way;
2. To maintain and grow repair expertise, skills and knowledge;
3. To promote social cohesion in the local community by connecting a diverse variety of residents together through an inspiring and low-key event that aims to reduce waste;
4. To extend the life of products and reduce waste.





CSWM Background

–REPAIR CAFÉS–

- 2019 – first local Repair Café took place in Courtenay then paused during COVID-19
- 2022 – restart with CSWM Community Educator working with a various organizations within the Comox Valley Regional District and Strathcona Regional District
- Hundreds of participants have attended these events and hundreds of items have been repaired.

CSWM Background

-CAFÉ STATS SNAPSHOT-

2022 & 2023:

LOCATION	ITEMS REPAIRED
----------	----------------

Courtenay	77
-----------	----

Cumberland	50
------------	----

Quadra Island	35
---------------	----

Courtenay	140
-----------	-----

Campbell River	126
----------------	-----

CSWM Background

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- On average, 78% of items being brought to these Repair Cafés are able to be repaired.

CSWM Background

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- Repair Cafés have taken place in Courtenay, Cumberland, Campbell River and on Denman and Quadra Islands.

CSWM Background

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Campbell River	126
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- On average, 78% of items being brought to these Repair Cafés are able to be repaired.
- Repair Cafés have taken place in Courtenay, Cumberland, Campbell River and on Denman and Quadra Islands.
- City of Campbell River hosts an annual Repair Café with municipal staff taking on all logistics associated with event coordination and planning.

CSWM Background

2024 Community Educator work plan outlines providing support and assistance for one Repair Café in each of the following communities;

- Courtenay
- Cumberland
- Campbell River
- Tahsis
- Denman Island
- Quadra Island



REPAIR CAFÉ

Join us at the Sportsplex Saturday, April 6, 2024, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

FREE

City of Campbell River

For more information, visit campbellriver.ca/events or 250-923-7911.

The banner features two photographs: on the left, a man in a plaid shirt is working on a small electronic device; on the right, a woman is operating a sewing machine. A small 'REPAIR CAFÉ' logo is in the top right corner, and the City of Campbell River logo is in the bottom left corner.

How the CSWM Community Educator currently supports Repair Cafés:

- Provides event organizational assistance
- Supplies resource material
- Issues communications and assists with managing volunteer ‘fixers’ if required
- Provides posters, an event sandwich board, registration forms for the event, data tracking forms and a large print out of ‘House Rules’
- Coordination with CSWM Curriculum Educator to assist with the creation of a ‘tinker station’ to engage children

REPAIR CAFE



Sat. November 18, 2023

11:00 am to 3:00 pm

Lake Trail Community School

Region	Host	Frequency	Timing	Funding
Kamloops	Transition Kamloops & Kamloops Makerspace	4x a year	10am – 3pm Weekday & Weekends	Grant
100 Mile House	100 Mile Repair Café	Monthly	11am – 3pm Fridays & Weekends	Cariboo Regional District
Port Coquitlam	Rotary	Monthly	10am – 2pm Weekends	City of PoCo & Rotary
Maple Ridge	Ridge Meadows Recycling Society	Monthly	10am – 2pm Weekends	Sponsorships
Richmond	City of Richmond	Monthly	10am – 2pm Weekends	City of Richmond & Metro Vancouver
Vancouver	Society Promoting Environmental Conservation	Piloting 9 Cafés in 2024	9:30am – 1:30pm Weekends	City of Vancouver & Metro Vancouver
Squamish	Squamish Climate Action Network & District of Squamish	2x a year	Oct and May 9 am to 1 pm	District of Squamish
North Saanich	Graham Barbour	Monthly	10am – 1pm Weekends	United Church & Home Hardware
Capital Regional District (CRD)	Various organizations	1+/year	Varies	CRD provides grants up to \$3000

Options for Implementation

–STRATEGY 3A: MAINTAIN CURRENT REPAIR CAFÉ SUPPORT–

- Existing support includes providing assistance through the CSWM Community and Curriculum Educator to support five to six Repair Café events throughout the service area annually.
- Current plans for improvement include website updates to provide additional support and resources.
- Option to enhance ReCollect app with repair options.
- Continued staff advocacy for Right to Repair policy and strengthening regulations nationally and provincially.

Operational & Staffing Impacts: No significant change in current operational and staffing time as current levels would be maintained.

Estimated Diversion Potential: Diversion impact is estimated to be low with the assumption that the majority of items being brought in for repair likely fit into existing recycling programs. Textiles are the exception and add a new diversion potential.

Financial Implications: The total cost to maintain this current level of service has been budgeted within the existing 2024 CSWM Educators’ contracts.

Regulatory Authority Required: No service required.

Diversion Potential Low 100's of items repaired to date	Operational Impacts Low Maintain current operational and staffing levels	Financial Implications N/A No increase in costs or assets owned by CSWM
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Options for Implementation

–STRATEGY 3B: REPAIR CAFÉ EVENT COORDINATION GRANTS–

- A growing trend with Repair Cafés is working in collaboration with community groups and organizations to decrease the workload associated with coordination of these events.
- Offering grants can increase the willingness to participate and can act as a catalyst for collaboration to help expand the Community Educator's outreach abilities.
- Grants could also be used to support intergenerational learning and to build skills in younger fixers, recruiting from North Island College or high schools.
- Opportunity for new pathways of accessibility to increase participation and diversion.

Operational & Staffing Impacts: No significant change in current operational and staffing time as current levels would be maintained and enhanced through a more formal partnership with local groups and organizations.

Estimated Diversion Potential: Estimated diversion potential is low, though anticipated to be higher than Strategy 3a.

Financial Implications: It is suggested to pilot grants in the amount of \$500-\$2,500 for a maximum of \$10,000 available for total grant funds for the year.

Regulatory Authority Required: No service required.

Diversion Potential

Low

Promotes sustainable volunteerism

Operational Impacts

Low

Maintain current operational and staffing levels

Financial Implications

Low

\$10,000 in grants. No increase in assets owned by CSWM

Options for Implementation

–STRATEGY 3C: REPAIR CAFÉ TOOLKITS–

- Common tools and supplies are utilized at each event.
- Investing in a basic set of supplies and consumables into a consolidated, portable and organized system can facilitate and streamline the coordination of events.



Operational & Staffing Impacts: No significant change in current operational and staffing time as current levels would be maintained.

Estimated Diversion Potential: The diversion impact is estimated to be low.

Financial Implications: The total cost estimate for the creation of a toolkit is estimated to be \$1,000 per kit, two kits are suggested to ensure support across the region.

Regulatory Authority Required: No service required.

Diversion Potential
Low

Operational Impacts
Low
*Maintain current
operational and staffing
levels*

Financial Implications
Low
*\$2,000 in upfront costs,
\$500 annually in
consumables.*

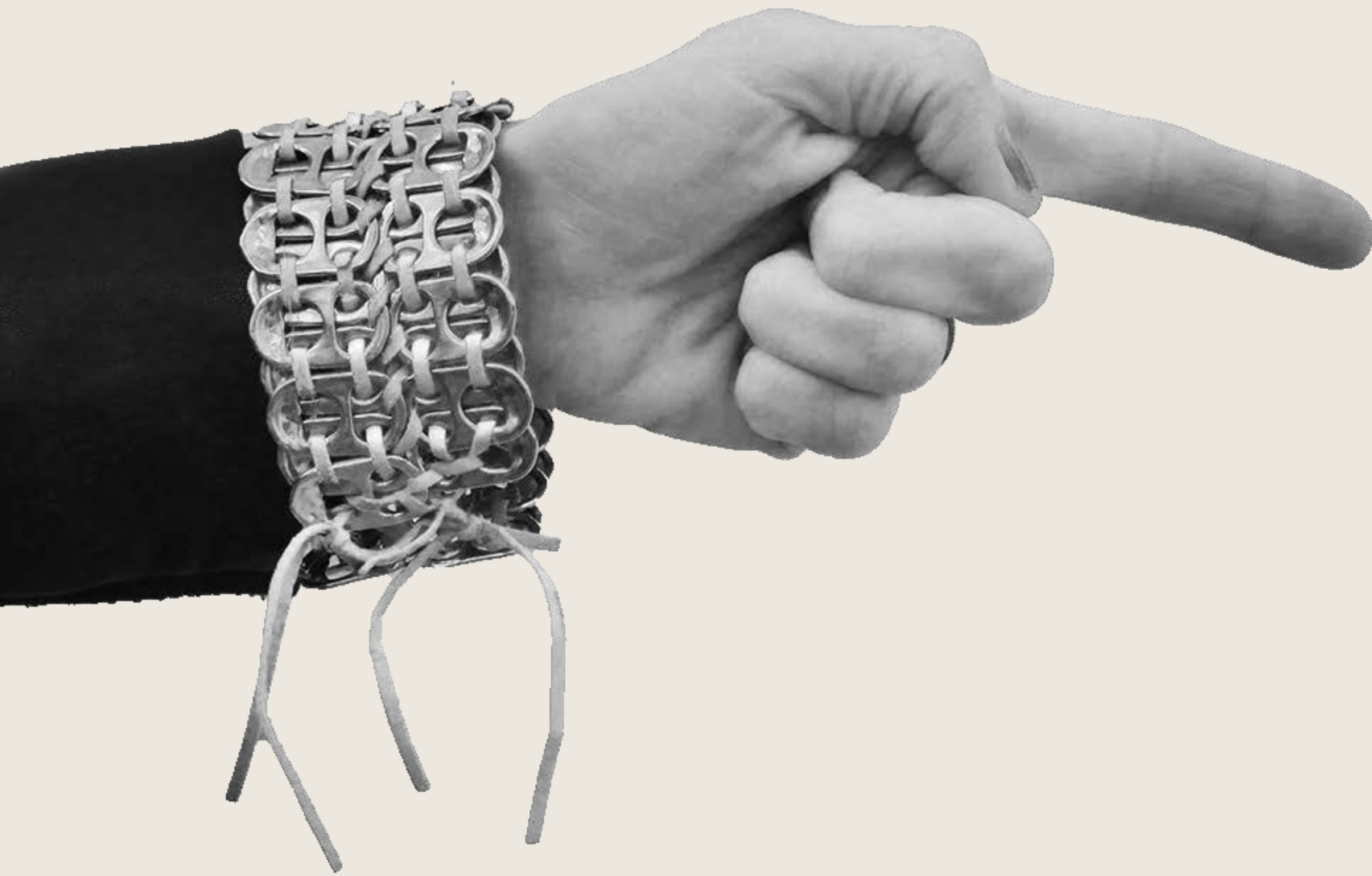
Summary of Strategic Actions

Strategy	Diversion Potential	Ops. & Staffing	Financial Impact	Comments
3a. Maintain Current Repair Café Support	Low	Low	N/A	Within existing budget
3b. Repair Café Event Coordination Grants	Low	Low	Low	Up to \$10,000 of grant funding provided annually
3c. Repair Café Toolkits	Low	Low	Low	\$2,000 initial, \$500 annually

Summary of Strategic Actions

- Repair cafés offer a multifaceted approach to sustainability, encompassing environmental, economic, and social benefits.
- Provide tangible solutions to the challenges posed by a throwaway culture while fostering a sense of community and resourcefulness.
- Continuing to support this strategy also allows for a more thorough pulse on collecting data from these events in terms of participants, number of items repaired and diversion statistics.





Thank you!

Presentation created for the Comox Strathcona
Regional Solid Waste Management Advisory
Committee

- April 4, 2024 -



team@letstalktrash.ca



www.letstalktrash.ca

Questions for the Group

1. Have we gone far enough, or too far?
2. Are these options practical, do they provide value for money and do you think they will be effective?
3. Anything we overlooked?



Any Further Questions or
Observations?



Education, Communication and Outreach

Abby McLennan

60 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 9.3

Community Education, Communication & Outreach

TECHNICAL MEMO #2



Outline

1. STRATEGY DESCRIPTION

2. CSWM BACKGROUND

3. OPTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

4. SUMMARY OF STRATEGIC ACTIONS



Strategy Description

–EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH WITHIN THE CSWM–

Goal

5

To have informed residents, businesses and community partners empowered to participate effectively and consistently in proper waste management practices. To use CSWM enforcement powers when necessary.



Guiding Principle

1

Promote and support zero waste approaches and support a circular economy.



Guiding Principle

5

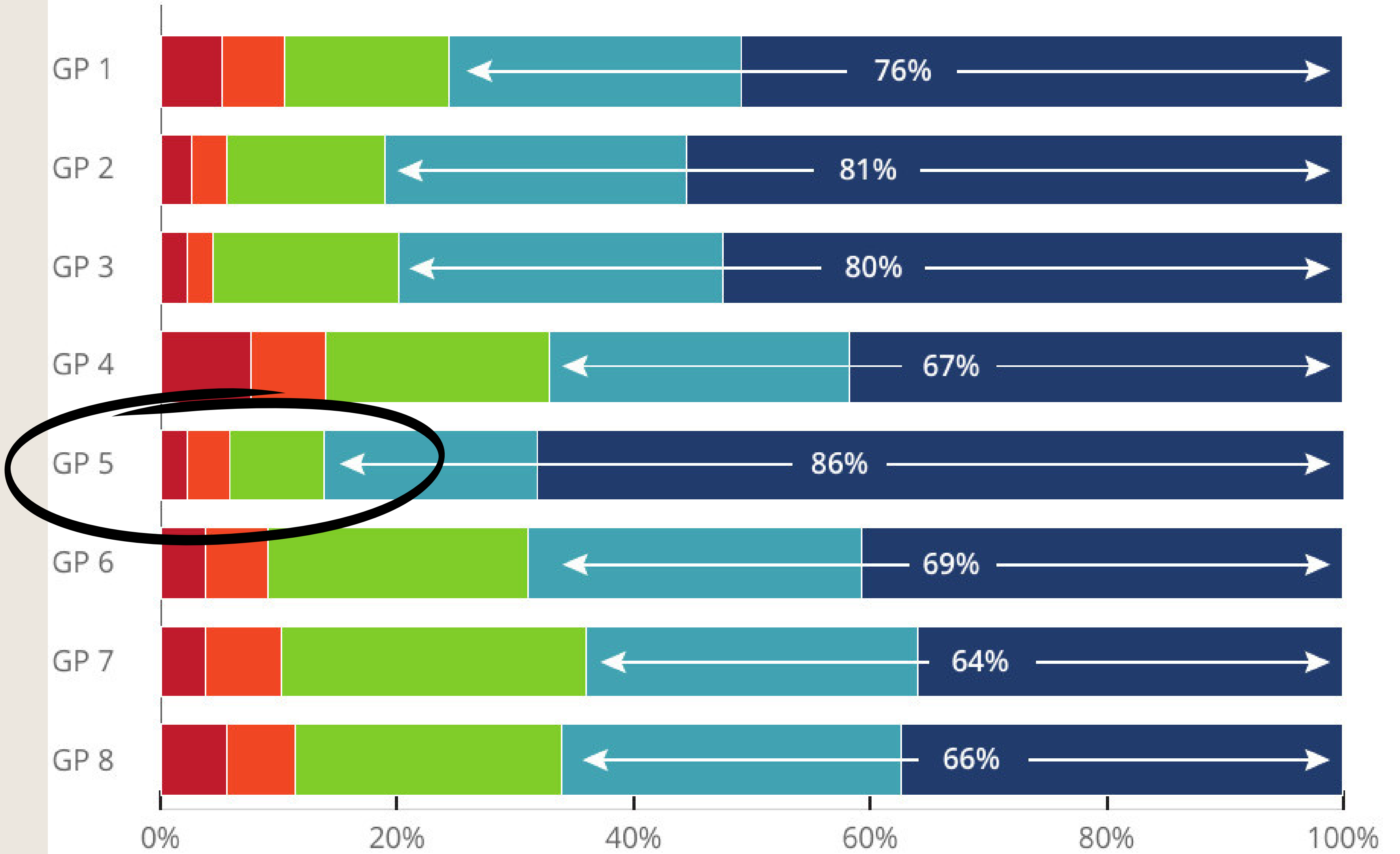
Prevent organics and recyclables from going into the garbage.



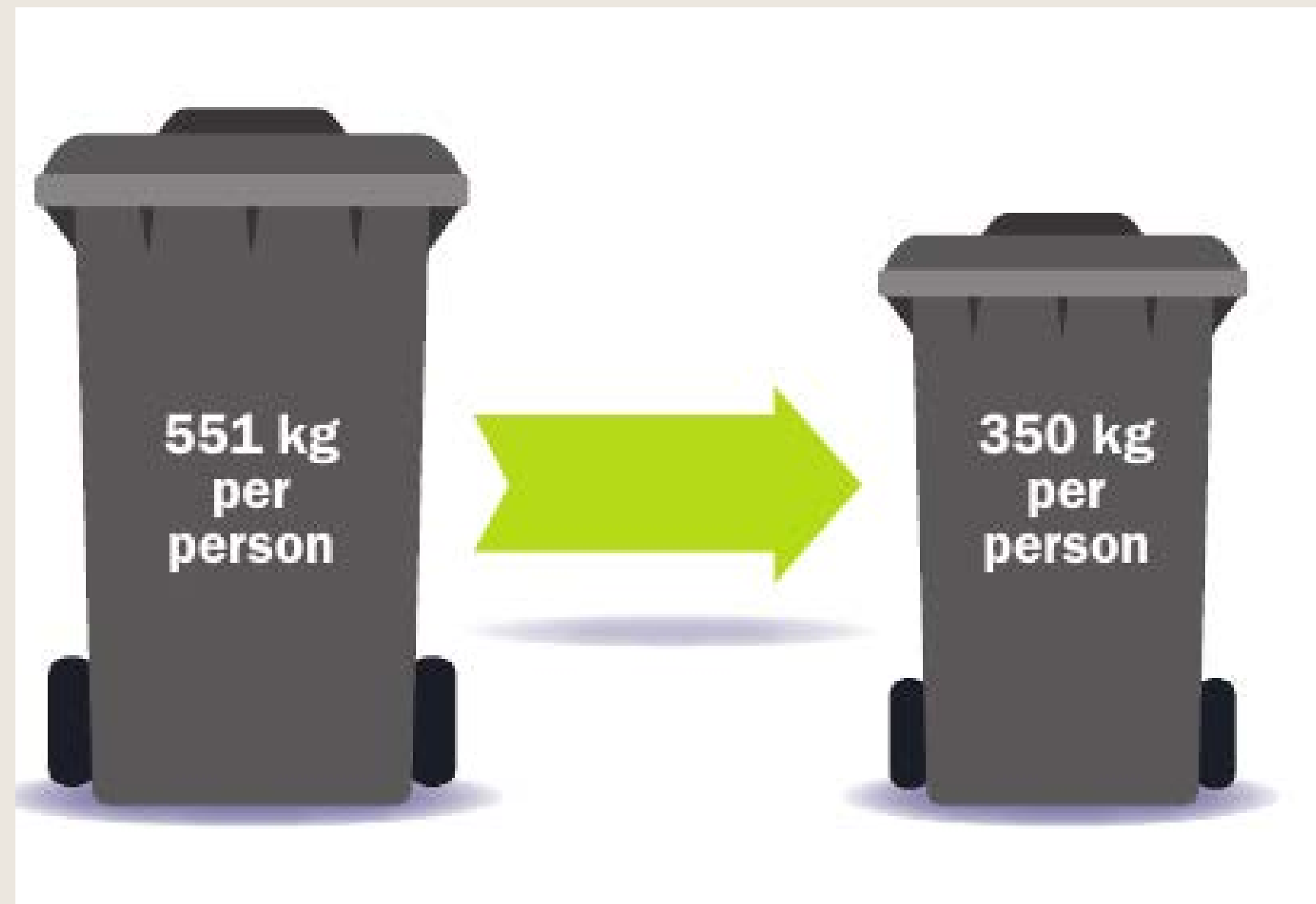
Guiding Principle 2

Promote the first 7 R's – Refuse, Rethink, Redesign, Reduce, Reuse, Repair, and Recycle.





A key strategy for boosting diversion and participation rates is to equip every sector of the community with the know-how to optimize waste diversion and make the most of available services and facilities.



- Focus efforts on education, communication, and outreach, from a customized, regionally specific approach

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- Have a multifaceted approach to education and outreach efforts

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- Create awareness, encourage engagement, and ensure ongoing communication can assist with overall waste reduction and enhance the use of waste management services

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- Citizen engagement and understanding of the CSWM services supports regional resilience and proves invaluable during the introduction of new programs or changes to the system, whether temporary or long-lasting

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- Have a multifaceted approach to education and outreach efforts
- Create awareness, encourage engagement, and ensure ongoing communication can assist with overall waste reduction and enhance the use of waste management services
- Citizen engagement and understanding of the CSWM services supports regional resilience and proves invaluable during the introduction of new programs or changes to the system, whether temporary or long-lasting
- Community education, communication, and outreach do not operate in isolation; they are interconnected and impact the other five Goals - essential elements for a holistic and effective waste management strategy



CSWM Background

–CONTRACTED EDUCATOR ROLES–

- Currently three educator roles; school, urban and rural which are filled by two separate contractors.
- Curriculum educator supports school-based education programs for delivery to elementary school students (Grades K–9) throughout SD 71, 72, 84 and 47
- Community educator engages with approximately 5,000 residents each year across the service area





Waste diversion initiatives



Outreach for recycling options



Zero waste alternatives



Prevention of illegal dumping



Curbside collection programs



Waste management on construction sites

CSWM Background

-ADDITIONAL RESOURCES-

- Dedicated webpage that highlights regional services, facilities and has the ability to translate site content into any commonly spoken language
- Established Facebook, YouTube and Instagram pages
- ReCollect App – curbside reminders and Waste Wizard function



What Can I Recycle?



The role of solid waste education, outreach and communication can be summarized as such:

- empowers communities;
- raises awareness for proper waste disposal;
- encourages responsible consumption habits;
- builds a culture of placing importance and value on diversion;
- establishes effective utilization of waste management programs;
- enhances public participation;
- increases community involvement in waste reduction initiatives; and
- fosters partnerships with local businesses and organizations.



Throughout the Step 2 engagement process, a consistent theme that emerged was a strong desire for increased solid waste outreach, and recognition that education is a fundamental catalyst for behavioral change.



Options for Implementation

–STRATEGY 2A: MAINTAIN EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT LEVELS–

- Continue to provide educational opportunities throughout the school districts of the CSWM region (SD71, SD72, SD84 and SD47)
- Maintain presence at various regional events throughout Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) and Strathcona Regional District (SRD)
- An additional staff member is joining the service in 2024 which will add capacity
- Limits for creation of new initiatives, program improvement, and broadening demographic reach

Operational & Staffing Impacts: No significant change in current operational and staffing time as current levels would be maintained.

Estimated Diversion Potential: Maintaining the current service level is expected to produce results that equate to the current level of diversion being seen across the service area with anticipated incremental improvements each year.

Financial Implications: Current level of service has been budgeted at: \$111,125 for 2024.

Regulatory Authority Required: No service required.

Diversion Potential

Low

Current diversion rate is estimated to be 51%

Operational Impacts

Low

Maintain staffing levels with the addition of the approved position.

Financial Implications

N/A

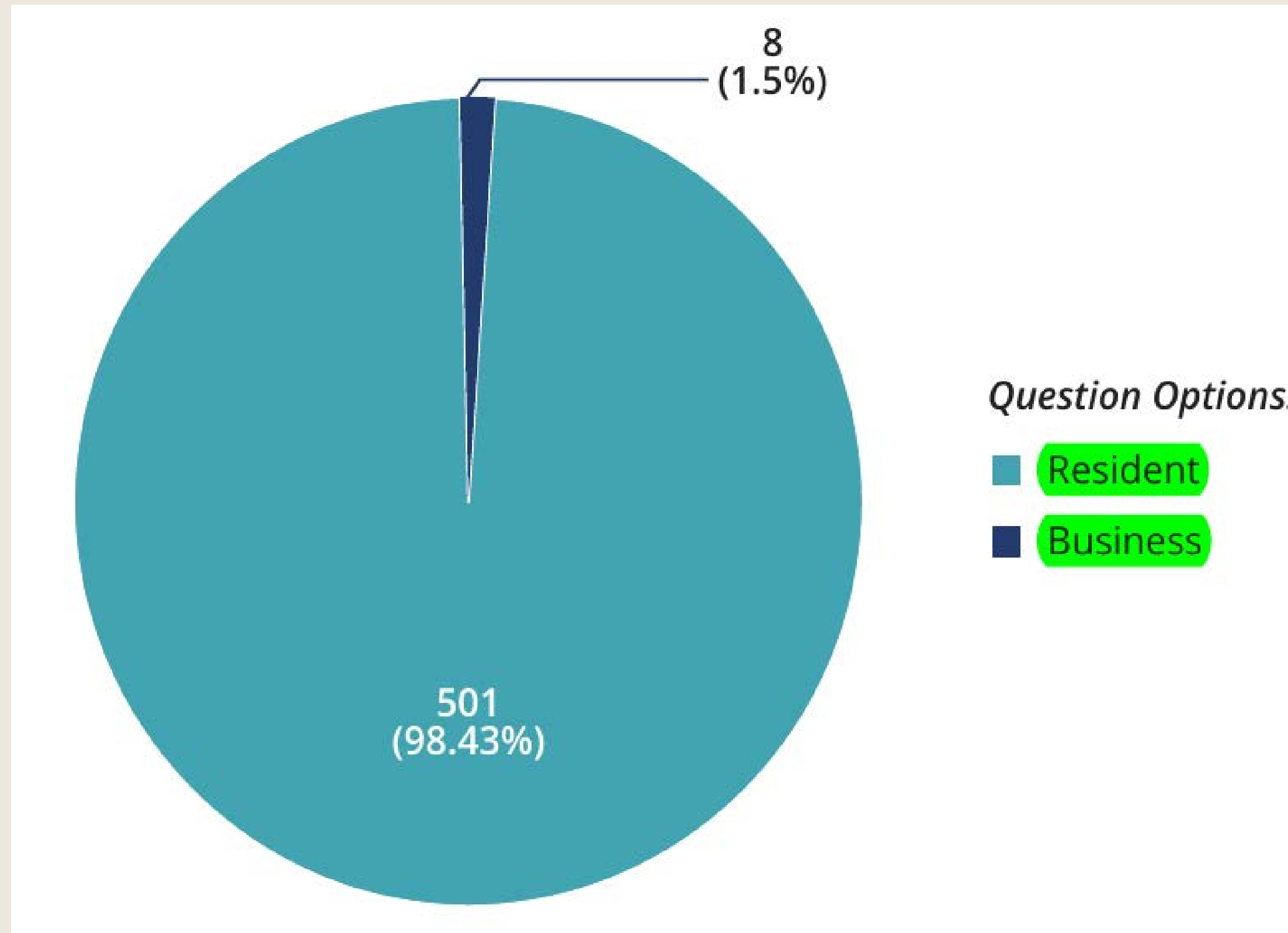
No increase in cost to CSWM

Options for Implementation

-STRATEGY 2B: INCREASE EDUCATION, OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS CAPACITY-

- Opportunity to diversify outreach strategies, engage more sectors within communities, provide more regionally specific content and increase support to assist with new waste reduction and behaviour change initiatives.
- Expanding the reach of the current service level could start to target new demographics and sectors within the CSWM service area that have presently received low engagement and support.
- Added capacity could also start integrating tailored content for local residents and communities.
- Expanding the current educational service level capacity opens doors to new engagement opportunities and outreach initiatives.

- The Step 2 engagement process highlighted a lack of interaction with the business and institutional sector which represented 1.8% of the surveyed respondents.



Operational & Staffing Impacts: Increase in current operational and staffing time that is associated with the implementation of new programs and service providers.

Estimated Diversion Potential: Opportunity for low to medium diversion impacts that could result from increasing the current level of education, communication, outreach.

Financial Implications: The cost to increase capacity with this strategy could be addressed through a variety of approaches. An incremental increase could be used or a predetermined increase of \$40,000 could be established to make an intentional commitment to address the actions outlined within this strategy.

Regulatory Authority Required: No service required.

Diversion Potential
Low to Medium
National study estimates a 55% diversion opportunity within the ICI sector

Operational Impacts
Low
Maintain current operational and staffing levels

Financial Implications
N/A
No increase in assets owned by CSWM

Options for Implementation

–STRATEGY 2C: INVEST IN PORTABLE WASTE DIVERSION INFRASTRUCTURE–

- Large public events commonly generate a substantial amount of waste and are often associated with inadequate waste diversion infrastructure, making it challenging for events to reduce waste.



Options for Implementation

–STRATEGY 2C: INVEST IN PORTABLE WASTE DIVERSION INFRASTRUCTURE–

- Large public events commonly generate a substantial amount of waste and are often associated with inadequate waste diversion infrastructure, making it challenging for events to reduce waste.
- Providing support and resources to facilitate waste diversion for events could result in significant waste reduction.



Options for Implementation

–STRATEGY 2C: INVEST IN PORTABLE WASTE DIVERSION INFRASTRUCTURE–

- Large public events commonly generate a substantial amount of waste and are often associated with inadequate waste diversion infrastructure, making it challenging for events to reduce waste.
- Providing support and resources to facilitate waste diversion for events could result in significant waste reduction.
- By offering appropriate infrastructure, a consistent and standardized system can be established, benefiting a diverse range of users.

Options for Implementation

–STRATEGY 2C: INVEST IN PORTABLE WASTE DIVERSION INFRASTRUCTURE–

- Large public events commonly generate a substantial amount of waste and are often associated with inadequate waste diversion infrastructure, making it challenging for events to reduce waste.
- Providing support and resources to facilitate waste diversion for events could result in significant waste reduction.
- By offering appropriate infrastructure, a consistent and standardized system can be established, benefiting a diverse range of users.
- Implementing such infrastructure can enhance the overall sustainability of both sites and events.

Local Examples:

RIBFEST 2018

- CSWM Services Coordinator, utilized regional signage and collection bins and reported 64% waste diversion as a result.

RELAY FOR LIFE COMOX 2019

- CSWM Services Coordinator engaged with event coordinators, employed similar waste reduction efforts and reported 75% diversion from landfill.





Operational & Staffing Impacts: Increase in current operational and staffing time to research collection bins and create complimentary signage. On average, the CSWM Services Coordinator spends 20 hours per event to on-board, support and train event coordinators.

Estimated Diversion Potential: Opportunity for low diversion impacts.

Financial Implications: A one-time capital investment of \$40,000 is estimated to be required to purchase portable event diversion infrastructure. Hiring a contracted zero waste event coordinator is estimated to be \$1,000- \$1,500 per event.

Regulatory Authority Required: Opportunity for policy update. Allowing for ICI organics diversion would also support this strategy.

Diversion Potential

Low

Events contribute a small percentage to the overall tonnage total

Operational Impacts

Low to Medium

Educational services add-on, or additional contract

Financial Implications

Medium

\$40,000 plus \$1,000 to \$1,500 per event

Options for Implementation

–STRATEGY 2D: INVEST IN REGIONAL DISTRICT FACILITY DIVERSION–

- Outfitting SRD and CVRD owned and/or operated facilities with more than one disposal stream option would ensure each facility has options for container and refundable stream recycling, potentially organics, and garbage.
- Many public events are held at local government facilities and equipping these spaces with permanent waste diversion infrastructure could standardize and start to normalize waste diversion in large public spaces.

GLACIERS

TRY

Taking out the trash!

Oct 20th 2021



During quarantine, scuba divers pulled 1,800 lbs. of trash out of Puget Sound. They're part of a worldwide effort to clean up the world's oceans. Ocean Cleanup is helping on a larger scale using a specially designed, ocean-going system that captures plastics without catching sealife. In 2021, the Ocean Cleanup crew removed nearly 89,000 pounds of plastic from the water, sorted it, and took it to land to recycle--and this is only the prototype for a system three times as big!

Why do we care about marine debris? Aside from cleaning up after ourselves and protecting fish, seabirds, and marine mammals, all this plastic is changing how coastal and oceanic species spread.

Go to our website to find out more!

Amazing STEM

you might have missed from 2020-2022!

Garbage



STOP THINK SORT



Compost



Recycle











Municipality & Streetscape



Commercial Venues



Parks



Events & Residential Buildings

Operational & Staffing Impacts: Increase in current operational and staffing time associated with waste disposal. Added collections would require oversight and coordination for pickup.

Estimated Diversion Potential: Opportunity for low diversion impacts overall, but high level of engagement and education through interaction with the facility bins.

Financial Implications: Refundable collection containers can be acquired free of charge through the Encorp EPR program. The cost of a 2 or 3 stream set is estimated at \$800 - \$3,000 and \$100 - \$350 for one. Estimate 4 to 6 sets per location, at a cost of \$2,000 per set is \$40,000 plus signage costs.

Regulatory Authority Required: No service required, however collaboration with both regional districts would be required.

Diversion Potential

Low

Education of the public in relatively controlled environment

Operational Impacts

Low to Medium

Increase to service level requirements from Regional District partners

Financial Implications

Medium

\$40,000 in bin costs estimated, plus signage and staff time

Summary of Strategic Actions

Strategy	Diversion Potential	Ops. & Staffing	Financial Impacts	Comments
2a. Maintain Education and Engagement Levels	Low	Low	N/A	Associated with CVWM staff oversight
2b. Increase Education, Outreach and Communications Capacity	Low to Medium	Low	Low	Increase cost for staff or contractor time to encourage ICI diversion
2c. Invest in Portable Waste Diversion Infrastructure	Low	Low to Medium	Medium	\$40,000 in Portable event infrastructure plus staffing costs
2d. Invest in Regional District Facility Diversion	Low	Low to Medium	Medium	Collection bin investment for CVRD and SRD public facilities

Summary of Strategic Actions

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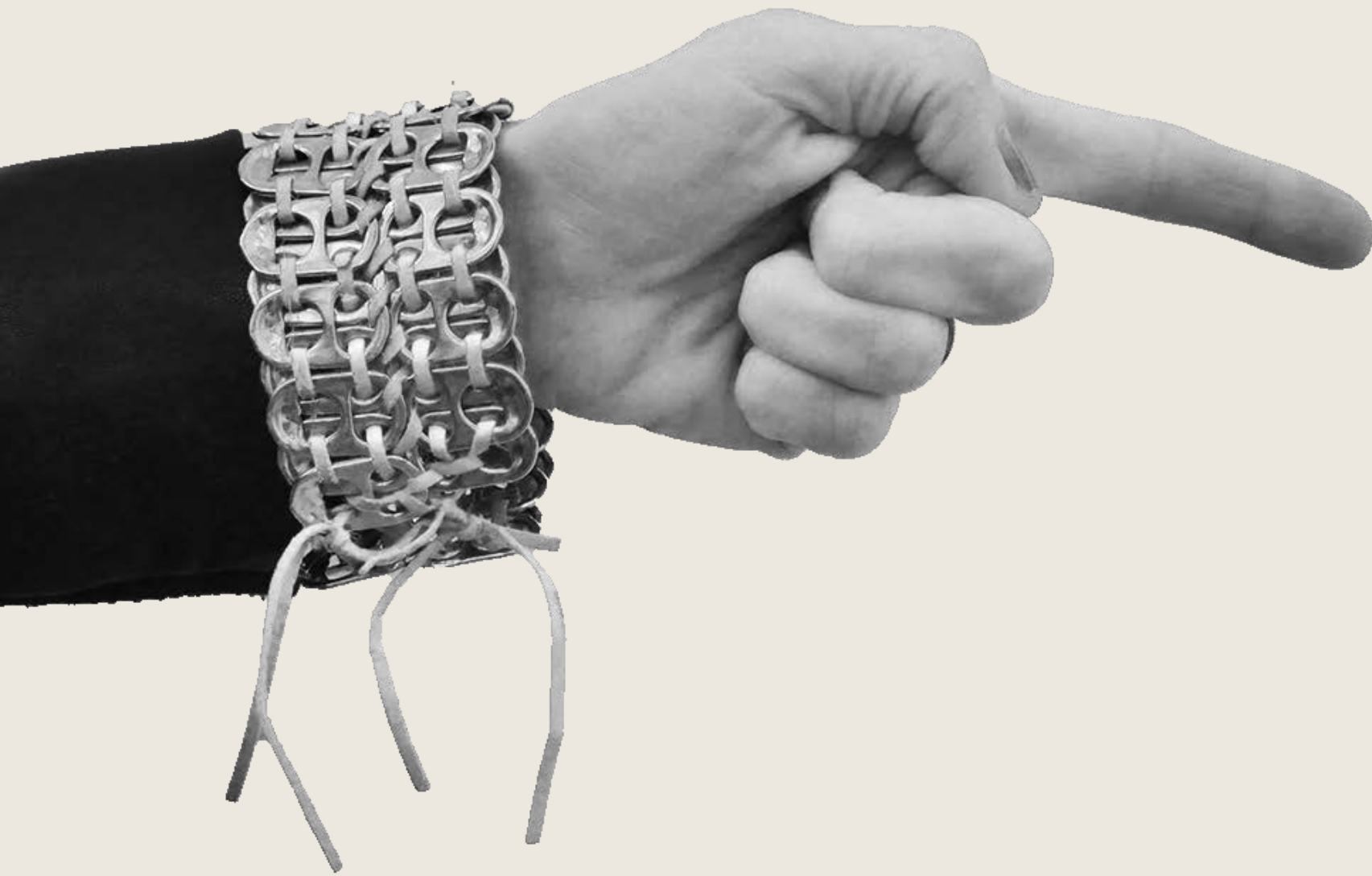
Summary of Strategic Actions

- Solid waste education, outreach and communication holds immense importance due to its multifaceted impact on communities and the environment.
- Fostering awareness and understanding can assist in driving participation and diversion.
- Awareness building and consistent effective communication is a contributing factor to motivate and mobilize citizens, organizations and industries within the CSWM service area.
- It is necessary to understand concerns and equally necessary to educate members of the public regarding their role in waste management.



By prioritizing solid waste education, outreach and communication, not only are immediate environmental concerns addressed but groundwork is also laid for a more sustainable and resilient future.





Thank you!

Presentation created for the Comox Strathcona
Regional Solid Waste Management Advisory
Committee

- April 4, 2024 -



team@letstalktrash.ca



www.letstalktrash.ca

Questions for the Group

1. Have we gone far enough, or too far?
2. Are these options practical, do they provide value for money and do you think they will be effective?
3. Anything we overlooked?



Any Further Questions or
Observations?





Break Time



Comox Strathcona
Waste Management

Service Levels and Accessibility

Sarah Willie

60 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 9.5

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?



Funding Impacts

- Increasing service levels will cost us all more money.
- Airspace saved through diversion will be hard to measure, but is the long term savings we all benefit from.
- Consider “needs versus wants”.
- Identify where you think the baseline is that you want to financially support.
- Doesn't restrict local service areas from being created to fund additional/higher level services.

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

CSWM Communities

Community	Community
City of Campbell River	Town of Comox
Village of Gold River	City of Courtenay
Village of Zeballos	Village of Cumberland
Village of Tahsis	CVRD A – Fanny Bay/Union Bay
SRD A – West and Sayward	CVRD A – Denman Island
SRD B – Cortes	CVRD A – Hornby Island
SRD C – Quadra	CVRD B – Lazo
SRD C – Outer Discovery Islands	CVRD B – Headquarters
SRD D – Oyster	CVRD C – Black Creek

Discussion Groups

1. Highest Density	2. In-Between	3. Most Remote
Chris T.	Rob C.	Mark T.
David Birtch	David Baar	Mark B.
Will Cole-Hamilton	John E.	Kent L.
Katie L.	Kim S.	Rosa T.
Mary Ellen W.	Lori B.	Craig P.
	Sheena F.	

Parameters to Consider

- How long (in minutes) should people drive to be able to recycle or divert this material?
- How frequently should an event or special pick-up at the curb be held to prevent disposal of recyclable items?
 - Consider if the item will degrade if stored for a long time
- Is it hazardous to the environment or our landfill and staff if it is improperly disposed of?
- Does garbage convenience match diversion convenience?

Steps for Your Group

1. Discuss and choose what communities you think fit within your representative level of accessibility.
2. Review the sticky notes of materials and decide how you think each is best collected for your level of accessibilities.
3. Provide a suggested drive time in minutes for a “Local Drop-Off” and a “Regional Drop-Off” location.
4. If you need to add materials in multiple places, or modify the activity, use the blue sticky notes.
5. We will present to each other at the end.

Let's Present our Ideas to
Eachother



Next Steps and Wrap Up

Sarah Willie

5 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 9.6

Next Steps for the RSWAC

- Review pending memo on service level standards and accessibility, provide your feedback in advance of the next meeting.
- Next meeting is Thursday May 2, 2024
1 pm to 4 pm

Wrap-Up

Parking Lot

- Any outstanding questions, comments, thoughts?

Roundtable

- Any ways that we could we improve these meetings?



Thank YOU.



Any questions or
comments, email or
call Sarah.

250-334-6065

swillie@comoxvalleyrd.ca

Final Word and Meeting Adjournment from Co-Chair

