Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Minutes

REGIONAL SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes from the meeting held on March 16, 2023 at the Comox Valley Regional District, located at 770 Harmston Avenue, Courtenay, commencing at 1:11 pm

PRESENT:

Co-Chair Cole-Hamilton	Co-Chair, RSWAC
Co-Chair Baker	Co-Chair, RSWAC
M. Walling	Campbell River
D. Baar	Campbell River
D. Birtch	Campbell River
M. Jeffs	Sayward
M. Stewart	SRD Area D
S. Rankmore	Courtenay
J. Ellis	Courtenay
J. Best	Courtenay
W. Semmelink	Comox
R. Rowe	CVRD Area B
E. Oldaker	CVRD Area C
K. Stubblefield	CVRD Area C
K. Maddigan	Cortes Island
R. Telegus	Denman Island
K. Lukinuk	Hornby Island
Katie Hamilton	Tavola Group
M. Tatchell	Village of Tahsis
D. Hadfield, Director of Operations	City of Campbell River
R. Armstrong, Manager of Utilities	City of Courtenay
C. Perry, Manager of Public Works	Town of Comox
R. Crisfield, Manager of Operations	Village of Cumberland
Wolfgang Parada, Senior Manager of Engineering Services	Strathcona Regional District
S. Fisher, Engineering Services Coordinator	Strathcona Regional District
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
K. Douville, Manager of Financial Planning	CVRD
K. Morro, Branch Assistant, Engineering Services	CVRD

ITEMS:

Review of Agenda and Minutes

The committee reviewed the agenda and the minutes of the February 16, 2023 of the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee (RSWAC) meeting and no errors or omissions were noted.

Adopted: Co-Chair Cole-Hamilton
Seconded: S. Rankmore

All in favour.

Introductions
Roundtable Introductions

V. Schau provided an overview of the meeting which will be centered around the establishment of the new goals and guiding principles for the Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) and discuss the next phase of public consultation.

Parking lot items from the first meeting:

1. Clarification on compostable bags vs other bags/products and what is most beneficial. The United Nations Environment Program conducted a meta-analysis of seven life cycle analysis (LCAs) published since 2010 to investigate lessons learned, and to provide guidance to policy makers and other actors on how to interpret results from comparative LCAs on shopping bags. The report summarises the findings, including the environmental benefits and drawbacks of SUPBs compared to other bags. The report also explored the benefits and challenges of LCA as a method to assess the environmental aspects of bags. Based on the learnings from this meta-analysis, the report provided guidance for experts undertaking future LCAs of plastic bags and their alternatives to improve the comprehensiveness, consistency and accuracy of the analysis.

   For anyone interested in learning more, the *Single-use Plastic Bags and their Alternatives: Recommendations from Life Cycle Assessments* report is referenced below:
   https://wedocs.unep.org/20.500.11822/31932

2. Question around how diversion impact service finances. This is a complex question and we will dive into this at the April meeting when we review the existing systems study.

Advisory comments:
None

Guiding Principles and Goals
S. Willie – Guiding Principles are defined by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy. The Province provide guidance on setting of guiding principles and goals for SWMP Renewals. The purpose of today's meeting is to go over the provincial examples and adjust to make them locally relevant.

Introduced a couple terms that will be used a lot through the SWMP Renewal process:

1. "Zero Waste": meant to be an aspirational target that to strive towards.

Co-Chair – waste diverted from other sources can we define this more?

S. Willie will follow up with the Government of Canada source and report back at the next meeting.

2. "Circular Economy": It is based on three principles, driven by design: eliminate waste and pollution, circulate products and materials (at their highest value), and regenerate nature. Circular economy decouples economic activity from the consumption of finite resources, with a focus on reusing, repairing and remanufacturing.

CSWM 2017 Waste Composition Audit Results

The waste composition audit goes through all the material brought in by the haulers. With the new compost curbside program, we will be conducting an updated waste composition audit in 2024 after a year of program implementation to understand how much diversion has been impacted and to establish a new baseline going into the new SWMP Renewal.

Annually, the CSWM diversion rate fluctuate around 48 to 54 per cent. The greatest opportunity for impact identified as:

- Food waste collection from residents
- Developing organic disposal capacity for ICI
- Backyard composting support
- Increased support for EPR and HHW Diversion

Goals and Guiding Principles

The committee reflected on the CSWM 2012 guiding principles; the language and high level intent are similar.

Reviewed the eight provincial guiding principles:

1. Promote zero waste approaches and support a circular economy
2. Promote the first 3Rs (reduce, reuse and recycle)
3. Maximize beneficial use of waste materials and manage residuals appropriately
4. Support polluter and user pay approaches and manage incentives to maximize behavior outcomes
5. Prevent organics and recyclables from going into the garbage wherever practical
6. Collaborate with other regional districts wherever practical
7. Develop collaborate partnerships with interested parties to achieve regional targets set in plans
8. Level the playing field within regions for private and public solid waste management facilities

Generally speaking, the province's example aligns well with the CSWM service. If the committee wants to make a modification or remove one or any of these guiding principles, we need to report back on change and the rational for the change.

Breakout sessions at 2:05 to discuss guiding principles, summary of discussion and adjusted guiding principles attached.

Kate Maddigan left the meeting at 2:15pm.

Provided examples of provincial goals to give the committee an idea of how we may want structure our goals.

Goals:

- Goals are the long-term, aims to be achieved as an outcome of the plan. Targets are a way of measuring progress.
- For example, if the goal is 'zero waste', a target might be to reduce the annual per person disposal rate to xx kg by 2030.
- Local goals should be developed with extensive input from the advisory committee and the public consultation process, and ultimately should support provincial targets.

2012 Plan Objectives (wording now changed to goals)

1. The initiatives outlined in the plan work towards a goal of zero waste and aim to minimize the amount of waste buried in landfills.
2. Improvements to the solid waste management system will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from solid waste management activities.
3. All CSWM landfills will be designed and operated to minimize impact on the environment and the surrounding community and to satisfy the BC Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste.

Presented possible 2024 goals for discussion in the breakout sessions. Summary of discussion and adjusted 2024 goals attached.

Advisory comments:

- Collaborate more across jurisdictions i.e. If Kamloops is doing something that could benefit us we should be able to collaborate on this. Some regions better set up to facilitate diversion and programs.

- Goals need to be measurable with a timeline attached to them making them more precise.

Introduction to Phase 2 Consultation Plan
K. Hamilton – gave a presentation on the public consultation phase 2 approach, presentation attached to these minutes. Working in parallel with the committee once the committee is ready to bring forward materials.

Plans can only be submitted to the Province when sufficient public and stakeholder consultation has occurred. Tavola has done a lot of public consultation work; has experience in knowing how the public like to receive information and are able to present materials back out to the community in a multitude of ways. This committee needs to be very clear on what promises are being made to the public.

Stages in the process:

- Initiate the process Fall 2022
- Set the Plan Direction June – October 2023
- Evaluate options 2023/2024
- Prepare to Adopt the Plan 2024/2025

Communications and consultation objectives:

1. Staff and public engagement consultants will design, implement, report and evaluate an engagement process.
2. Aim to not only meet but exceed the legislative requirements for the SWMP Renewal.

Who we need to hear from?

- Certain stakeholders we must hear from: Provincial agencies, First Nation communities, businesses. First Nations consultation will be done through the CSWM service thoughtfully in parallel with Tavola's public engagement.
- Will be presenting at community events for a broader community engagement. Community outreach events identified in the attached presentation. Advisory members asked to share if there are other events that may be missed from the list. Any feedback for community outreach needs to be received by April 31.

Launch of phase 2 set for June 2023, active engagement June – September.

Advisory comments:

None

Extended Producer Responsibility
Moved to April meeting.

Next Steps
Next meeting on April 13 will be hybrid format.

Wrap-Up
Parking lot items:

- Where do electronics go?
- Has there been any analysis on GHG emissions?

GENERAL:
The next Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting will be scheduled for April 13, 2023 at 11:00am.

TERMINATION:
The meeting terminated at 4:10 pm.

Recorded by:	Certified correct:
K. Morro	***V. Schau***
Kristy Morro Branch Assistant – Engineering Services	Vivian Schau Senior Manager of CSWM Services

Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting

SWMP Renewal Meeting #2

March 16, 2023

Hybrid – Zoom/CVRD Civic Room, 770 Harmston Ave

1 pm to 4 pm



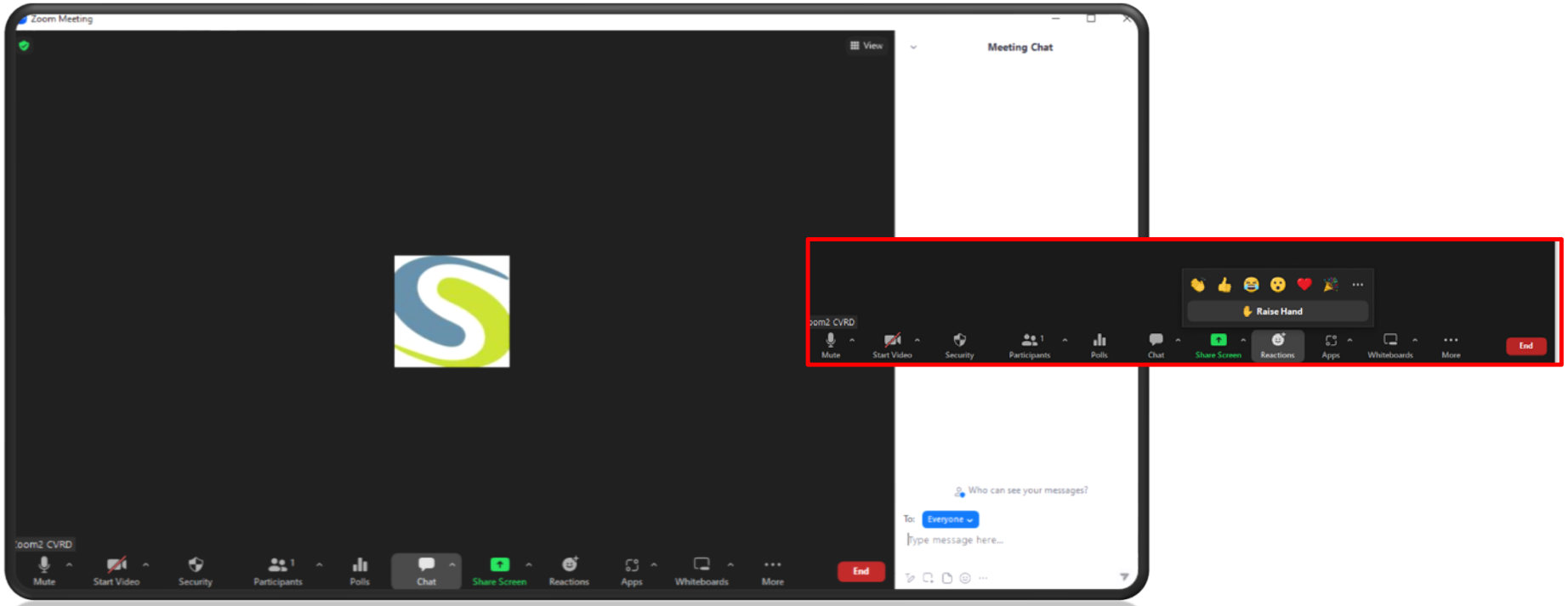
Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Welcome, and Housekeeping

- Microphones
- Parking
- Emergency exits and muster point
- Washrooms
- Zoom - Mute and Video



Zoom Meeting Tools

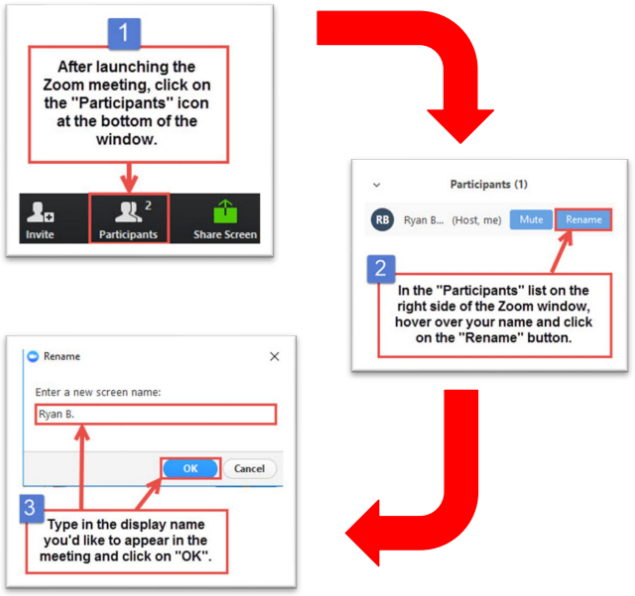


Comox Strathcona Waste Management

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.



Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Review of Agenda

Co-Chair Baker (Zoom)

10 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 2.1

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

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 Nuu-chah-nulth territories.



Adoption of Agenda

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.



Introductions, Purpose and Reflections

Vivian Schau

25 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 2.2 – 2.3

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Introductions



- Quick roundtable of introductions, online and in-person
- If you were on the tour with us, reflect on your experience and what you took away from the day.

Purpose of the Meeting

- Decide on our Goals and Guiding Principles for the SWMP
- Engage with you on how we want to go into the community in our next phase of consultation
- Dive into Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)



Parking Lot From Meeting 1

1.1 How does EPR work, why so many different programs, how efficient/effective is this and what else we can do?

1.2 Clarification on compostable plastic bags versus oil based bags and or products.

1.3 How does diversion impact service finances?

1.4 The $17 million operating budget is this for 2022, have we forecasted/accounted for different levels of diversion? How will the reduction of materials impact operating costs?

Plastic Bags and Their Alternatives

United Nations Environment Programme (2020). Single-use Plastic Bags and their Alternatives: Recommendations from Life Cycle Assessments. https://wedocs.unep.org/20.500.11822/31932

Complicated.

“The shopping bag that has the least impact on the environment is the bag the consumer already has at home.”



Guiding Principles and Goals

Sarah Willie

45 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 2.4

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Step 2: Set the Plan Direction

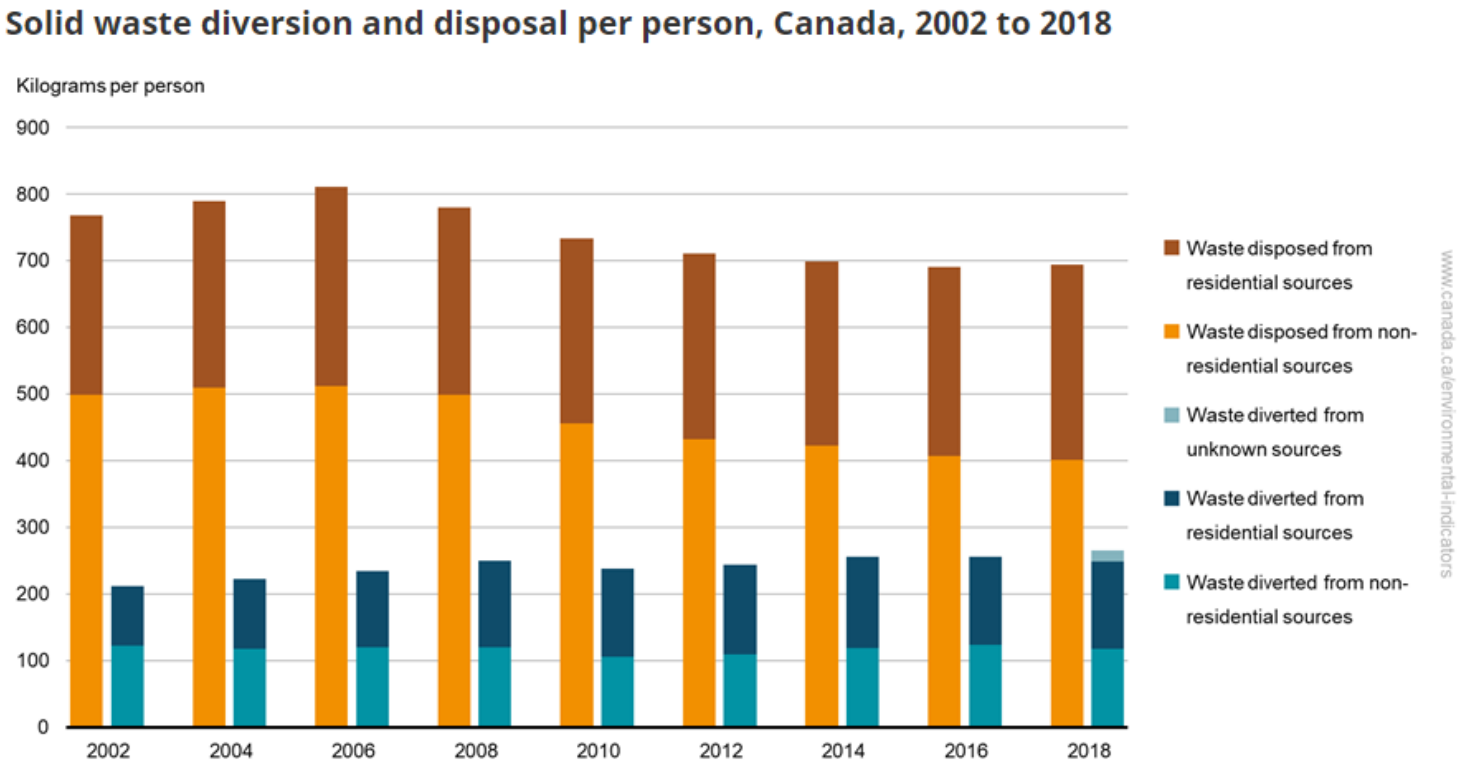


- Establish locally relevant guiding principles and goals that are complementary to the Provincial ones
- Save the targets for later, when cost implications are better understood

Guiding Principles

- Key principles defined by Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy in 2016 SWMP Guidelines
- Regional districts can include additional locally-relevant guiding principles in their solid waste management plans, or adjust existing guiding principles to reflect community values.

What About Zero Waste?



Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Circular Economy



- A systems solution framework
- Design for repair, reuse and remanufacturing
- Eliminate waste and pollution by using natural materials
- Circulate products and materials at their highest value

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2017 Waste Audit Results

ALL AUDITED SOURCES	Tonnage (MT/yr)	%
Organic Materials		
Food Waste	12,300	20.18%
Yard Waste	2,843	4.66%
Tissue/Towelling	2,518	4.13%
Typical Recyclable Materials		
Durable Plastics	4,511	7.40%
Other Paper Packaging	3,135	5.14%
Plastic Containers	2,491	4.09%
Paper	2,161	3.55%
Metal Containers	1,731	2.84%
EPR Products (Hazardous and Electronics)	1,474	2.42%
Beverage Containers	670	1.10%
Glass Containers	549	0.90%
Other Materials		
Other Waste	6,810	11.17%
Textiles	2,717	4.46%
Home Furnishings	1,456	2.39%
Pet Waste	1,083	1.78%
Unrecyclable Fibre Packaging	490	0.80%
Rubber	225	0.37%
Hot Beverage Capsules/Pods	123	0.20%
Bagged Material	74	0.12%

ALL AUDITED SOURCES	Tonnage (MT/yr)	%
Construction, Reno, Demo Materials		
Treated/Painted Wood	5,595	9.18%
Other Construction and Renovation	1,973	3.24%
Shingles	1,564	2.57%
Rubble/Soil	1,107	1.82%
Carpet	812	1.33%
Clean Wood	501	0.82%
Glass Materials	480	0.79%
Concrete/Masonry	448	0.74%
Drywall/Gypsum	372	0.61%
Ceramics/Tiling	284	0.47%
Flooring	282	0.46%
Porcelain	134	0.22%
Other Steel	33	0.05%
Total All Material	**60,948**	**100.00%**

2012 SWMP Diversion Initiatives

- Target to move our diversion rate from 51% to 70%, we have bounced between 48% and 54%
- 2012 SWMP components with the greatest opportunity for impact were identified as:
  - ✓ Food waste collection from residents
  - ✓ Developing organic disposal capacity for ICI
  - ✓ Backyard Composting Support
  - ✓ Increased Support for EPR and HHW Diversion
  - ❑ Construction and Demolition Diversion
  - ❑ Improved Multi-Family Recycling
  - ❑ Improved ICI Sector Recycling

2012 Guiding Principles

- Solid waste is a resource.
- The consumption of material and energy resources should be set at a level which is ecologically sustainable.
- The regional solid waste stream should be reduced to the greatest extent possible, in accordance with the hierarchy of reduce, reuse, recycle, recovery and residual waste management and consistent with local resources and the nature of the regional solid waste stream.
- The goal of environmental policy is to strive towards zero pollution and the strategies for achieving that goal are in accordance with the precautionary principle.
- Individuals and firms will be enabled to make environmentally sound choices about consumption of resources and generation of waste through provision of appropriate information, including user-pay and market-based incentives whenever possible.
- Reduction policies and strategies will be developed through public consultation and are socially acceptable and cost-effective, based on full accounting of costs and benefits, both monetary and non-monetary.

Provincial Guiding Principals

1. Promote zero waste approaches and support a circular economy
2. Promote the first 3Rs (reduce, reuse and recycle)
3. Maximize beneficial use of waste materials and manage residuals appropriately
4. Support polluter and user pay approaches and manage incentives to maximize behavior outcomes
5. Prevent organics and recyclables from going into the garbage wherever practical
6. Collaborate with other regional districts wherever practical
7. Develop collaborate partnerships with interested parties to achieve regional targets set in plans
8. Level the playing field within regions for private and public solid waste management facilities

Modifications by Cowichan Valley RD

In the third guiding principle, “Waste materials” was changed to “discarded materials” to reflect their desire to move towards thinking of discarded materials as a resource rather than as “waste”.

> Maximize beneficial use of discarded materials and manage residuals appropriately

Modifications by Cowichan Valley RD

- Provincial wording:
  - Support polluter and user pay approaches and manage incentives to maximize behavior outcomes
- Local wording:
  - Support structural and systemic changes (e.g. polluter and user pay approaches) and corresponding behavior change programs to optimize system changes and promote principles one and two.

Modifications by Cowichan Valley RD

- Provincial wording:
  - Level the playing field within regions for private and public solid waste management facilities
- Local wording:
  - Support practical and effective delivery of waste management services from public and private service providers, and level the playing field within the region for private and public solid waste management facilities.

Breakout Group Discussions

- Split into 4 groups, each with a facilitator
- Breakout room feature for those online, physically gather here in the room
- Each group will discuss two of the guiding principles and consider if local modifications are necessary, and if so why. Or determine that they agree with the wording as is.
- Designate a speaker (not the facilitator) for each group to report back to the entire committee for further discussion

And BREAK!



Goals

- Goals are the long-term aims to be achieved as an outcome of the plan. Targets are a way of measuring progress.
- For example, if the goal is ‘zero waste’, a target might be to reduce the annual per person disposal rate to xx kg by 2030.
- Local goals should be developed with extensive input from the advisory committee and the public consultation process, and ultimately should support provincial targets.

Example Goals - Province

- Support circular economy approaches
- Minimize environmental impacts of solid waste management to air, water and land
- Responsibly manage residuals
- Increase awareness of waste prevention



Example Goals – Cowichan Valley RD



- Improve Waste Reduction and Diversion
- Support Transport and Processing Infrastructure
- Improve Recovery and Residuals Management
- Support System Resilience

Example Goals – Capital Regional District

- To extend the life of Hartland Landfill to the year 2100 plus;
- To have informed citizens that participate effectively in proper waste management practices; and
- To ensure that the CRD's solid waste services are financially sustainable.



Pollution Prevention Hierarchy



- Peace River
  Mount Waddington
  Nanaimo
- No specific goals - pollution prevention hierarchy and zero waste.

2012 Plan Objectives

1. The initiatives outlined in the plan work towards a goal of zero waste and aim to minimize the amount of waste buried in landfills.
2. Improvements to the solid waste management system will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from solid waste management activities.
3. All CSWM landfills will be designed and operated to minimize impact on the environment and the surrounding community and to satisfy the BC Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste.

Possible 2024 Goals

1. To support local circular economy approaches, and to work towards a goal of zero waste.
2. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions from solid waste management activities.
3. To responsibly manage residuals, and aim to minimize the amount of waste buried in landfills.
4. To have informed citizens that participate effectively in proper waste management practices; and
5. To ensure that the CSWM solid waste services are financially sustainable and equitable.

Vote with your Feet and Fingers

Use the chat function, or post it notes to:

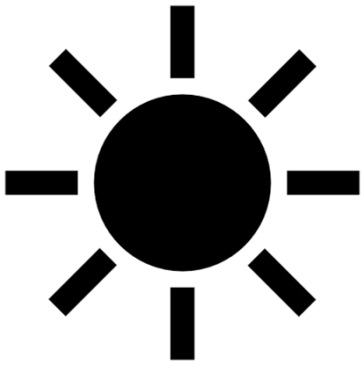
- Indicate your support for a goal as written, or to make suggested changes to the language
- Suggest a new or different goal
- Describe why you think one of the possible goals should be scratched all together



Possible 2024 Goals

1. To support local circular economy approaches, and to work towards a goal of zero waste.
2. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions from solid waste management activities.
3. To responsibly manage residuals, and aim to minimize the amount of waste buried in landfills.
4. To have informed citizens that participate effectively in proper waste management practices; and
5. To ensure that the CSWM solid waste services are financially sustainable and equitable.

Break Time – 15 minutes











Phase 2 Community Consultation Plan Introduction

Katie Hamilton

30 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 2.6

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Unpacking Extended Producer Responsibility

Sarah Willie

35 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 2.7

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Programs

- No fee to resident for items in EPR programs at end of life; funded at time of sale
- CSWM is reimbursed for effort to accept, sort and store program materials – not full cost recovery
- Most EPR programs cover transportation and processing costs
- Where and how materials are accepted is determined by the EPR program, not CSWM
- Significant policy efforts made to improve programs by local governments, bar is set by Province



Objective of EPR in BC

- Industry-led product stewardship programs
- Funded by producers (manufactures, distributors and retailers)
- Responsible for collection and recycling
- Reduces burden on the general taxpayer and local government
- Seeks to reduce the toxicity and environmental risks from products and product waste, and reduce the associated greenhouse gas emissions



The Mechanics of EPR



- Province designates a new product category, or amends an existing category
- Producers can find a producer responsibility organization (PRO), usually a non-profit, and must submit an EPR plan
- To be approved the EPR plan must include:
  - reasonable and free consumer access to collection facilities or services
  - collecting and paying the costs of collecting and managing products
  - eliminating or reducing the environmental impacts of a product throughout the product's life cycle
  - managing the product in adherence to the pollution prevention hierarchy

The Mechanics of EPR



- PRO's must consult on their plans before they submit them, as well as on any renewal or amendment.
- Not a government body
- Consultation can, but rarely does, lead to change
- Submit an annual report to the Minister which includes audited financial statements and third party audits of amount collected and destination

The Mechanics of EPR



The plan does not include:

- Specific locations of where materials will be accepted
- Any operational contractual details such as frequency of pick-up, storage requirements, space requirements or compensation to collectors
- A commitment to education or advertising spending

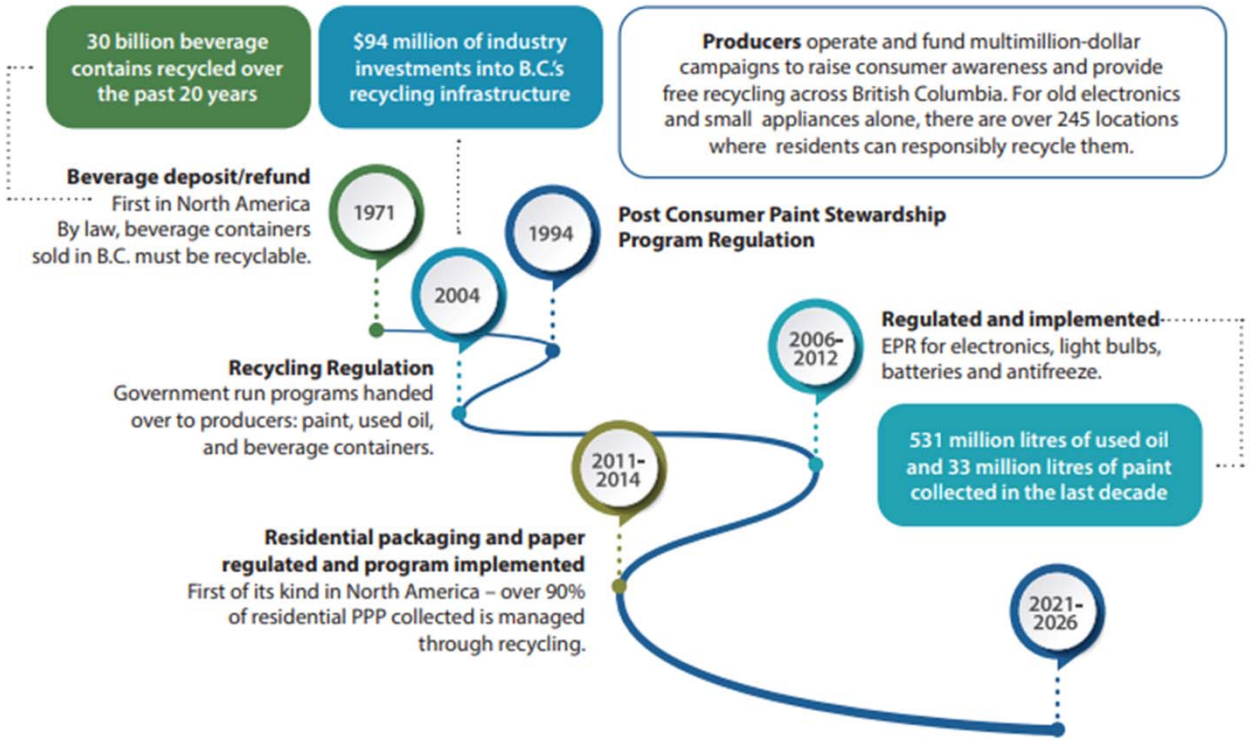


EPR in BC



- Market influence and population:
  - BC is 5 million
  - Canada is 38 million (BC is 13%)
  - California 39 million
  - Canada and USA 370 million (BC is 1%)

History of Recycling in BC



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Reduces Consumer Confusion?

ELECTRIC OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT (EOPE)

OPEI Outdoor Power Equipment Institute Canada

MEDICATIONS

MEDICATIONS RETURN PROGRAM

PACKAGING + PAPER

RECYCLEBC

BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

Return-It It's Worth It.

CELL PHONES

recyclemycell.ca

USED OIL + ANTIFREEZE

BC Used Oil Management Association

BATTERIES

call2recycle

SMALL APPLIANCES + POWER TOOLS

ElectroRecycle

ELECTRONICS

Return-It Electronics | EPRA

BEER CONTAINERS & PACKAGING

BRCCC

THERMOSTATS

TRP

TIRES

TIRE Stewardship BC
New value from old tires

MAJOR APPLIANCES

Return-It Large Appliances | MARR

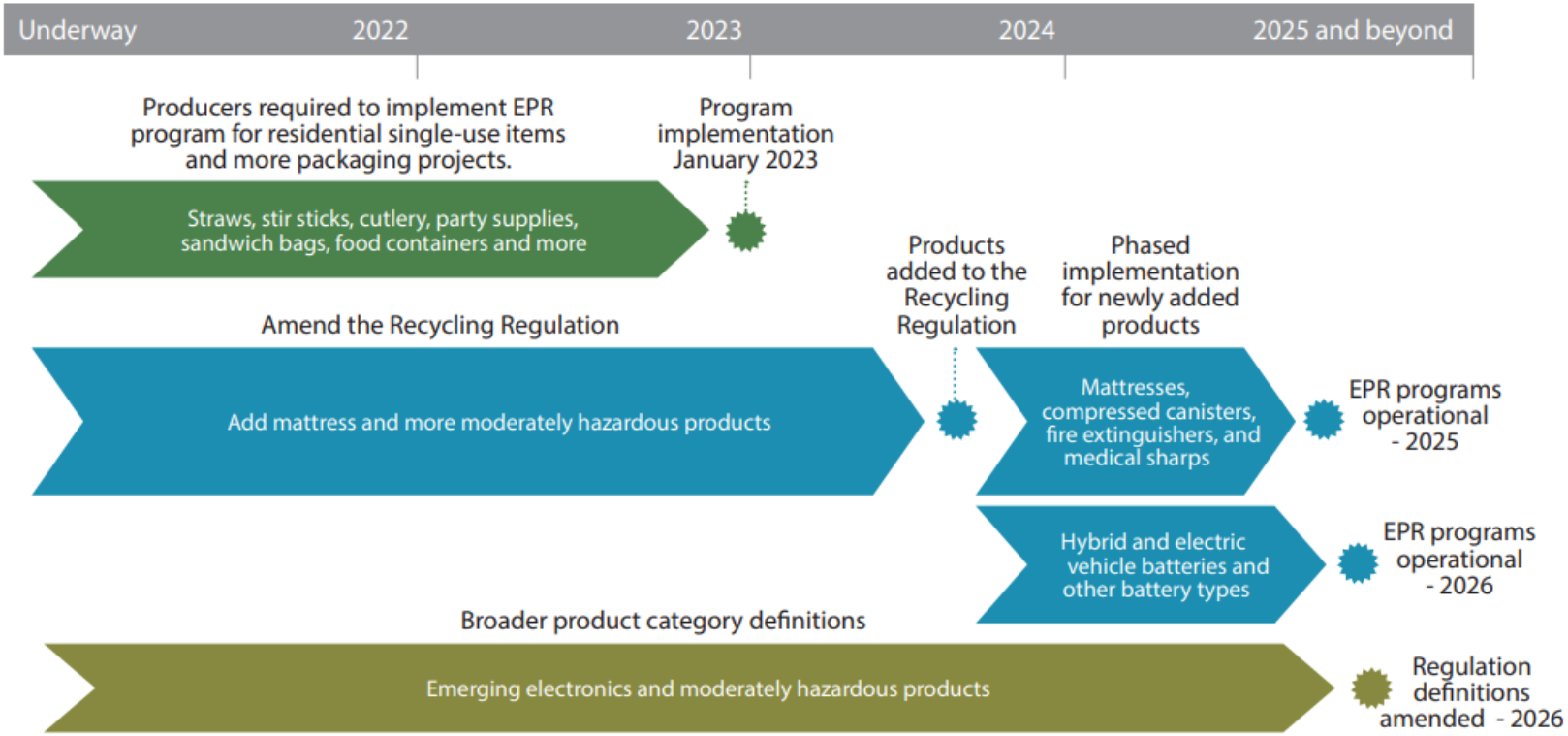
LIGHTING PRODUCTS, PAINT, HHW + ALARMS

productcare RECYCLING

LEAD-ACID BATTERIES

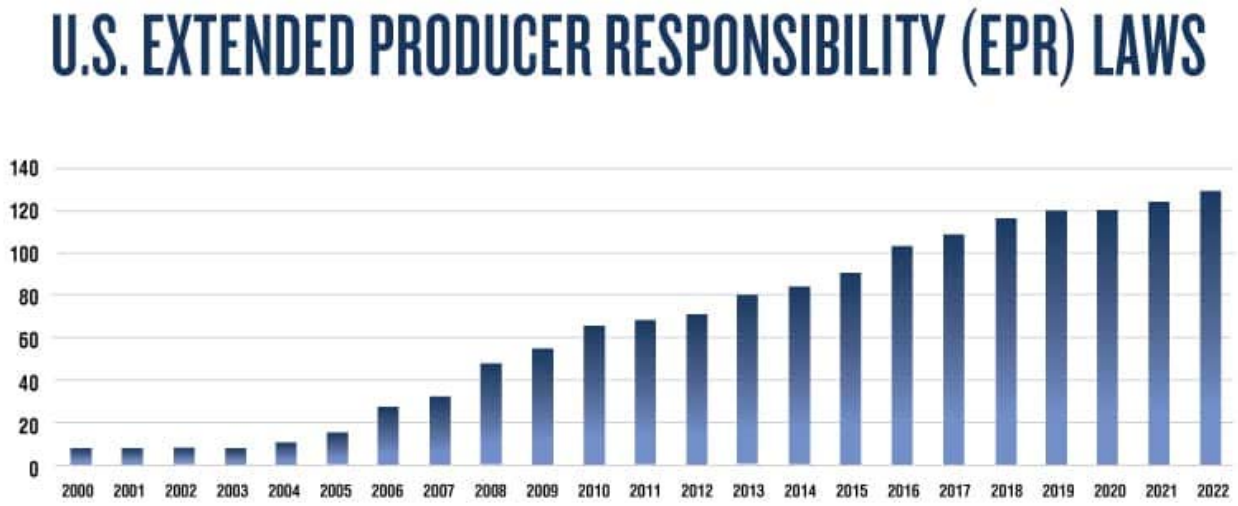
CBA Canadian Battery Association
Representing the Industry Since 1970

EPR 5-Year Action Plan 2021-2026



Foreign Influence

Better established in Europe and Australia, now seeing significant growth of EPR in the USA



PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP INSTITUTE

What's Left to Achieve

- Packaging from industry, commercial and institutional sources
- Solar panels (Washington State)
- Textiles (France, introduced in California, EU Commission developing Harmonized EPR rules for textiles, revision of the EU Waste Framework Directive.)
- Carpet (California, New York)
- Construction, renovation, demolition materials (France)
- Furniture, boats, fishing gear, cigarette butts, gum (France)







On a Positive Note…



- BC is crushing it compared to other provinces and states!
- EPR programs have collected over 4.5 million tonnes of products and packaging since they began operating in B.C. - that's 900 kg per British Columbian
- Not restricted by having to generate revenue

Next Steps and Wrap Up

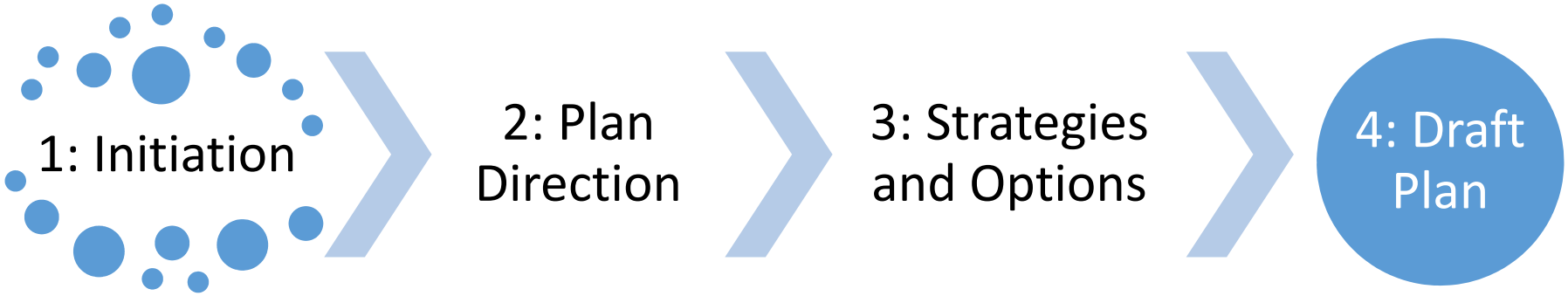
Sarah and Vivian

15 minutes

RSWAC Meeting 2.8 - 2.9

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Working SWMP Renewal Timeline



- Jul 2022 to Feb 2023
- Online Survey and RSWAC Recruitment

- Feb to Fall 2023
- In person consultation in community

- 2023 to Summer 2024
- In person consultation following options and costing

- 2024 to early 2025
- Virtual consultation of the draft report

Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Next Steps for the RSWAC

Next Meeting is **April 13, 2023 at 1 pm**

- Meeting will be in a hybrid format, we encourage participation in person but a Zoom link will also be sent

Focus will be on diving deep into the existing system and understanding how the programs and services are funded.

Wrap-Up

Reflections on Hybrid Format

- Challenges, successes?

Parking Lot

- Any outstanding questions, comments, thoughts?

Roundtable

- What inspired you today?



Thank YOU.



Any questions or comments, email or call Sarah.

250-334-6065

swillie@comoxvalleyrd.ca

Final Word and Meeting Adjournment from Co-Chair Baker



Comox Strathcona Waste Management

Principles

From the Ministry

A.2.2. Provincial principles for solid waste management

A solid waste management plan provides regional districts—and their residents and businesses—with clear direction on how they will achieve shared solid waste goals. Eight guiding principles with illustrative descriptions are provided for regional districts to follow in developing their solid waste management plan. Order of principles not indicative of prioritization unless otherwise noted.

Regional districts should include additional locally-relevant guiding principles in their solid waste management plans.

1. Promote zero waste approaches and support a circular economy
Encourage a shift in thinking from waste as a residual requiring disposal, to waste as a resource that can be utilized in closed-loop systems. Zero waste approaches aim to minimize waste generation and enable the sustainable use and reuse of products and materials. At the local level, look to remove barriers or encourage opportunities that will contribute to towards the establishment of a circular economy.

2. Promote the first 3 Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle)
Elevate the importance of waste prevention by prioritizing programming and provision of services for the first 3 Rs in the 5 R pollution prevention hierarchy (see Figure 1 of this Guide). Implement programs and services that consider provincial and regional targets for waste reduction and environmental protection. Encourage investments in technology and infrastructure, and ensure they occur as high up on the hierarchy as possible.

3. Maximize beneficial use of waste materials and manage residuals appropriately
Technology, best practices and infrastructure investments should continue to develop to recover any remaining materials and energy from the waste stream, and to manage residuals for disposal.

4. Support polluter and user-pay approaches and manage incentives to maximize behaviour outcomes
Producer and user responsibility for the management of products can be supported through the provision of market-based incentives, disposal restrictions on industry stewarded products, zoning to support collection facilities, and support for reuse and remanufacturing businesses. Education and behaviour change strategies aimed at consumers and businesses will help foster further waste reduction, reuse and recycling. For example, user fees can be managed as incentives to increase waste reduction and diversion.

5. Prevent organics and recyclables from going into the garbage wherever practical
Maintaining a system to prevent organics and recyclables from going into the garbage will provide clean feedstock of greater economic value as well as a potential end product use to the recycling industry, while reinforcing behaviour to reduce, reuse and recycle. Innovation in separation solutions, establishment and enforcement of disposal restrictions or other creative means will influence this approach.

6. Collaborate with other regional districts wherever practical
Collaboration on many aspects of solid waste management (e.g., to access facilities and markets, share campaigns and programs) will support the most efficient and effective overall municipal solid waste system.

7. Develop collaborative partnerships with interested parties to achieve regional targets set in plans
Strengthen partnerships with interested parties to achieve regional targets. All waste and recycling sector service providers, associations, and environmental organizations, product stewardship producers and agencies, and waste generators are key interested parties in achieving these targets. Cooperative efforts will optimize successful outcomes. Encourage a marketplace that will complement stewardship programs and drive private sector innovation and investment towards achievement of targets.

8. Level the playing field within regions for private and public solid waste management facilities
Solid waste management facilities within a given region should be subject to similar requirements. A consistent set of criteria should be used to evaluate the waste management solutions proposed by private sector and by a regional district or municipality.

Developing Local Principles

The solid waste management plan should be founded on locally-relevant guiding principles, which are clearly stated in the plan. Principles should be developed in consultation with the advisory committees and interested parties as part of the consultation process.

Guiding principles should be consistent with the provincial guiding principles outlined in Part A.2.2 of this Guide *(excerpt above)*; however, if the provincial guiding principles are modified or not included, clear rationale for these decisions should be provided to the ministry.

Guiding Principles in Our 2012 SWMP

- Solid waste is a resource.
- The consumption of material and energy resources should be set at a level which is ecologically sustainable.
- The regional solid waste stream should be reduced to the greatest extent possible, in accordance with the hierarchy of reduce, reuse, recycle, recovery and residual waste management and consistent with local resources and the nature of the regional solid waste stream.
- The goal of environmental policy is to strive towards zero pollution and the strategies for achieving that goal are in accordance with the precautionary principle.
- Individuals and firms will be enabled to make environmentally sound choices about consumption of resources and generation of waste through provision of appropriate information, including user-pay and market-based incentives whenever possible.
- Reduction policies and strategies will be developed through public consultation and are socially acceptable and cost-effective, based on full accounting of costs and benefits, both monetary and non-monetary.

Goals

From the Ministry

Goals are the long-term aims to be achieved as an outcome of the plan. Targets are a way of measuring progress. For example, if the goal is 'zero waste', a target might be to reduce the annual per person disposal rate to xx kg by 2025.

Local goals and targets should be developed with extensive input from advisory committees and the public consultation process and ultimately should support provincial targets.

Examples of goals include:

- "Support circular economy approaches"
- "Minimize environmental impacts of solid waste management to air, water and land"
- "Responsibly manage residuals"
- "Increase awareness of waste prevention"

Cowichan Valley Regional District, 2018 SWMP Goals

- Improve Waste Reduction and Diversion
- Support Transport and Processing Infrastructure
- Improve Recovery and Residuals Management
- Support System Resilience

Capital Regional District, 2020 SWMP Goals

- To surpass the provincial per capita waste disposal target and aspire to achieve a disposal rate of 125 kg/capita/year;
- To extend the life of Hartland Landfill to the year 2100 plus;
- To have informed citizens that participate effectively in proper waste management practices; and
- To ensure that the CRD's solid waste services are financially sustainable.

Peace River, Mount Waddington, Nanaimo – no specific goals pollution prevention hierarchy and zero waste.

Our 1995 SWMP Objectives Included:

• The plan should be developed in an open, public process. The vehicle for this process will include the formation of a "virtual committee" of stakeholders who will provide comments and guidance on each section of the plan. In a series of public open houses, local businesses and residents will be asked to provide feedback on the draft Plan Update.

• The plan must adopt strategies that promote pollution prevention and sound resource management. To the extent practicable, the plan should follow the polluter pay principle, wherein consumers and producers of products and packages that become waste must be responsible and accountable for the cost of managing the wastes they generate.

• Evaluations should be done on the basis of three major criteria: ability to divert waste from disposal, environmental and social impacts, and cost effectiveness.

• Effective, ongoing, two-way communication between the RDC-S and local residents, businesses, and institutions is crucial to the success of the plan.

• Education and promotion of waste reduction, reuse, and recycling is critical to the success of this solid waste management plan. The plan must ensure that the benefits associated with reducing wastes going to landfills are communicated to all sectors of society, particularly to youth through the schools.

• All landfills in the RDC-S will be developed and operated in conformance with the B.C. Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste (Criteria), except when environmental conditions are such that an exemption to one or more aspects of the Criteria is warranted.

• The plan must recognize regional differences and allow for flexible implementation of options tailored to the needs of specific communities in the RDC-S.

Our 2012 SWMP Objectives Included:

1. The initiatives outlined in the plan work towards a goal of zero waste and aim to minimize the amount of waste buried in landfills.
2. Improvements to the solid waste management system will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from solid waste management activities.
3. All CSWM landfills will be designed and operated to minimize impact on the environment and the surrounding community and to satisfy the BC Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste.

REGIONAL SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

PUBLIC CONSULTATION
PHASE 2



Comox Strathcona Waste Management

TAVOLA STRATEGY GROUP

PROVINCIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SWMP CONSULTATION

- Province of BC Environmental Management Act requires all regional districts submit a solid waste management plan for approval by the Minister of Environment & Climate Change Strategy.

- **Plans can be submitted only after sufficient public and stakeholder consultation has occurred.**

- **A Guide to Solid Waste Management Planning outlines best practices for public consultation and recommendations for how to satisfy the Ministry's requirements for public consultation.**



CVRD PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SPECTRUM

PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC

- Engage the broad public at the level of “inform” and “consult”
- RSWAC comprised of diverse interests and perspectives will provide input throughout the process to continually inform public engagement efforts.
- Recommendations and a draft SWMP will be informed by broad public input and RSWAC. After multi-phase consultation, the draft plan will then be considered by the CSWM Board for final consideration and approval and then submitted to the Ministry of Environment.

	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
Public participation goal	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
Promise to the public	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision. We will seek your feedback on drafts and proposals.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work together with you to formulate solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.
INCREASING IMPACT OF THE DECISION →					

STAGES IN THE PROCESS

Consultation occurs through all four stages of SWMP development.



Initiate the Process

Fall 2022



Set the Plan Direction

June - October 2023



Evaluate Options

2023-24



Prepare and Adopt the Plan

2024-25

Phase 2 Public Consultation

COMMUNICATIONS AND CONSULTATION OBJECTIVES

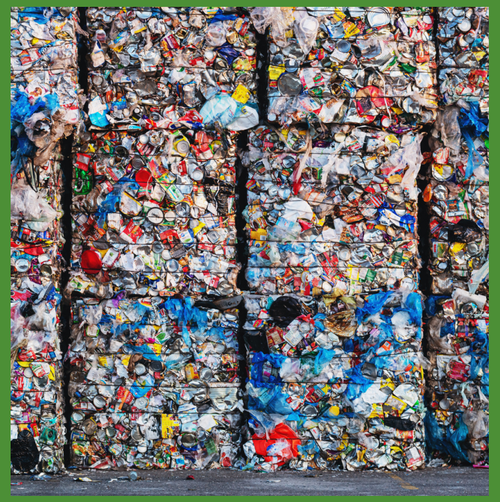
Staff and public engagement consultants will design, implement, report and evaluate an engagement process that aims to:

1. Increase understanding of about solid waste is managed in the Region and how its effective management supports quality of life.	**2. Make solid waste management and process understandable and accessible to citizens across the Region by using plain language, using a blend of in-person and digital channels, and making it interesting.**
3. Engage a broad, geographically representative, and diverse range of residents and stakeholders about the solid waste management system and potential future directions.	**4. Meet or exceed legislative requirements for public consultation as set out by the Ministry of Environment for SWMPs.**

OVERALL APPROACH

- "Tell the Story" - accessible, engaging written and visual content
- Accurate and complete picture of existing and future opportunities and challenges
- Remove barriers to engagement:
  - Make solid waste accessible through visuals and tours
  - Multi-channel - virtual and in-person
  - Ample notice of opportunity
  - Go to where the people are
- Close the loop - share what was heard and how it informs recommendations and next steps











PHASE 2: KEY TOPICS

01 Role of a Solid Waste Management Plan and the importance of managing waste effectively

02 Opportunities and Challenges of Existing System and Future Needs

03 Guiding Principles, Objectives and Goals for a new Solid Waste Management Plan





WHO WE NEED TO HEAR FROM

- Solid waste management affects everyone in the Region in some way
- Diversity of perspective is needed
- Balance of broad public input and stakeholder input

Consultation with First Nations communities will occur through a parallel but separate process led by CSWM staff with support from the SRD First Nations Liaison and CVRD Communications

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

Awareness-raising

- Letters to stakeholders
- Print and digital advertising
- Earned and social media
- Educational video
- Print Materials

Collecting input

- Landfill Open House and Tour
- Online survey
- Community events across CWSM
- In-person and virtual open houses
- Correspondence
- *What We Heard* Consultation Summary





COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

July to September

1. Landfill Open House
2. Quadra Island Days
3. Tahsis Days
4. Cortes Days
5. Denman Farmers Market
6. Gold River event
7. Zeballos event
8. Houpsitas + Walter's Island event
9. Union Bay/Fanny Bay event
10. CVRD Area B event
11. Black Creek Fall Fair
12. Hornby Island Fall Fair
13. Nautical Days (Comox Valley)
14. Salmon Fest (Campbell River)





Photo credits:
Ray Van Eng
Michaela Parks

TIMING AND NEXT STEPS

Phase 2 Consultation: Setting the Plan Direction



Launch Phase 2

June 2023



Active Engagement

June - September 2023



What We Heard
Consultation Findings Presented to RSWAC

October 2023

QUESTIONS?

Weigh In On Waste

Help Us Shape A Better Future
For Solid Waste



Stakeholder Identification Exercise





WHO ELSE DO WE NEED TO HEAR FROM?

1) Please take 5 minutes and review the preliminary stakeholder list

2) Roundtable: Are there any stakeholders or perspectives you feel might be missing?