

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO
REGIONAL SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**THURSDAY, February 4, 2016, 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM
RDN Board Chambers**

A G E N D A

PAGES

CALL TO ORDER

MINUTES

3-6 Minutes of the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting held Jan. 14, 2016.

DELEGATIONS

Derek Haarsma, Haarsma Waste Innovations Inc., Management of Solid Waste in the Multi-Family & IC&I Sector.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Technical Memorandum: Multi-Family & IC&I Recycling in the RDN.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

7-12 **Jan Hastings**, re Zero Waste Definitions.

13-14 **Jim McTaggart-Cowan**, re RSWAC Motions & Questions.

REPORTS

ADDENDUM

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Distribution:

Alec McPherson	Chair, RDN Director	Michael Recalma	Qualicum First Nation
Bill McKay	Deputy Chair	Chief & Council	Nanoose First Nation
Frank Van Eynde	Member at Large	Chief & Council	Snuneymuxw First Nation
Derek Haarsma	Business Representative	John Marsh	Town of Qualicum Beach
Ed Walsh	Waste Management Industry	Fred Spears	District of Lantzville
Wally Wells	Business Representative	Geoff Goodall	City of Nanaimo
Jan Hastings	Non Profit Representative	Al Leuschen	Ministry of Environment
Jim McTaggart-Cowan	Member at Large	Karen Muttersbach	Environment Canada
John Finnie	Member at Large	Glenn Gibson	Island Health
Craig Evans	Member at Large		
Ellen Ross	Member at Large		
Gerald Johnson	Member at Large		
Michele Green	Member at Large		
Amanda Ticknor	Member at Large		
Michael Tripp	Business Representative		
Stewart Young Jr.	Business Representative		
Larissa Coser	Community Representative		

RDN Staff:

Larry Gardner	Manager, Solid Waste Services, RDN
Sharon Horsburgh	Senior Solid Waste Planner, RDN
Randy Alexander	GM, RCU & Solid Waste Services, RDN
Meghan Larson	Special Projects Coordinator
Jeff Ainge	Zero Waste Coordinator, RDN
Rebecca Graves	Recording Secretary, RDN

For information only:

Regional Board Members: CAO's: Dennis Trudeau (RDN), Brad McRae (District of Lantzville), Debbie Comis (City of Parksville), Daniel Sailland (Town of Qualicum Beach), Tracy Samra (City of Nanaimo)

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO
REGIONAL SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2016
BOARD CHAMBERS**

Present:

Alec McPherson	Chair, RDN Director
Frank Van Eynde	Member at Large
Jan Hastings	Non Profit Representative
Jim McTaggart-Cowan	Member at Large
Craig Evans	Member at Large
John Finnie	Member at Large
Gerald Johnson	Member at Large
Amanda Ticknor	Member at Large
Michael Tripp	Business Representative
Wally Wells	Business Representative
Geoff Goodall	City of Nanaimo

Also in Attendance:

Maureen Young	RDN Director
Larry Gardner	Manager of Solid Waste, RDN
Rebecca Graves	Recording Secretary, RDN
Sharon Horsburgh	Senior Solid Waste Planner, RDN
Meghan Larson	Special Projects Coordinator, RDN
Dennis Trudeau	GM, Transportation & Solid Waste Services, RDN

Regrets:

Chief & Council	Nanoose First Nation
Chief & Council	Snuneymuxw First Nation
Glenn Gibson	Island Heath
Al Leuschen	Ministry of Environment
Karen Muttersbach	Environment Canada
Michael Recalma	Qualicum First Nation
Fred Spears	District of Lantzville
John Marsh	Town of Qualicum Beach
Ed Walsh	Waste Management Industry
Ellen Ross	Member at Large
Charlotte Davis	City of Nanaimo
Jeff Ainge	Zero Waste Coordinator
Jim Kipp	Deputy Chair, RDN Director
Derek Haarsma	Business Representative
Michele Green	Member at Large
Larissa Coser	Community Representative
Stewart Young Jr.	Business Representative

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM and respectfully acknowledged the Coast Salish Nations on whose traditional territory the meeting took place.

DELEGATES

MINUTES

MOVED J. McTaggart-Cowan, SECONDED G. Johnson, that the minutes from the meeting of the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee regular meeting held November 26, 2015, be adopted. CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

M. Larson reviewed her slide presentation from the Nov. 26, 2015 RSWAC meeting giving an overview of EPR collection practices in the Region.

Currently, there are several for-profit and non-profit depots throughout the Region that accept stewardship items as well as return to retailer options. Taking on EPR at the regional facilities could negatively impact revenue at these facilities that depend on the materials collected from EPR programs. EPR collection at both Regional Facilities could result in an estimated 0.2-0.5% waste diversion. No additional authorities would be required for the RDN to introduce EPR collection at both regional facilities, however, it would require RDN Board approval. Things to consider for the SWMP are convenience, cost implications, diversion impacts, current regulatory framework and impact on other depots.

J. McTaggart-Cowan questioned if the EPR Stewardship agencies in the region felt that coverage was adequate?

M. Larson replied that the RDN did speak with EPR agencies and on average they do have high user rates for local depots. Northern regions there are not so many options for depots.

S. Horsburgh responded that the RDN is a member of the BC Product Stewardship Council and discussions do occur with Ministry of Environment on the topic of stewardship programs in Regional Districts.

J. Hastings commented that she would much rather see collection for hard to recycle items than already stewarded items that would compete with existing depots.

W. Wells questioned why compete with existing programs and rather subsidize or find mechanisms to deal with existing programs and keep jobs in private sector?

The discussion demonstrated a low level of support to proceed with EPR collection at regional facilities.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS

Technical Memorandum: Jurisdictional Scan Regarding Waste Diversion Programs. (L. Gardner – Presentation)

L. Gardner introduced a slide presentation on waste diversion programs in Edmonton, San Francisco and the UK reviewing disposal rates vs. diversion rates. It was concluded that it is virtually impossible to derive valid comparisons of waste disposal rates from elsewhere in the world. The jurisdictional scan suggests that the RDN has one of the lowest disposal rates within the developed nations of the world.

J. McTaggart-Cowan questioned where Edmonton's materials end up that aren't acceptable into the composting or metal recycling?

L. Gardner replied that their new system assumes a 90% diversion target. The remaining 10% is either landfilled or is gasified.

G. Johnson questioned how enforcement in San Francisco occurs?

L. Gardner replied that the generator is regulated by San Francisco and fines can be applied at source.

Technical Memorandum: RDN's Zero Waste Plan. (S. Horsburgh - Presentation)

S. Horsburgh presented a slide presentation on the RDN's Zero Waste Plan which included guiding principles, zero waste strategy, key policies, performance objects/metrics and future opportunities.

The RDN has achieved 68% waste diversion and an annual per capita disposal rate of 347 kilograms which is one of the lowest disposal rates in Canada. The RDN and Cowichan Valley Regional Districts are believed to have the lowest per capita disposal rates in North America. With continued promotion and enforcement of our Zero Waste programs, we could see continued improvements in diversion rates.

G. Johnson enquired if the role of local government is to make money, breakeven or can chances be taken and venture into investments and develop markets and then have an entrepreneur take over?

L. Gardner replied it is to provide services and utilities that the community would like to see.

J. Finnie remarked that local government is here to provide services that the Province imposes, at a reasonable cost to the taxpayer. Regional Districts are the most accountable level of governments and need to get Electoral support for funding mechanisms.

M. Tripp described the investments in recycling equipment made by his company demonstrates their commitment in improving recycling in the RDN.

J. McTaggart- Cowan questioned what is needed from the RDN to make it more profitable?

M. Tripp remarked that capital investment is needed to make businesses profitable. Access to capital is tight due to fluctuating markets. MMBC made the Nanaimo operation profitable.

J. McTaggart-Cowan commented that we need EPR on mattresses and we need to pressure industry to make producers responsible for residuals. The provincial government has a role to implement more EPR programs. We have talked about working with the generators, what authorities does the RDN need to give you the capability to enforce?

J. McTaggart-Cowan requested staff draft a bylaw.

L. Gardner commented if there's a desire to go down that path we can include the draft in the SWMP. A. McPherson replied that if the draft bylaw goes into the plan it will be forwarded to the Province for approval.

J. Finnie felt it's bigger than the RDN and industry is a powerful lobby group and will oppose increased government regulation. We need to get together with other regions to go forward.

L. Gardner replied that our requirement is to produce the SWMP with a Zero Waste component. There are strategies and continued efforts to reduce our waste. Our current strategies are specific corner stones and we need to identify our next targets.

Technical Memorandum: Multi-Family & IC&I Recycling in the RDN. (M. Larson - Presentation)

M. Larson gave a presentation on the Multi-Family and IC&I recycling in the RDN. The IC&I and Multi-Family sectors waste stream contain significant amounts of recyclable material and compostable organics despite landfill bans being in place for various recyclable materials and commercial organics. These sectors provide the greatest opportunity for further waste diversion in the RDN.

The IC&I sector represents 63% of landfilled waste at the Regional Landfill. Examples of waste generators in this sector include businesses, industries, or commercial operations including stores, offices, hotels, hospitals, schools, restaurants, construction companies, factories etc., and the Multi-Family housing sector. In the RDN, the IC&I sector (including Multi-Family) is serviced by private waste haulers. Outreach has been done to promote diversion in these sectors and has largely relied on voluntary compliance with the landfill bans and applying fines. Increased effort in both outreach and enforcement consistent with the current strategies can achieve a moderate increase of about 3% in overall waste diversion. It is believed that the provision of authorities available through the SWMP can provide additional regulatory and economic tools to drive very high levels of diversion up to a 10% increase in overall waste.

J. Finnie questioned if there was a blend of these two options that would be more efficient?

M. Larson commented that each new program will require some level of education and outreach.

M. Tripp commented that scenario one with a more blended pro-active approach is the way to go and relaunching the program for 10th Anniversary is beneficial to his company to get the organics out of the waste stream.

J. McTaggart-Cowan questioned how many are not MMBC haulers and why are we allowing that?

M. Tripp replied that just because a hauler is not an MMBC hauler it doesn't mean we're not doing the right things.

ADDENDUM

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED J. McTaggart-Cowan, SECONDED G. Johnson, that this meeting be adjourned.

CHAIRPERSON

Zero Waste Definitions, Principles and Hierarchies

- **Zero Waste International Alliance**
- **National Zero Waste Council**
- **Zero Waste BC**
- **Recycling Council of BC**
- **BC Ministry of the Environment**
- **London Remade**

Zero Waste International Alliance

ZWIA Definition (from <http://zwia.org/standards/>)

Main Definition: One of the primary goals of organizing the Zero Waste International Alliance in 2002 was to establish standards to guide the development of Zero Waste in the world. The Planning Group of the Zero Waste International Alliance adopted the first peer-reviewed internationally accepted definition of Zero Waste on November 29, 2004. A revised definition adopted by the Zero Waste International Alliance on August 12, 2009 is posted below. This is intended to assist businesses and communities in defining their own goals for Zero Waste.

Extensions of Definition:

Zero Waste is a goal that is ethical, economical, efficient and visionary, to guide people in changing their lifestyles and practices to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for others to use.

Zero Waste means designing and managing products and processes to systematically avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not burn or bury them.

Implementing Zero Waste will eliminate all discharges to land, water or air that are a threat to planetary, human, animal or plant health.”

This is the goal we are striving for. Measures of success in meeting this goal are outlined in the Zero Waste Business Principles and the Global Principles for Zero Waste Communities.

ZWIA Zero Waste Hierarchy (from <http://zwia.org/standards/>)

This Zero Waste Hierarchy starts with the premise of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, then highlights that recovering energy is only acceptable using systems that operate at biological temperature and pressure, such as sustainable biodiesel from used vegetable oils or biologically or chemically producing ethanol from urban wood, biosolids, manures or food scraps.

The Zero Waste Hierarchy says that landfilling is the last step, and only if discarded materials are sorted at the landfill to get out all remaining recyclables and toxics, then biologically stabilized before burial. Prior to landfilling, materials should be analyzed and researched to determine what products and packaging should be redesigned in the future.

The Zero Waste Hierarchy says don't burn mixed solid waste, tires, wood from mixed construction and demolition debris, or biosolids, as high temperature systems volatilize heavy metals and produce dioxins and furans.

The Zero Waste Hierarchy says avoid all high temperature systems, such as Mass Burn, Fluidized Bed, Gasification, Plasma Arc, and Pyrolysis.

The Zero Waste Hierarchy also says don't support bioreactor landfills, don't give recycling credit for Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) or 'beneficial use' of processing residues to build landfills, and don't allow recycling toxic or radioactive wastes into consumer products or building materials."



National Zero Waste Council (<http://www.nzwc.ca/Pages/default.aspx>)
Founded by Metro Vancouver in collaboration with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in 2013, the Council has united, among others, five of Canada's largest metropolitan regions – Metro Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal, Halifax and Edmonton

MISSION

To act collaboratively with business, government and the community, at the national and international level, as an agent of change for waste prevention and reduction in the design, production and use of goods.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Commit to collaboratively working with business, government and community partners to develop new solutions.

2. Adopt a waste prevention and reduction framework that positions Canadian cities and businesses to compete globally in an emerging resource-constrained economy.
3. Align with global and international initiatives.
4. Stress the economic, social, and environmental benefits associated with the conservation of resources
5. Consider local and global consequence and long term impacts.

Zero Waste BC

About

Zero Waste BC is an information network of organizations and individuals.

Our mission is to support a moratorium on new waste incineration facilities in the province of British Columbia and to call for an environmentally responsible Zero Waste strategy for all BC communities.

[You can learn more about the Zero Waste solution here.](#) where we detail the pathway to Zero Waste and provide examples of other jurisdictions that are successfully dealing with their waste, with out the need for incineration.

The Zero Waste Solution

Zero Waste is a vision that can energize people, communities and businesses to change their “lifestyles and practices to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for others to use.

Zero Waste means designing and managing products and processes to systematically avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not burn or bury them.” (Zero Waste International Alliance definition)

Zero waste is about setting the bar high and continually working towards it. Just like no one would consider their work done on airline safety if 30% of planes crashed, zero waste is about continual improvement to get to zero. Some people say “zero waste or darn close” and those who decrease their waste by 90% are considered to have achieved zero waste.

Metro Vancouver could close landfills without building incinerators by simply achieving higher waste diversion rates. Their aspirational goal of 80% by 2020 is a good start but we should be shooting for at least 90% for 2025 or 2030. This would create more jobs, save money and be the best possible outcome for the environment. We could reach the 90% target simply by enforcing existing material bans and fully rolling out the existing extended producer responsibility rules.

This [zero waste hierarchy](#) shows many of the steps that should be taken and points out some that should not. NOTE: this link goes to ZWIA Hierarchy

Recycling Council of BC

RCBC Vision

"A World Without Waste"

Mission Statement

The **Recycling Council of British Columbia (RCBC)** facilitates the exchange of ideas and knowledge that enable efficient solutions to eliminate waste.

Founded in 1974, RCBC is Canada's longest serving recycling council, but it is about more than just recycling. RCBC works to prevent and reduce the use of resources before they ever need to be recycled. However, when B.C. residents have end-of-life materials, RCBC's primary role is to provide them with information about the options available in their communities, through the Recycling Hotline, B.C. Recyclepedia and Phone App.

As part of our mission, **RCBC** facilitates the exchange of ideas and knowledge that enable efficient solutions to eliminate waste through its public information services, through its annual conference, and through special events such as Waste Reduction Week.

Each year, RCBC's Information Services staff answer more than 180,000 questions from callers or web visits about pollution prevention, recycling and waste reduction.

The RCBC Materials Exchange (MEX), promotes reuse through a network of free-to-use web sites, such as Surreyreuses.com, that offer items and list events, such as garage sales.

RCBC members are local, regional and provincial governments, businesses large and small, non-profit organizations and interested individuals who recognize the importance of coming together to work on B.C.'s long-term sustainability and create a world without waste.

Strategic Priorities

The RCBC Board of Directors has identified four priority areas on which the organization will focus over the next five years. These are described as follows:

1. Diversion & recycling strategies for organics and construction + demolition waste.
2. Alternative & renewable energy technologies.
3. Emerging waste & recycling technologies and practices that increase efficiencies in the 3Rs Hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle)
4. Strategies that promote waste prevention.

These priorities focus on changes that are emerging in both systems and technologies in waste prevention and management. They also reflect a change in focus at the provincial government from extended producer responsibility to other areas of waste prevention needed for the province to reach the **zero-waste** objective.

Ministry of the Environment, BC

Canadians dispose of more municipal solid waste per capita than any other country in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development according to a [Conference Board of Canada report](#). However, there is a positive business case for reducing the amount waste we generate in British Columbia.

The [draft Zero Waste Business Case](#) finds that moving towards Zero Waste will reduce costs, generate new GDP and create new jobs. Zero Waste focuses on reducing waste and reusing products, then recycling and composting/digesting the rest. The report is currently undergoing an expert review to refine the assumptions, data and projections used.



London Remade Model (not necessarily Zero Waste principles, but an interesting municipal Model)

London Remade was created in 2000, in order to improve the management of London's waste and to find innovative solutions to divert waste into marketable, high quality products within London.

London Remade is a strategic partnership between the business sector, London boroughs, regional government, waste management companies and the not-for-profit sector. It is an innovative recycling program aimed at increasing markets for recycled products and driving the development of an entrepreneurial recycling supply chain.

Based on such unique multi-partnerships, London Remade uses recycling as a vehicle to drive economic and social regeneration and is principally funded by the London Development Agency to deliver green procurement and business support programs. Through the development of a comprehensive recycling supply chain, which incorporates the collection and reprocessing of recyclable materials and the procurement of recycled content and resource efficient products, London Remade redefines recycling as a new way of generating economic, social and environmental benefits. As placing waste paper in the 'recycling bin' does not guarantee good recycling (completing the loop of the material), London Remade aims to secure the purchasing of post consumer recycled paper, for example.

Graves, Rebecca

From: Jim McTaggart-Cowan <mctaco2@telus.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 2:52 PM
To: Graves, Rebecca
Subject: Agenda items for Feb. 4 meeting
Attachments: RSWAC Motions and Questions.doc

I would like the following items on the upcoming meeting's agenda (Feb 4) under Business Arising as they come directly from the presentations and discussion of our meeting on January 17. In case the formatting does not come through the e-mail filters well, I have attached it in Word as well, for your convenience. Thank you.

Jim McTaggart-Cowan

1. Be it resolved that ZWIA definition of Zero Waste and the ZWIA Hierarchy of Best Uses will guide the RSWAC's consideration of proposals for the next five-year plan.
2. In light of the fact that the ICI sector is the major contributor to the current waste going to the Cedar Landfill, be it resolved that increasing ICI diversion will be a cornerstone of the next plan.
3. Given a focus on the ICI Sector, we need to decide what our measurable objective is for this Sector. Do we need targets for each of the four materials that make up 77% of the ICI waste stream? Do we need a new diversion target for ICI? Or would we target a 25% reduction in total waste weight over the next five years, or 30%, or what?
4. Establishing regulations and enforcing them will be a critical part of the next five-year plan in order to ensure a level playing field for stakeholders. What regulations need to be developed and what enforcement tools are available/needed to get the job done?
5. What are the sub-measurables needed to monitor progress toward goals or indicate refinements needed as we go along? In addition:
 1. Will we choose diversion targets? tonnage targets? hierarchy targets?
 2. What reporting criteria would help gather meaningful ICI data?
 3. Will we choose regulations with targets for diversion and contamination,
 4. Will we implement an enforcement plan
 5. Will we use reporting criteria to support the enforcement plan?
6. What adult education tools need to be developed to enable employees and managers in the ICI Sector to understand what they need to do to work toward the goal and to meet the regulations? How can we build on the obvious successes of the present school-based education program?
7. To achieve any goal in the ICI Sector, the RDN itself must become an example for other members of this Sector. We need to identify the policies and bylaws necessary to make the RDN the leader in this effort.