

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT  
SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee Meeting held at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, in-person at the Alan Emmot Centre.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Craig Hodge, Director, Metro Vancouver Board of Directors (Co-Chair)	Glen Furtado, Cement Association of Canada
Aidan Kiani, Lock-Block Ltd.	Happy Deol, Super Save Group
Angus MacFarlane, Growing City	James Collins, Tymac Launch Service Ltd.
Christian Dietrich, Ecowaste Industries	Jamie Kaminski, HSR Zero Waste
Dayton Skei, EverGen	Maya Moucachen, Merlin Plastics
Dimitri Pantazopoulos, Waste Connections of Canada	Michael Zarbl, Major Appliance Recycling Roundtable
Glen Furtado, Cement Association of Canada	Mike Lannin, Super Save Group
Ken Schultze, (Alternate for Fabio Scaldaferrri, Pacific Mattress Recycling Inc.)	Patrick MacNeil, Wescan Disposal Ltd.
	Pinky Vargas, Republic Services
	Ralph McRae, Revolution Infrastructure Inc.
	Shad Prasad, Cascade Recovery +

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Lori Bryan, Waste Management Association of BC	Jeremy Crawford, Waste Control Services Ltd.
Achilles Mallari, Sierra Waste Services Ltd.	Josh JansenVandoorn, Anaconda Systems Ltd.
David Millman, Waste Management of Canada Corporation	Leanne Koehn, Ridge Meadows Recycling Society
Gord Johnson, Northstar	Matthew McAra, GFL Environmental Inc.
Grant Hankins, Canada Minibins.com Ltd.	Sandy Sigmund, Encorp Pacific Canada, Return-It
James Collins, Tymac Launch Service Ltd.	John Turner, BC Biocarbon Ltd.
Imran Jessa, Delta Textiles Exporters Inc.	Sean Kawakami, Convertus Canada Ltd.
Izzie Abrams, Waste Connections of Canada	Stewart Young, GFL Environmental Inc.
Jasper van de Wetering, Heidelberg Materials Canada Ltd.	

**METRO VANCOUVER AND CITY OF VANCOUVER STAFF:**

Chris Clarke, Engagement Specialist, Solid Waste Services  
Karen Storry, Senior Engineer, Solid Waste Services  
Lynne Belanger, City of Vancouver  
Lynne Vidler, Lead Senior Engineer, Solid Waste Services  
Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services  
Samantha Joy, Engagement Specialist, Solid Waste Services  
Stephanie Liu, Program Manager, Community Engagement, Solid Waste Services  
Terry Fulton, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Services  
Zack Ha, Administrative Assistant, Solid Waste Services  
Zeenia Mizan, Program Assistant, Solid Waste Services

**PREPARATION OF MINUTES:** Priya Kullar, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

# Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee Meeting

September 10, 2024

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

In-Person

## Agenda

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1. Agenda
  - 1.1. September 10, 2024, Meeting Agenda
2. Minutes
  - 2.1. July 9, 2024, Meeting Minutes
3. Reports and Items for Discussion
  - 3.1. Weigh Scale Software System Upgrade  
*For Information and feedback*  
*Designated speaker: Lynne Vidler, Metro Vancouver, Solid Waste Operations*
  - 3.2. Generator Levy  
*For input/feedback*  
*Designated speaker: Paul Henderson, Metro Vancouver, Solid Waste Services*  
*Small group and plenary discussions proposed questions:*
    - *What are your thoughts on the generator levy? What does it accomplish?*
    - *What challenges do you see with the generator levy and how can they be addressed?*
    - *How does the generator levy affect competition?*
    - *What alternative regulatory approaches could be considered for Metro Vancouver?*
      - o *Where are those approaches successfully used?*
      - o *What are the outcomes?*
4. Other Business
  - 4.1. Zero Waste Committee and Other Updates  
*For information*  
*Designated Speaker: Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services*
  - 4.2. Waste-to-Energy Facility Tour
5. Information Items
  - 5.1. Regional Waste Flows
  - 5.2. 2024 Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule (upcoming meetings)
  - 5.3. Industry Advisory Committee 2024 Work Plan

## MEETING MINUTES

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Co-Chair, Director Craig Hodge, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. and welcomed attendees to the Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee meeting.

### 1. AGENDA

#### 1.1 September 10, 2024, Meeting Agenda

Co-Chair Hodge reviewed the September 10, 2024, meeting agenda. No additions were made.

### 2. MINUTES

#### 2.1 July 9, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Co-Chair Hodge called for any additions or changes to the meeting Minutes of July 9, 2024. There were no changes or additions to the meeting Minutes of July 9, 2024.

It was noted that a Feedback Summary Report of the July small group discussion is located on the committee webpage under the July meeting tab . Anyone experiencing challenges with locating the reports was encouraged to contact Metro Vancouver staff.

### 3. REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

#### 3.1 Weigh Scale Software System Upgrade

Lynne Vidler, Lead Senior Engineer, Solid Waste Operations, Metro Vancouver, reviewed information on the new scale software system upgrade, noting the following:

- Weigh scale software collects weights for inbound and outbound transactions, calculates cost per load based on Tipping Fee Bylaw provisions, and processes disposal ban surcharges.
- Field testing was completed at Central Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre in April and May 2024.
- Go-live dates that have been completed include Central Surrey (June 1, 2024), Maple Ridge (July 31, 2024), and Langley (August 20, 2024)
- Upcoming go-live dates include North Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre, Waste-to-Energy Facility, and North Shore Recycling and Waste Centre (expected October and November 2024)
- Upgraded features include:
  - Account customers will receive separate monthly invoices for updated facilities and non-converted facilities until all facilities are upgraded to new software
  - Fully integrated with Moneris point of sale system
  - Invoices out of the new software will now be emailed to the financial e-mail address on file; invoicing is completed on or around the 10th of each month.
  - Account customers receive emailed site tickets immediately after a vehicle has completed a transaction at a facility for all converted facilities.
  - Once all sites are fully updated, scheduled reports are to be sent on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis (customers can request their preference).
  - Software will enable future upgrade to touch screen unattended terminals and eventually the reduction of multiple cards per vehicle.
- Information required from account customers includes:
  - Any updated fleet vehicle information – new license plates or new vehicles missing from the account

- Any changes to billing or mailing address
- A contact for Finance to receive ticket copies, e-surcharges, and invoices
- An operations contact to resolve operational/vehicle issues when a driver visits a site
- All updates should be emailed to [weighscalesystem@metrovancover.org](mailto:weighscalesystem@metrovancover.org).

### 3.2 Generator Levy/Competition

Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services, shared a presentation on the Generator Levy and competition. Highlights included:

- Waste reduction and recycling achievements and an overview of facility locations
- Overview of the benefits of a public solid waste system
- Comparison of average tipping fees in comparable jurisdictions and an overview of the benefits of the generator levy from Metro Vancouver’s perspective.
- Various examples of investments enabled by the generator levy were shared, including:
  - Two new recycling and waste centers (2022)
  - Residential disposal events in partnership with member jurisdictions
  - Mattress recycling and funding for municipal recycling depots
  - Recycling depot development at Langley and North Surrey recycling and waste centres
  - Waste-to-Energy Facility district energy development
  - Bottom ash beneficial use pilots
- Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Board approved changes to Tipping Fee Bylaw related to the generator levy on June 28, 2024
- These changes include streamlined definitions, strengthened generator levy-related records management requirements, and improved enforceability of the bylaw
- Previous feedback received from the haulers regarding the generator levy.
- The Industry Advisory Committee feedback will be reported to the Zero Waste Committee, incorporated and included in the feedback for the Idea Generation phase of engagement on the solid waste management plan update, and considered in the next phase of engagement.

Paul Henderson asked if anyone had any initial questions or comments on the presentation shared. The following questions and comments were raised:

- Curiosity regarding Metro Vancouver’s determining the tipping fee amount for Toronto and if private facilities were also considered
  - The response was that the Toronto tipping fee was listed on the City of Toronto’s website; Metro Vancouver is aware that there are private facilities, but for this comparison, the fee considered was referenced from the City of Toronto website
- Further information was requested on why Metro Vancouver shared the tipping fees for Seattle and San Francisco
  - The response was that Metro Vancouver selected larger cities and systems that were more complex yet comparable to the Metro Vancouver model

Industry Advisory Committee members were separated into breakout groups and had 20 minutes to consider the questions below or suggest any other relevant questions. Each breakout group included a Metro Vancouver staff note taker, and a representative from each group provided a report back to the larger group on highlights of their discussions.

Questions for consideration:

- *What are your thoughts on the generator levy? What does it accomplish?*
- *What challenges do you see with the generator levy and how can they be addressed?*
- *How does the generator levy affect competition?*
- *What alternative regulatory approaches could be considered for Metro Vancouver?*
  - *Where are those approaches successfully used?*
  - *What are the outcomes?*

Following the small group discussions, a representative from each group reported back on key highlights from their discussions.

A feedback summary from the small group discussion will be posted to the Industry Advisory Committee web page separately from the minutes. The Chair confirmed that the input and feedback were being captured and would be summarized, reported to the Zero Waste Committee, and included in the plan update.

#### **4. OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **4.1 Zero Waste Committee and Other Updates**

Paul Henderson provided an update on recent discussions and activities of the Zero Waste Committee:

- The *Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan* Biennial report was distributed for feedback; this feedback was reported to the Zero Waste Committee last week and will be provided to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
- The Waste-to-Energy Facility financial summary is an annual report where the cost of operating the Waste-to-Energy facility is summarized; this year, additional items were included in this summary, including:
  - Identification of debt associated with projects at Waste Energy Facility
  - Comparisons of the net cost for the Waste-to-Energy Facility, Vancouver Landfill, and contingency disposal; when accounting for recycling and waste center costs. The cost of managing waste through Metro Vancouver's contingency disposal contracts is roughly twice as much as the cost of managing waste at the Vancouver Landfill and Waste-to-Energy facility.
- Extended producer responsibility update:
  - The provincial government has a five-year plan that involves adding new materials to the EPR program, including mattresses, compressed canisters, fire extinguishers, medical sharps and other products, intended to be in place for 2025; however, feedback was received from the province in August 2024 that the regulations will not be updated this fall. The Board will write the province to stress the importance of including these materials in the regulations
- Manager's report:
  - Upcoming engagements include:
    - Notice of Bylaw Violation – adding Tipping Fee Bylaw provisions
    - A proposed amendment to the Waste-to-Energy Facility Operational Certificate to delay the reduction in discharge limits for sulphur dioxide and hydrogen chloride for 3 years
    - Solid waste management plan update - idea generation

- Single-use item and plastic waste prevention update
- Textiles update
- 2024 Smart Waste Program Report published in August 2024
- District Energy – British Columbia Utilities Commission exemption granted in August 2024

A member asked about a recently closed private facility where waste remains unattended at the site.

Paul Henderson explained that there is a regulatory process currently underway. The member requested that the outcome of this process be shared with the committee once details are publicly available.

#### **4.2 Waste-to-Energy Facility Tour**

The tour was postponed to accommodate in-person meetings in September and October 2024. A new date will be scheduled, and all members are welcome to attend. An invitation for the new tour date will be sent out in the next couple of weeks.

### **5. INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **5.1 Regional Waste Flows**

#### **5.2 2024 Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule (upcoming meetings)**

#### **5.3 Industry Advisory Committee 2024 Work Plan**

No questions were raised in relation to the Information Items.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Hodge thanked members for their comments and feedback and advised that the next Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee meeting would be held on October 8, 2024, in person at Element Vancouver Metrotown, in Burnaby and would focus on idea generation for the solid waste management plan update.

The Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.