

**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, April 8, 2025, in-person meeting held at the Anvil Centre in New Westminster.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bryan, Lori, Executive Director, Waste Management Association of BC (Co-Chair) (via teleconference)
Craig Hodge, Director, Zero Waste Committee (Co-Chair)
Agassiz, Sam – West Coast Reduction Ltd.
Crawford, Jeremy – Waste Control Services
Dietrich, Christian – Ecowaste Industries
Furtado, Glen – Cement Association of Canada
Hankins, Grant – Canada Minibins.com Ltd.
Janzen, Tessa – Recycle BC
Johnston, Kurt – CleanStart Property Services
Kaminski, Jamie – HSR Zero Waste
Kheyrandish, Ataollah – Richmond Steel Recycling

Kiani, Aiden – Lock-Block Ltd.
MacFarlane, Angus – Growing City
MacNeil, Patrick – Wescan Disposal Ltd.
Muir, Wesley – Veolia North America (Canada)
Pantazopoulos, Dimitri – Waste Connections of Canada
Prasad, Shad – Cascade Recovery +
Skei, Dayton – Evergen Infrastructure Corp.
Skoropada, Lorne – Ridge Meadows Recycling Society
Vargas, Pinky – Republic Services
Zarbl, Michael – Major Appliance Recycling Roundtable

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Abrams, Izzie – Waste Connections of Canada
Collins, James – Tymac Launch Service Ltd.
JansenVandoorn, Josh – Anaconda Systems Ltd.
Johnson, Gord – Northstar
Kawakami, Sean – Convertus Canada Ltd.
Lannin, Mike – Super Save Group
Mallari, Achilles – Sierra Waste Services Ltd.
McRae, Ralph – Revolution Infrastructure Inc.
Millman, David – Waste Management of

Canada Corp.
Moucachen, Maya – Merlin Plastics
Punja, Rustam – Geocycle Canada Inc.
Sigmund, Sandy – Encorp Pacific Canada, Return-It
Van Beusekom, Brent – product Care Association
Von Stefenelli, Nicole – Urban Impact Recycling Ltd.

METRO VANCOUVER STAFF PRESENT:

Ahmadvand, Sahar, Assistant Project Engineer, Solid Waste Planning	Liu, Stephanie, Program Manager, Solid Waste Community Engagement
Allan, Chris, Director, Solid Waste Operations	Mizan, Zeenia, Program Assistant, Solid Waste Services
Fulton, Terry, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Planning	Storry Karen, Senior Engineer, Solid Waste Planning
Henderson, Paul, General Manager, Solid Waste Services	Underwood, Chris, Division Manager, Solid Waste Planning
Joy, Samantha, Engagement Specialist, Solid Waste Community Engagement	

PREPARATION OF MINUTES: Priya Kullar, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee Meeting

April 8, 2025

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

In-Person Meeting (Anvil Centre, New Westminster)

Agenda

1. Agenda
 - 1.1 April 8, 2025 Meeting Agenda
2. Minutes
 - 2.1 March 4, 2025 Meeting Minutes
3. Reports
 - 3.1 Solid Waste Management Plan: Introduction to Options Analysis and Engagement Overview
For information
Designated Speaker: Stephanie Liu, Program Manager, Community Engagement, Solid Waste Services
4. Items for Discussion
 - 4.1 Solid Waste Management Plan: Draft Hierarchy and Goals
For information/feedback
Designated Speaker: Terry Fulton, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Services
Small group discussion:
 - Is there anything missing from the draft hierarchy and goals?
 - Is there anything that should be changed or removed?
 - Any other feedback?
 - 4.2 Solid Waste Management Plan: Draft Metrics
For information/comment
Designated Speaker: Lindsay Seidel-Wassenaar, Project Lead, P.Eng., Sonnevera
 - 4.3 Solid Waste Management Plan: Draft Options Analysis Criteria
For information/feedback
Designated Speaker: Karen Storry, Senior Engineer, Solid Waste Services
Plenary Discussion:
 - Is there anything missing from the draft criteria?
 - Is there anything that should be changed or removed?
 - Any other feedback?
5. Other Business
 - 5.1 Zero Waste Committee and Other Updates
For information

Designated Speaker: Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services

6. Industry Advisory Committee Co-Chair Nominations and Election – Voting Item
7. Information Items
 - 7.1 Regional Waste Flows
 - 7.2 2025 Industry Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule
 - 7.3 2025 Industry Advisory Committee Work Plan
 - 7.4 Industry Advisory Committee 2025 Committee Member Biographies

MEETING MINUTES

Co-Chair Craig Hodge, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and welcomed attendees to the Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee (Industry Advisory Committee) meeting. Members were advised that the meeting was being live-streamed.

Co-Chair Hodge requested a brief roundtable of introductions take place as the meeting was in-person and the members do not often have the opportunity to meet face-to-face.

1. AGENDA

1.1 April 8, 2025, Meeting Agenda

Co-Chair Hodge reviewed the April 8, 2025, meeting agenda. No additions were made.

2. MINUTES

2.1 March 4, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Co-Chair Hodge called for any additions or changes to the Minutes of the March 4, 2025, Industry Advisory Committee meeting. It was noted that Ralph McRae was in attendance for this meeting and this needed to be reflected in the Minutes. No other changes or additions were brought forward.

3. REPORTS

3.1 Solid Waste Management Plan: Introduction to Options Analysis and Engagement Overview

Stephanie Liu, Program Manager, Community Engagement, Solid Waste Services, Metro Vancouver, shared a presentation titled “Solid Waste Management Plan Update” and highlighted:

- The local solid waste system involves many players with different roles and responsibilities, including Federal and Provincial government, First Nations, Metro Vancouver, member jurisdictions, businesses and institutions, non-profits, and residents.
- The new plan will identify how the region can continue to reduce waste, increase reuse and recycling, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and work towards a circular economy.
- The upcoming “Options Analysis” phase will evaluate ideas that were generated in the previous phase.

Co-Chair Hodge invited members to share related questions and/or comments on the presentation. No comments were made.

4. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

4.1 Solid Waste Management Plan: Draft Hierarchy and Goals

Terry Fulton, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Services, Metro Vancouver, shared a presentation titled “Solid Waste Management Plan – Goals and Hierarchy” and highlighted:

- The draft hierarchy shows priorities for managing waste, beginning with reduce (prevent, use less), followed by reuse (reuse for original purpose, repair, and repurpose), recycle as

material, recycle as energy (fossil fuel substitutes), and disposal (landfill and Waste-to-Energy)

- Four draft goals were shared: (1) Prioritize waste prevention (2) Keep materials in use as long as possible (3) Make it easier to recycle effectively and (4) Dispose of remaining garbage responsibly.

Co-Chair Hodge welcomed questions and comments from members before breaking out into small groups for continued discussions. The following questions and comments (Q/C) and responses (R) were captured:

Q/C: Has Metro Vancouver completed a “scorecard” to determine how well strategies were implemented during the 2011 Solid Waste Management Plan?

R: *There has been a bi-annual review of the plan’s progress with respect to achieving the goals and strategies, which is published every two years. A part of the “Idea Generation” phase for the upcoming plan included reviewing of the previous ideas and identifying previous actions that could still be appropriate for an updated plan for consideration during options analysis*

Members broke out into small groups for continued discussion on the presented draft hierarchy and goals. Metro Vancouver staff ensured they had representation with each group and took notes on the discussion. Groups were asked to consider the following questions:

- Is there anything missing from the draft hierarchy and goals?
- Is there anything that should be changed or removed?
- Any other feedback?

The committee reconvened, and members were invited to highlight important discussion points to share with the larger group.

A feedback summary from the small group discussion will be posted to the Industry Advisory Committee web page separately from the minutes.

4.2 Solid Waste Management Plan: Draft Metrics

Lindsay Seidel-Wassenaar, Project Lead, P.Eng., Sonnevera, joined the Industry Advisory Committee meeting via teleconference and shared a presentation titled “Solid Waste Management Plan – Metrics” and highlighted:

- Performance metrics and indicators enable monitoring of the plan goals and actions.
- Work that has already taken place includes completing a jurisdictional/organizational scan, interviews with jurisdictions/organizations, data summary and comparison, and assessment of metrics against criteria.
- Performance metrics applicability criteria include: specificity, data type, data quality, data source, effort, and data accessibility.
- Next steps include:
 - Finalizing the performance metrics report with recommended primary metrics

- Publishing a draft report and distributing to the Industry Advisory Committee for feedback.
- Using the report to inform discussions on targets after options are analyzed.

Co-Chair Hodge opened the floor for members to respond to the information presented. The following questions and comments (Q/C) and responses (R) were captured:

Q/C: What is the consideration for the waste stream change? Composition of waste stream has significantly changed – how is this being considered in the metrics presented?

R: *The current plan has a primary goal centered around recycling however Metro Vancouver intends to include a suite of metrics in the updated plan which will help to provide a more complete picture.*

R: *Having a suite of metrics will allow us to follow the trends more accurately. This data is ever-changing, so it is important to look at it from a variety of angles.*

Q/C: How can you determine the “score”?

R: *Most of the metrics have current data for the baseline measurements. The next step is setting the targets, but identifying the metrics is the first step.*

Q/C: As the world continues to evolve and composition changes, is there going to be a mechanism to analyze information over time? Will there be a way to normalize what we are seeing to ensure that apples are not being compared to apples when there is a significant, yet unique, occurrence?

R: *It is important to look at “per capita” rather than “total” data for this reason. Per capita calculations can help normalize information rather than looking at the totals. The annual reporting process aims to provide additional context to help identify changes that may correspond to economic, social or other factors.*

R: *Extensive waste composition data coupled with information from external sources helps to indicate and explain how waste is changing over time.*

4.3 Solid Waste Management Plan: Draft Options Analysis Criteria

Karen Storry, Senior Engineer, Solid Waste Services, Metro Vancouver, shared a presentation titled “Options Analysis Criteria and Process” and highlighted:

- This phase involves evaluating ideas generated in the Idea Generation phase to produce a list of potential actions for the updated plan.
- The draft idea evaluation criteria is presented in four categories: Economic, Environmental, Social, and General.

Members were invited to share comments in a plenary discussion and the following questions were shared:

- Is there anything missing from the draft criteria?
- Is there anything that should be removed or changed?
- Any other feedback?

The following questions and comments (Q/C) and responses (R) were captured:

Q/C: This is a good, inclusive list, but what happens when they conflict? For example, if something is better for the environment but is not affordable. How will the decision-making process manage this?

R: *There will be a standardized way of looking at the information coming forward, and a thorough assessment will be made. These decisions will also be brought forward to members for their input with ongoing opportunities to provide feedback along the way.*

Q/C: Unsure what “collaboration” means.

R: *In this context, it refers to initiatives that can be done by working with other parties.*

Q/C: Consideration should be made to include “open competitive markets” and “investments in infrastructure” under the economic category.

Q/C: Minimize risk and liability by ensuring the system does not create risk for the future.

Q/C: Does “resilience” consider economic challenges?

R: *“Resilience” is not just an “environmental” element (the category it is placed in currently), and consideration will be given to where this is best represented.*

R: *Suggestion to create a new section where criteria that are applicable to multiple categories can be captured separately.*

Q/C: Suggestion to change “general” to “operational” or something more functional.

Q/C: Collaboration needs to be broader than just “economic”.

Q/C: How do we measure “reuse” as this happens informally all the time? The depots are making great efforts and there is massive recycling taking place, but no one is getting credit for it.

R: *In previous annual reports, the annual reuse by tonnes was estimated. It was recently pulled out as there is a need to better quantify this, and this is a goal Metro Vancouver is working towards. It is difficult to measure this when it is informally being done.*

R: A suite of metrics will help support this work. Having secondary suite of metrics to reflect how things are evolving. It does not give the entire tonnage picture but can demonstrate progress over time.

It was noted that any additional comments and feedback can be submitted to Metro Vancouver staff.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

5.1 Zero Waste Committee and Other Updates

Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services, Metro Vancouver, gave the following updates:

- Ashcroft Ranch sale has been completed. Metro Vancouver previously owned a ranch for the last 25 years – the land was purchased initially with the intention of developing a new landfill. The ranch was sold for \$28 million (market value) to local First Nations.

Zero Waste Committee updates:

- There was no meeting in March 2025
- In April, a report proposing updates to the Notice of Bylaw Violation Bylaw to include Tipping Fee Bylaw provisions, will be going to the Board at the end of April 2025.

6. INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION – VOTING ITEM

Co-Chair Hodge advised members that a Co-Chair will be elected for a one-year term by a 50% plus one majority vote of voting members present. Voting members are defined as Industry Advisory Committee members who have held membership for at least one month prior to the day of the vote.

It was noted that Lori Bryan was nominated at the March 2025 Industry Advisory Committee meeting.

Nominations were called by Co-Chair Hodge three times prior to proceeding with the election. No other nominations were made and Co-Chair Hodge congratulated Co-Chair Lori Bryan for serving another year as Co-Chair.

7. INFORMAITON ITEMS

7.1 Regional Waste Flows

7.2 2025 Industry Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule

7.3 2025 Industry Advisory Committee Work Plan

7.4 Industry Advisory Committee 2025 Committee Member Biographies

Co-Chair Hodge stated that the next in-person meeting is planned for October 2025. In-person meetings allow a deeper discussion of related topics, and members are encouraged to submit topics of interest. This will be further explored during the May 2025 meeting.

It was noted that the Committee Member Biographies have been provided, and any required changes should be submitted to Metro Vancouver staff.

The landfill tour will take place on September 18, 2025, and more details will be sent to members soon.

ADJOURNMENT

Co-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 online on May 6, 2025.

The Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.