

**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 via Zoom teleconference from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 12, 2026.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hodge Craig, Director, Zero Waste Committee
(Co-Chair)
Bryan, Lori, Executive Director, Waste
Management Association of BC (Co-Chair)
Baker, Todd – Ecowaste Industries Inc.
Collins, James – Tymac Launch Service Ltd.
Hankins, Grant – Canada Minibins.com Ltd.
Johnson, Gord – Northstar
Kaminski, Jamie – HSR Zero Waste
Kheyrandish, Ataollah – Richmond Steel
Kiani, Aiden – Lock-Block Ltd
Lannin, Mike – Super Save Group
L'Heureux, Lindsay – Recycle BC

MacFarlane, Angus – Growing City
Mac Neil, Patrick – Wescan Disposal Ltd.
Canada Corp.
Mallari, Achilles – Sierra Waste Services Ltd.
McRae, Ralph – Revolution Infrastructure Inc.
Millman, David – Waste Management of
Canada Corporation
Pantazopoulos, Dimitri – Waste Connections
of Canada
Sigmund, Sandy – Encorp Pacific Canada,
Return-It
Skei, Dayton – Evergen Infrastructure Corp.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Abrams, Izzie – Waste Connections of Canada
Drissi El-Bouzaidi, Nabil – Ecowaste Industries
Ltd.
Hakime, Maya – Merlin Plastics
Kawakami, Sean – Convertus Canada Ltd.
Ligumsky, Alan – Peak Disposal Services Inc.
Lotzkar, Jacqueline – Canadian Association of
Recycling Industries (CARI)

Muir, Wesley – Veolia North America
(Canada)
Punja, Rustam – Geocycle Canada Inc.
Stefenelli, Nicole – Urban Impact
Recycling Ltd.
Vargas, Pinky – Republic Services
Watson, Jason – JW Recycle-IT Inc.

METRO VANCOUVER AND CITY OF VANCOUVER STAFF:

Allen Jensen, Senior Project Engineer, Solid
Waste Services
Chris Chong, Multimedia, Metro Vancouver
Chris Underwood, Division Manager, Solid
Waste Planning, Metro Vancouver
Paul Henderson, General Manager, Metro
Vancouver

Samantha Joy, Engagement Specialist, Metro
Vancouver
Stephanie Liu, Manager, Community
Engagement, Metro Vancouver
Zeena Mizan, Program Assistant, Metro
Vancouver
Lynne Vidler, Lead Senior Engineer, Solid
Waste Operations

GUESTS:

Veronica Bartlett, Senior Solid Waste Planner, Dillon Consulting
Heidi Gerlach, Associate, Dillon Consulting
Samantha Halloran, Waste Management Specialist, Dillon Consulting

PREPARATION OF MINUTES: Priya Kullar, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

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Tuesday, May 12, 2026
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Zoom Teleconference

A G E N D A

1. AGENDA

1.1 May 12, 2026 Meeting Agenda

2. MINUTES

2.1 April 7, 2026 Meeting Minutes

3. REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

3.1 Source Reduction Hauler Incentive Program

For plenary discussion

Designated Speakers: Veronica Bartlet and Heidi Gerlach, Dillon Consulting

- *What are your initial thoughts on the concept of an incentive?*
- *What barriers or operational issues do you see to implementing an incentive program like this?*
- *What would be key to making this program successful? What rebate would be required to support it?*

4. OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Zero Waste Committee and Other Updates

For information

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

- *Letter: Request for Ban on the Import and Sale of Valved Single-Use Nitrous Oxide Cylinders*
- *Draft letter: Garbage and Organics Tipping Fee Increase - July 1, 2026*

4.2 Committee Coordination Updates

For information

Designated Speaker: Samantha Joy, Engagement Specialist, Solid Waste Services

- *Draft IAC Member Biographies*

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 Regional Waste Flows

5.2 IAC 2026 Work Plan

5.3 IAC Meeting Action Tracker

5.4 Draft IAC Member Biographies

MEETING MINUTES

Co-Chair Lori Bryan, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. and welcomed attendees to the Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee meeting.

Housekeeping reminders were provided, including that the meeting was being live-streamed and the recording would be posted to the Industry Advisory Committee webpage. It was emphasized that while diverse perspectives are valued, all committee members share the responsibility of maintaining professional conduct; respectful dialogue and engagement are appreciated.

1. AGENDA

1.1 May 12, 2026, Meeting Agenda

Co-Chair Bryan reviewed the May 12, 2026, meeting agenda. No additions were made.

2. MINUTES

2.1 April 7, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Co-Chair Bryan called for any additions or changes to the Minutes of the April 7, 2026, Industry Advisory Committee meeting. No additions or changes were made.

3. REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

3.1 Source Reduction Hauler Incentive Program

Paul Henderson, General Manager, Metro Vancouver, introduced a potential hauler incentive program, to work collaboratively with haulers by incentivizing actions to encourage waste reduction and recycling among their customers. Dillon Consulting presented preliminary concepts for how the program could use incentives to improve outcomes, especially in multi-family homes, including increasing access to recycling systems, reducing electronics in the waste stream, and addressing illegal dumping through bulky item collection. These concepts are in the early stages and are being shared to generate discussion. Feedback and discussion is welcome.

Veronica Bartlett, Senior Solid Waste Planner, Dillon Consulting, shared a presentation titled, "Metro Vancouver Hauler Incentive Program." Highlights of the presentation included:

- The key objectives for a hauler incentive program include:
 - Reduce disposal of banned materials
 - Increase recycling of waste from disposal
 - Improve equity through increasing accessibility for multi-family residents to available recycling programs
 - Reduce illegal dumping of bulky waste
- Two tiers are being considered for a hauler incentive program:
 - Tier 1: Recycling and organics collection:
 - Would exempt haulers or processors from tipping fee surcharges for banned recyclable material in the garbage stream on residential and commercial waste disposed of at Metro Vancouver facilities

- Would be open to account holders at Metro Vancouver waste facilities, including member municipalities using staff or contractors to service residential dwellings, or private haulers for whom at least one-third of their serviced accounts are from the multi-family sector
- Propose that haulers would submit an attestation annually confirming, to the best of the hauler's knowledge, that their multi-family customers have recycling and organics collection in place where the hauler provides garbage collection, and that materials collected for recycling were not subsequently commingled with garbage and disposed of
- Tier 2: Bulky items and electronic collections:
 - Would provide incentives through a tipping fee rebate to haulers who offer bulky item and electronics collection services to multi-family buildings for which they provide waste collection services
 - Eligibility would include being an account holder at Metro Vancouver's solid waste disposal facilities, meeting the Tier 1 program criteria, and meeting service level requirements for the Tier 2 program
 - Possible service level requirements
 - Suggested monthly reporting requirements
 - Haulers may be required to submit independent third-party audit reports to Metro Vancouver to verify program compliance and the accuracy of reported data
 - False attestations, or misrepresentations of items collected or end-of-life management, may result in removal from the program
- Program engagement included hauler interviews (small, medium, large, clean-out haulers, and charity), product stewards, and property management organizations
- Future engagement planned with the Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee and the Regional Engineers Advisory Committee Solid Waste Subcommittee

It was noted that if there is interest in pursuing a hauler incentive program, possible next steps may include establishing a working group to help inform the program. All members were encouraged to provide feedback or comments to Metro Vancouver at the meeting or by emailing solidwasteoperations@metrovancover.org.

Discussion ensued, and the following questions and comments (Q/C) and *responses (R)* were captured:

Q/C: Has Metro Vancouver or Dillon Consulting evaluated potential approaches to address feedback from small and medium haulers who expressed concern that the incentive program may disproportionately benefit larger companies?

R: *There is an interest in hearing more from industry representatives to explore ideas on how to address this concern.*

- Q/C: The intention is to offer up to 12 junk removal pick-ups for residential properties, but the volume is unknown. Do we know the estimated cost for Metro Vancouver?
- R: *It is suggested to pick up a maximum of four large items per household; however, members are encouraged to provide feedback on this suggestion.*
- R: *Some municipal cost data was collected, but more research is required.*
- Q/C: There should be a balanced approach for all haulers to ensure the small and medium businesses are able to participate fairly.
- R: *The intention of this presentation was to show the potential opportunity and have the Industry Advisory Committee provide feedback.*
- Q/C: Which haulers were approached during the initial engagement, and why were others excluded?
- R: *We are unable to confirm during this meeting who was approached in the initial engagement, but there is an interest in speaking with any hauler who is interested.*
- Q/C: Members continually express concerns that the Industry Advisory Committee is consistently informed of ongoing work only after key decisions have been initiated. Funding has already been allocated to a consultant to develop a plan, and it is important to have discussions before external consultations begin.
- R: *This program is very much in the conceptual stages. There is a desire to continue discussions with the Industry Advisory Committee and others in the waste industry.*
- Q/C: A lot of work was put into this, and a detailed plan was presented. Additionally, selectively approaching specific groups and not being inclusive is not the right way to move forward.
- R: *This is not a fully developed plan, and Dillon Consulting would be available to interview anyone interested.*
- Q/C: What is the intention of the plan, and what do we want to accomplish?
- R: *The purpose of the program would be to encourage proper management of challenging materials, such as bulky items and electronics.*
- Q/C: Government subsidies or incentives are not always the best approach, and haulers should be allowed to compete in the market. There has been no mention of this program increasing recycling rates. The focus should be on de-incentivizing companies or penalizing them to help keep items out of the disposal stream.

Q/C: As a mid-sized company, this excludes us from this program, but there is a strong belief that we can support this work.

Q/C: Rather than complicating processes, improvements should be made to the facilities. It is hard to support this approach because there are clear gaps and a lack of transparency.

Q/C: Have we heard how it's been going in CRD, and what achievements have there been since implementation?

R: *Dillon Consulting has connected with others who have similar programs, and they are currently reviewing their data and performance metrics to gain a clear understanding of their current state. An update can be provided to the Industry Advisory Committee.*

Q/C: A provincial standard should be developed and implemented.

Q/C: Previously, drivers were allowed to pull things out of the load that did not belong in there.

R: *This is still permitted currently, as long as it is able to be done safely. Often removal of materials from large loads cannot be accomplished in a safe manner.*

4. OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Zero Waste Committee and Other Updates

Paul Henderson, General Manager, Metro Vancouver, provided the following Zero Waste Committee and other updates:

- The Zero Waste Committee did not meet in May 2026
- On April 24, the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District (GVS&DD) Board endorsed the draft Solid Waste Management Plan, and additional comments are being received before submission to the Ministry of Environment and Parks
- The GVS&DD Board approved tipping fee increases, and Metro Vancouver is drafting a letter that the industry can share with customers to communicate the upcoming changes that will be in effect July 1, 2026
- A letter titled "Request for Ban on the Import and Sale of Single Use Nitrous Oxide Cylinders" was sent to Canada's Minister of Health and Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature, requesting the prohibition of the import and sale of single-use valved nitrous oxide cylinders
 - Metro Vancouver staff are contacting other entities, such as local health authorities, the Retail Council of Canada, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, to gather support for requesting a prohibition of the import and sale of single-use valved nitrous oxide cylinders.

In response to a request for a draft hauler license to be shared with the Industry Advisory Committee, Paul Henderson stated that there is no work underway on a hauler licensing program and previous drafts were not approved. Co-Chair Craig Hodge noted that extensive engagement and consultation would be needed before producing a draft agreement.

4.2 Committee Coordination Updates

Samantha Joy, Engagement Specialist, Solid Waste Services, requested that members review the draft Industry Advisory Committee member biographies that were included in the agenda package and noted that the document will be posted to the Industry Advisory Committee webpage. A follow-up email will be sent to members who still need to submit their existing or potential conflict statements.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 Regional Waste Flows

5.2 IAC 2026 Work Plan

5.3 IAC Meeting Action Tracker

5.4 Draft IAC Member Biographies

6. ADJOURNMENT

The next regular Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee meeting will be held on June 9, 2026.

The Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.