



METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

In-Person Workshop

Metro Vancouver Head Office
4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, BC, V5H 0C6
Room 2809

A G E N D A

1. AGENDA

1.1 April 4, 2023 Meeting Agenda

2. MINUTES

2.1 March 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes

**3. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES
WORKSHOP**

4. REPORTS

**4.1 Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee 2022 Achievements Draft
Report to Zero Waste Committee**

Verbal Update

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

5. OTHER BUSINESS

5.1 Zero Waste Committee Updates

Verbal Update

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

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

6.1 Regional Waste Flows

March 2023 Regional Waste Flow Data will be included in the May 2023 Agenda

6.2 2023 IAC Action Tracker

6.3 Industry Advisory Committee 2023 Work Plan

**6.4 Letter to Metro Vancouver Regarding Tracking and Reporting Diversion – Jamie
Kaminski – March 8, 2023**

Committee Co-Chairs:

Director Craig Hodge, Zero Waste

Committee Vice Chair

Polak, Mary - Waste Connections of
Canada

Membership:

Abrams, Izzie - Waste Connections of Canada	Hankins, Grant - Waste Management Association of BC	Moucachen, Maya - Merlin Plastics
Ahmadi, Taufiq – Maple Leaf Disposal	Johnson, Gord - Empower Environmental/ Northstar	Plotnikoff, Terryl - Canadian Mattress Recycling Inc.
Berkhof, Edwin – Evergen Infrastructure Corp.	JansenVandoorn, Josh - Anaconda Systems Ltd.	Prasad, Shad - Cascade Recovery + Shore, Cynthia - Republic Services
Bryan, Lori - Waste Management Association of BC	Kaminski, Jamie - HSR Zero Waste	Sigmund, Sandy – Encorp Pacific Canada
Carrusca, Ken - Cement Association of Canada	Kawakami, Sean - Convertus Group	Stefenelli, Nicole - Urban Impact Recycling Inc.
Collins, James - Tymac Launch Service Ltd.	Kiani, Aiden - Lock-Block Ltd.	Victor, Nicole - Covanta
Coutts, Cindy – Encorp Pacific Canada	Koehn, Leanne – Ridge Meadows Recycling Society	Zarbl, Michael - Major Appliances Recycling Roundtable
Crawford, Jeremy – Waste Control Services	Lannin, Mike – Super Save Group	
Dietrich, Christian – Ecowaste Industries	Lotzkar, Jacqueline - Pacific Metals Recycling Inc.	
	Mallari, Achilles - Sierra Waste Services Ltd.	
	McAra, Matthew – GFL	
	McRae, Ralph – Revolution	
	Millman, David - Waste Management of Canada	

Metro Vancouver and City of Vancouver Staff:

Allan, Chris – Metro Vancouver	Doorn, Nanette van – Metro Vancouver	Mizan, Zeenia – Metro Vancouver
Atkinson, Brooke - Metro Vancouver	Henderson, Paul – Metro Vancouver	Underwood, Chris – Metro Vancouver
Belanger, Lynn – City of Vancouver	McDermott, Jon – City of Vancouver	Vidler, Lynne – Metro Vancouver

**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 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, via Zoom Video Conference.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Craig Hodge, Director, Metro Vancouver
Board of Directors (Co-Chair)
Izzie Abrams, Waste Connections
Taufiq Ahmadi, Maple Leaf Disposal
Edwin Berkhof, Evergen Infrastructure
Lori Bryan, Waste Management Association
of BC
Ken Carrusca, Cement Association of Canada
James Collins, Tymac Launch Service
Jeremy Crawford, Waste Control Services
Grant Hankins, Waste Management
Association of BC
Josh Jansen Vandoorn,
Anaconda Systems Ltd.
Gold Johnson, Empire
Environmental/Northstar
Jamie Kaminski, HSR Zero Waste
Aiden Kiani, Lock-Block Ltd.

Leanne Koehn, Ridge Meadows Recycling
Society
Mike Lannin, Super Save Group
Jacqueline Lotzkar, Pacific Metals Recycling
Achilles Mallari, Sierra Waste Services
Matthew McAra, GFL Environmental Inc.
David Millman, Waste Management of
Canada
Maya Moucachen, Merlin Plastics
Ralph McRae, Revolution
Terry Plotnikoff, Canadian Mattress Recycling
Inc.
Shad Prasad, Cascade Recovery +
Sandy Sigmund, Encorp Pacific Canada
Cynthia Shore, Republic Services
Nicole Stefenelli, Urban Impact Recycling
Nicole Victor, Covanta
Michael Zarbl, Major Appliances Recycling
Roundtable

OBSERVERS

Christian Dietrich – Ecowaste Industries

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mary Polak, Waste Connections of Canada
(Co-Chair)
Sean Kawakami, Convertus Canada Ltd.

METRO VANCOUVER STAFF:

Brooke Atkinson, Engagement Specialist, Strategy and Stakeholder Relations,
Solid Waste Services
Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services
Nanette van Doorn, Strategy and Stakeholder Relations
Chris Allan, Director, Solid Waste Operations, Solid Waste Services
Chris Underwood, Division Manager, Solid Waste Planning, Solid Waste Services
Allen Jensen, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Planning, Solid Waste Services
Lynne Vidler, Lead Senior Engineer, Solid Waste Operations, Solid Waste Services

Terry Fulton, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Planning, Solid Waste Services

CITY OF VANCOUVER STAFF:

Lynn Belanger, Manager, Transfer and Landfill Operations Branch

PREPARATION OF MINUTES: Justine Wiklo, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

AGENDA:

Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee Meeting

March 07, 2023

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Zoom

Agenda

1. Agenda
 - 1.1. March 7, 2023 Meeting Agenda
2. Minutes
 - 2.1. February 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes
3. Committee Member Introductions
4. Reports
 - 4.1. 2021 Solid Waste and Recycling Annual Report
 - 4.2. Regional Solid Waste System Assessment Study
5. Next Steps
 - 5.1. IAC Solid Waste Management Plan Engagement: Vision and Guiding Principles – April 4, 2023 Workshop In-Person
6. Other Business
 - 6.1. Zero Waste Committee Updates
 - 6.2. 2023 IAC Action Tracker and Summarize Meeting Action Items
7. Information Items
 - 7.1. Regional Waste Flows
 - 7.2. Industry Advisory Committee 2023 Work Plan
 - 7.3. Updated Industry Advisory Committee Terms of Reference – February 2023

References:

- 1) IAC 2023 Committee Members List: http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/solid-waste/SolidWastePublications/industry_advisory_committee_membership_list.pdf

- 2) IAC Terms of Reference: <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/solid-waste/SolidWastePublications/ToR-IAC.pdf>

MEETING MINUTES

Craig Hodge, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. and welcomed attendees to the Solid Waste Industry and Recycling Advisory Committee (IAC) meeting.

All members must file a written statement regarding conflicts with the relationship with Metro Vancouver. Any member who has not submitted a statement will not be able to participate and will be referred to the live stream as an observer.

1. AGENDA

1.1 March 7, 2023 Meeting Agenda

2. MINUTES

2.1 March 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Co-Chair Hodge called for errors or omissions in the minutes of the March 7, 2023, IAC meeting. No errors or omissions were identified by IAC members.

It was noted that Christian Dietrich was moved to the live stream as an observer because he had not yet submitted a conflict statement.

3. 2023 COMMITTEE MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

Co-Chair Hodge facilitated a round table of member introductions.

4. REPORTS

4.1 2021 Solid Waste and Recycling Annual Report

Terry Fulton, P.Eng., Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Services, provided an overview of the 2021 Solid Waste and Recycling Statistics. It was noted that the report is available online. Highlights from the report include:

- Detailed methodology of data collection
- Key assumptions and data sources
- There is a target rate of waste reduction of 10%, and a recycling target of 80%
- The 2021 recycling rate is at 65%
- There needs to be a greater focus on waste reduction in general
- From 2020-2021, there is a noted shift to a higher rate of residential recycling and waste, while the commercial sector saw a decrease
- This increase can be attributed to the pandemic during which much of the workforce worked from home.

During discussion, the following was discussed:

- Questions regarding a report on contingency disposal contracts that was part of the February Zero Waste Committee agenda; Questions include price per tonne for the contracts, quantities contracted for, how the price per tonne compared to the

regional tipping fee.

- Contracts are based on bids submitted through a competitive process
- The average cost of contingency disposal contracts is approximately \$150 per tonne, based on a minimum 10,000 tonnes per year and up to 50,000 tonnes per year per contract. The average cost is approximately \$150 per tonne. The total contract costs include inflation and contingency.
- The average tipping fee of roughly \$135 per tonne, which accounts for Vancouver Landfill and Waste-to-Energy being less expensive than contingency disposal.
- A question was asked as to what the recycling rate would be if concrete and asphalt were removed from the calculations.
- The benefit of the Metro Vancouver approach to transparent reporting is that various calculations are possible because of the level of detail provided.
- Additionally, a question was asked as to where the calculation of the construction and demolition recycling rate without concrete could be found.
- Following the meeting, staff calculated the recycling rate without including concrete and asphalt. If that was the basis of recycling rate calculation, the recycling rate would be 49%.
- The construction & demolition recycling rate with and without concrete shown on pages 21-22 of the [2021 Annual Recycling and Solid Waste Management Summary](#)
- A member noted that not all materials have the same impact of recycling the same amount of material. The example provided was the benefit of recycling a tonne of electronics compared to a tonne of concrete.
- A study was mentioned that is in the scoping phase to understand which metrics are most appropriate to help advance zero waste and circular economy initiatives. The scope will be brought back to the IAC for feedback.
- A member asked what the noted decline in waste generation following 2007 was likely caused by.
- The specific reason for the decline in waste is uncertain, but the timing corresponds to the significant economic impacts that occurred at that time.

4.2 Regional Solid Waste System Assessment Study

Allen Jensen, P.Eng, ASCT, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Planning, Solid Waste Services provided the background on the purpose and tasks associated with the Assessment of the Regional Solid Waste System project. The drive time analysis model was undertaken to show potential changes to the regional solid waste system to inform planning and decision making, based on customer travel times and distances. The model was developed using datasets from regional planning population, employment statistics, projections and land use categories at the traffic zone level, along with a traffic model using ArcMap/ArcGIS & Google Distance Matrix Advanced.

The presentation showed the differences in drive times, kilometres and hours driven and GHG implications compared to the existing baseline for the following scenarios:

- Small Loads Baseline Waste (Current System)
- Vancouver South Transfer Station Closure
- Vancouver Landfill Closure
- Baseline without Central Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre
- False Creek Flats Recycling and Waste Centre
- Barnet/Lansdowne Recycling and Waste Centre
- Langley Recycling and Waste Centre Options
- Commercial Hauler Loads Baseline (Current System)

5. NEXT STEPS

5.1 IAC Solid Waste Management Plan Engagement: Vision and Guiding Principles – April 4, 2023 Workshop In-Person

The upcoming workshop on the solid waste management plan engagement will take place in-person on April 4, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., at Metro Tower III in room 2809. Lunch will be provided. It was noted that there will be no options available for online attendance.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Zero Waste Committee Updates

The Agenda for March 16, 2023, is to be posted on March 9, 2023, and will include reports that may be of interest to the Industry Advisory Committee, including:

- Reporting on a jurisdictional scan of statistics and methodologies
- An update on single-use items.

It was noted that Metro Vancouver committee meetings would be held in the Metro Vancouver Committee Room, and that a livestream would not be available. Members of the public can observe the meeting from the Metro Vancouver Board Room.

6.2 2023 IAC Action Tracker and Summarize Meeting Action Items

It was noted that:

- The updated Terms of Reference is available to Committee members
- Metro Vancouver will invite members from the National Zero Waste Council to present on the work completed in Q3
- Report back on a scope of work and potential performance metrics on the jurisdictional scan of statistics and methodologies, is to be completed in Q2.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

7.1 Regional Waste Flows

Regional Waste Flow charts were provided for information in the agenda package.

7.2 Industry Advisory Committee 2023 Work Plan

The IAC 2023 Work Plan was provided for information in the agenda package.

7.3 Updated Industry Advisory Committee Terms of Reference – February 2023

The IAC Terms of Reference were provided for information in the agenda package.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

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**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Solid Waste Management Plan Update Vision and Guiding Principles Workshop**

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

In-Person Workshop

Metro Vancouver Head Office
4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, BC, V5H 0C6
Room 2809

WORKSHOP AGENDA

Item	Topic
1.0	Welcome and Review Agenda
2.0	Solid Waste Story Video
3.0	Opening Remarks
4.0	Solid Waste Background Presentation
5.0	Sticky Note Exercise
6.0	Vision and Guiding Principles Presentation
7.0	Break
8.0	Small Group Activity
9.0	Large Group Discussion
10.0	Summary

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Welcome

Ironworkers Memorial Bridge



AGENDA

Welcome and review agenda

Video – solid waste story

Opening remarks

Solid waste background and initiatives presentation

Sticky note exercise

Vision and guiding principles presentation

Break

Small group activities and discussion

Large group discussion

Mentimeter exercise

Summary and closing remarks



United Boulevard Recycling and Waste Centre

Solid Waste Background and Initiatives

OVERVIEW

Paul Henderson, P.Eng
General Manager, Solid Waste Services

April 4, 2023

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TOGETHER
WE MAKE OUR REGION
STRONG

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23 Member Jurisdictions

2.8 Million Residents

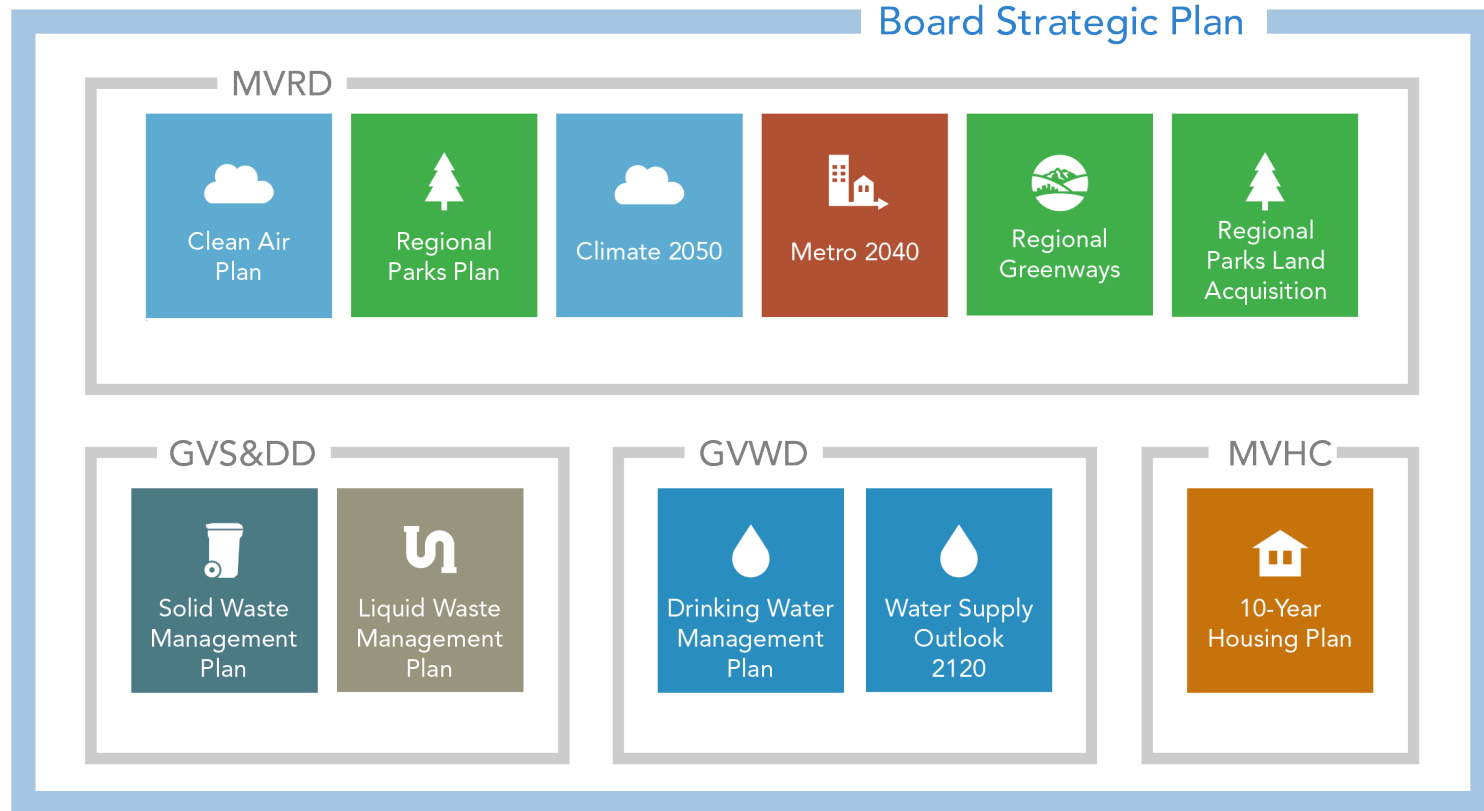
53% of BC population



METRO VANCOUVER LEGAL ENTITIES AND SERVICES



MANAGEMENT PLANS



GUIDING POLICY & TARGETS

2011 Solid Waste Management Plan



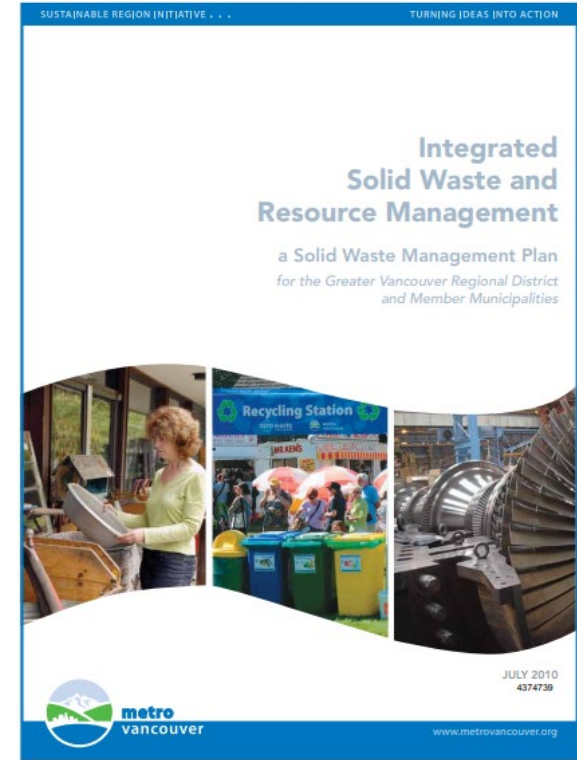
**10% Reduction Waste Generation
(Achieved 11%)**

Generation = Recycled + Disposed



**80% Recycling Rate
(Achieved 65%)**

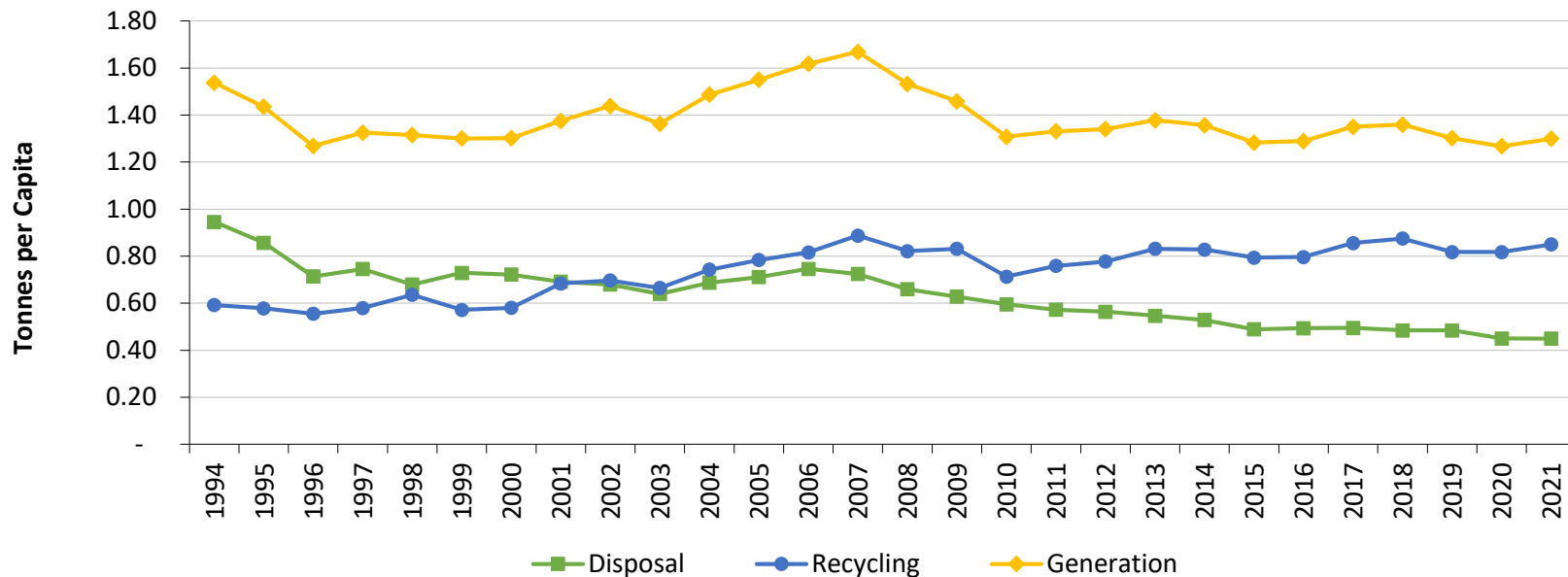
Recycling Rate = Recycled / Generated



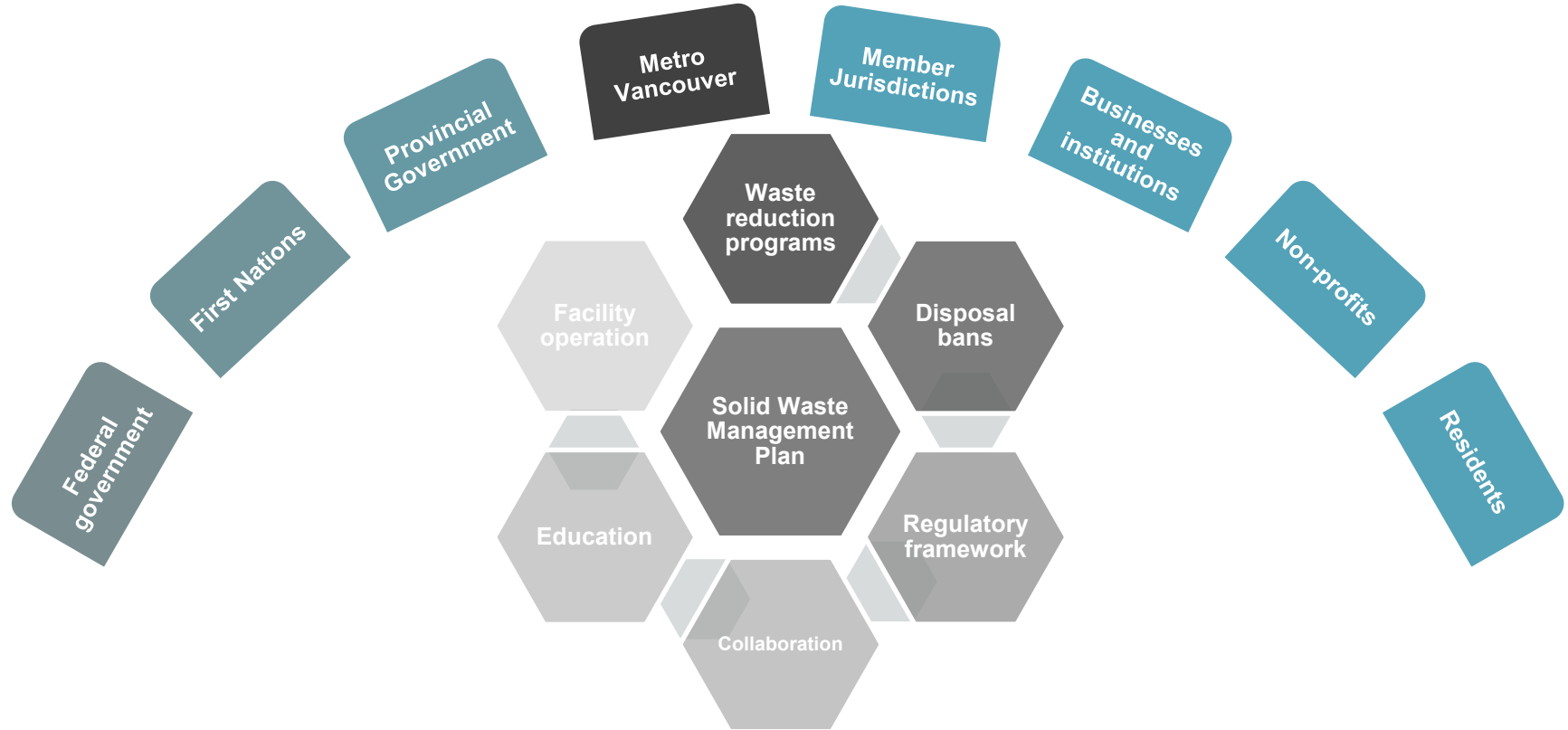
GENERATION & RECYCLING OVER TIME

From all sectors

TOTAL WASTE GENERATION, DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING RATES PER CAPITA

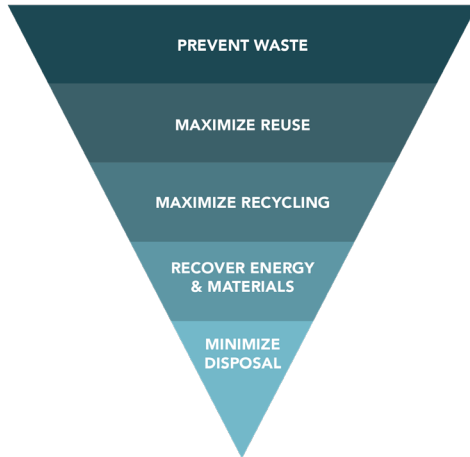


INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE SYSTEM

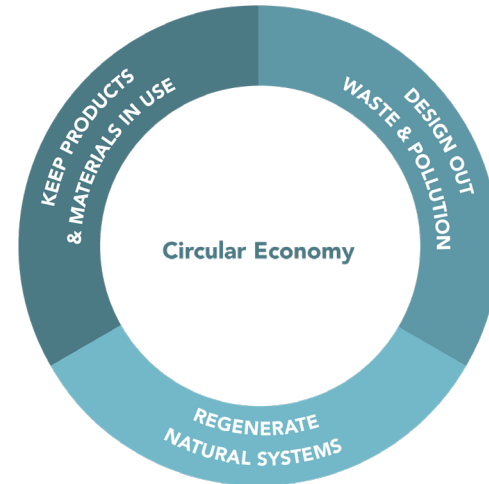


ZERO WASTE & CIRCULAR ECONOMY

THE WASTE HIERARCHY



THE 3 PRINCIPLES OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY



Bringing together
organizations to
advance waste
prevention and the
circular economy in
Canada

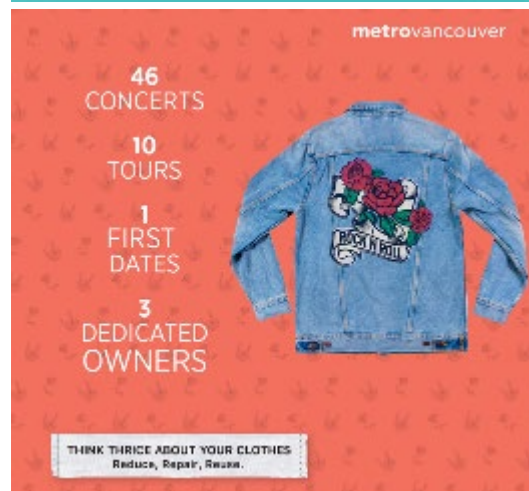
NATIONAL ZERO WASTE COUNCIL

180 + members representing . . .

- Provincial & local governments (& their agencies)
- Multinational businesses to small Canadian enterprises
- Industry and trade associations
- NGOs & community organizations

WASTE REDUCTION CAMPAIGNS

- Reduce single-use items
- Increase food scraps recycling
- Reduce textile waste
- Reduce holiday waste



Regional Solid Waste Facilities



UNITED BOULEVARD AND CENTRAL SURREY RECYCLING AND WASTE CENTRES



United Boulevard Recycling and Waste Centre
995 United Boulevard – Opened March 2022



Central Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre
6711 – 154 Street – Opened September 2022

RECYCLING DEPOT DEVELOPMENT

Goal to have consistent recycling options at all recycling and waste centres

Developing recycling depots at Langley and North Surrey recycling and waste centres



Langley Recycling and Waste Centre



North Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre

ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE WASTE DISPOSAL

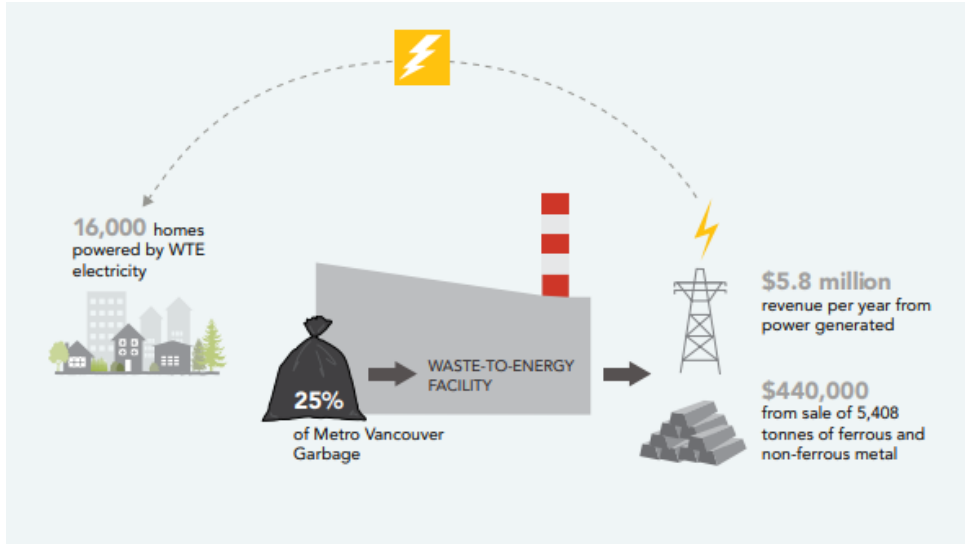
Waste-to-Energy Facility

Vancouver Landfill

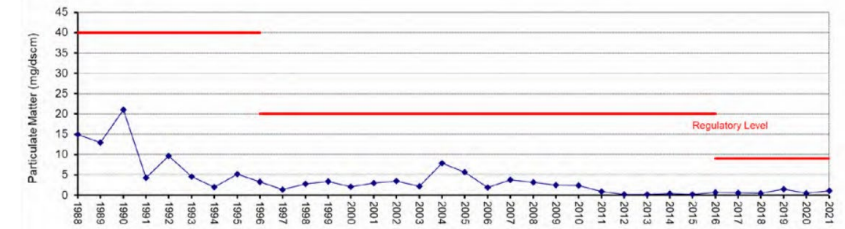
Contingency disposal



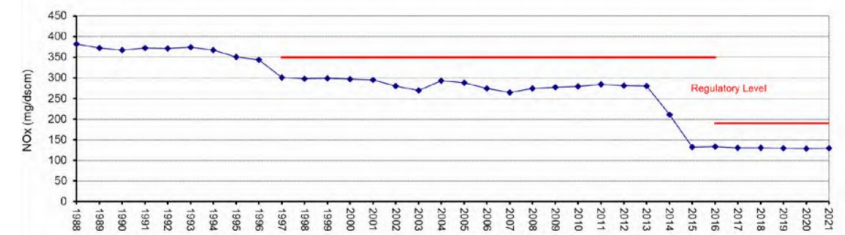
WASTE-TO-ENERGY FACILITY



Particulate Matter



Nitrogen Oxides



WASTE-TO-ENERGY FACILITY DISTRICT ENERGY PROJECT



- No change in Waste-to-Energy Facility emissions or amount of waste processed
- Triples energy recovery
- Heat and hot water for up to 30,000 homes
- Up to 45,000 tonnes per year of GHG emission reductions
- Self-funded over life of project



Vancouver Skyline



Questions?

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Q1

What waste reduction, recycling and garbage disposal topics are most important, now and into the future?





Circular economy

Solid Waste Management Plan Update

VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

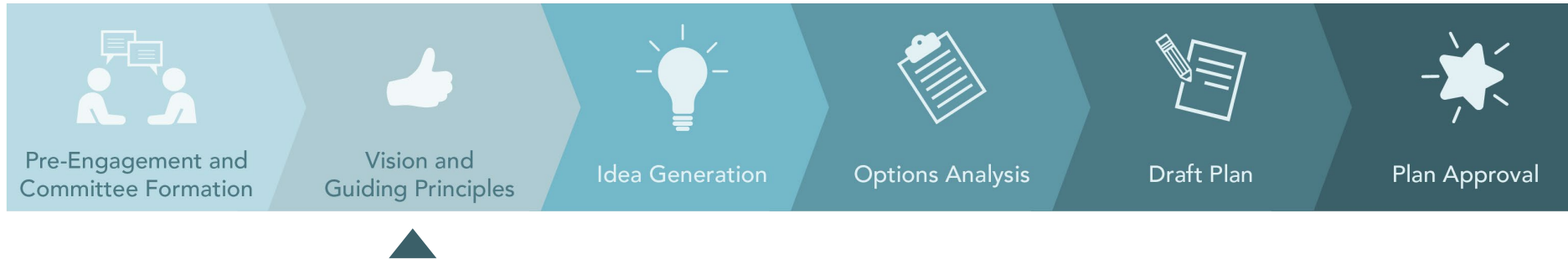
Stephanie Liu

Senior Engagement Specialist, Solid Waste Services

April 4, 2023

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SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE



VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES ENGAGEMENT

Timeline



VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES DEVELOPMENT



ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK

**First
Nations**

**Member
Jurisdictions**

**Waste/Recycling
Industry**

**Businesses and
Institutions**

Residents

Non-Profits



Engagement will help guide updates to the solid waste management plan

WHAT IS A VISION STATEMENT?



“Where are we headed?”

“What do we want the future to look like?”

Describes the desired future in relation to the scope of the plan, or a shared understanding of the desired future state or success



Metro Vancouver has a vision to achieve what humanity aspires to on a global basis – the highest quality of life embracing cultural vitality, economic prosperity, social justice and compassion, all nurtured by a beautiful and healthy natural environment.”

“Building a sustainable, livable region is the overarching regional vision.”

- Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan, 2011

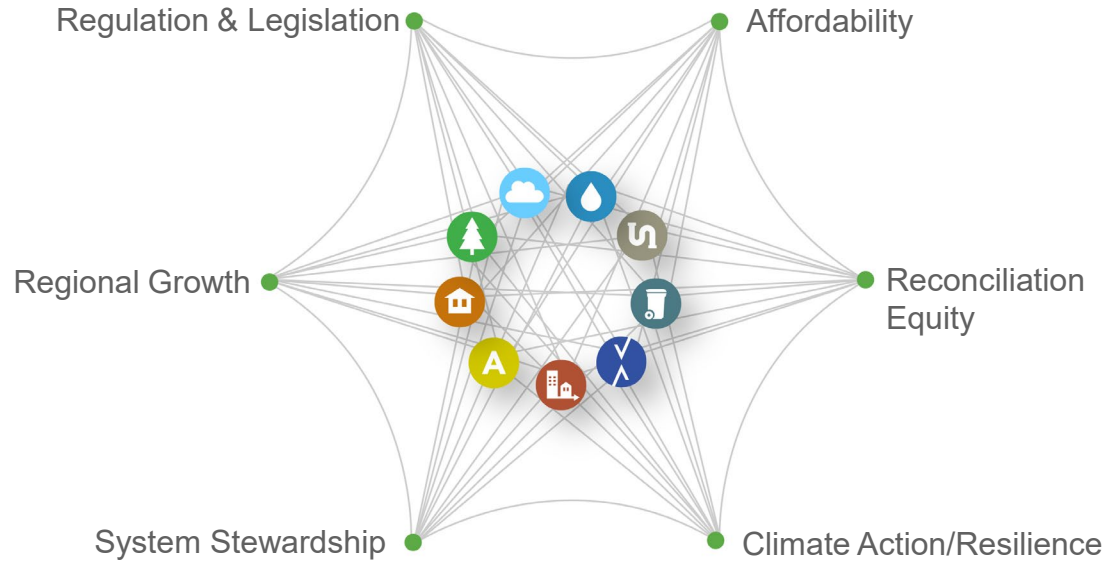
WHAT ARE GUIDING PRINCIPLES?

Outlines the values that guide decision-making and determine how the work is approached.

Describes the fundamental values that guide plan development and implementation and can be used to help evaluate goals, strategies, and/or actions.

“What do we need to consider as we develop the plan?”

Metro Vancouver Board Cross- cutting Themes



THEMES FROM OTHER LEADING JURISDICTIONS



Social, Environmental
and Economic
Sustainability

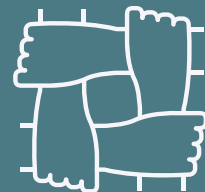


Recovery and
Reuse

Waste Reduction



Collaboration at all
Levels



Waste Management
Hierarchy



Social Justice,
Equity and
Accessibility

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Q2

List words or phrases that describe what matters, when deciding what to do with products, packaging and materials that are no longer needed.



Iona Island Wastewater Treatment Plant



Arbutus Greenway, Vancouver



Waste Control Services Garbage Truck

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Q3

The updated solid waste management plan is intended to reflect the values of everyone in the region. What values, interests, and priorities can be considered?



Capilano Lake, North Vancouver

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Q4

Thinking of how we purchase, use, reuse, repurpose, recycle and throw things away in the Metro Vancouver region, what could be better in the future than it is today?



The Shipyards, North Vancouver



Vancouver Skyline



Thank you

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Solid Waste Management Plan Update Background

March 2023

Prepared By:
Solid Waste Services

Orbit # 56896403

Purpose

The purpose of this backgrounder is provide readers with an understanding of Metro Vancouver's role in managing garbage and recycling in the region, including work underway to advance zero waste, to allow meaningful participation in engagement on the solid waste management plan update.

The current *Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan* was approved by the Province in 2011, and focuses on reducing waste, improving reuse and recycling, recovering resources from garbage and disposing of remaining garbage in an environmentally sustainable manner. Provincial guidelines recommend initiating a plan review on or before the 10-year anniversary of the current plan's approval. An updated solid waste management plan will build on the strengths of the current plan, and identify opportunities for accelerated waste reduction and recycling while reducing greenhouse gases and promoting a circular economy.

Metro Vancouver is engaging with governments – including First Nations – government agencies, waste and recycling industry, waste producers, businesses, communities of interest, and Metro Vancouver residents to guide updates to the plan.

What is Solid Waste Management?

Solid waste management is the term used to describe how products, packaging, construction materials, food scraps, yard and garden trimmings, and other materials are managed when they're no longer needed. It includes the decisions we make when using garbage, recycling and green bins, and the services provided by companies, governments and non-profits to collect, transport and process these materials. It also includes actions we take to prevent or reduce the amount of solid waste we produce, at home, work, school and in our community, such as buying less, sharing, repairing, reusing and repurposing.

Metro Vancouver is recognized across North America as a leader in recycling, composting and reducing garbage. An impressive 65% of waste in Metro Vancouver is recycled and diverted because of its committed residents, innovative businesses, and regional and local authorities, recognizing that responsible management of waste is essential for a sustainable, healthy, and equitable region. Despite these successes, every year, close to 1.25 million tonnes of products, packaging and other materials are disposed of from Metro Vancouver residents and businesses. Metro Vancouver recognizes that the responsible management and disposal of waste is essential for a sustainable, healthy, and equitable region.

Solid waste management plans are policy documents which set out a vision, guiding principles and actions for the responsible management of materials that become solid waste. Metro Vancouver is in the process of updating its solid waste management plan.

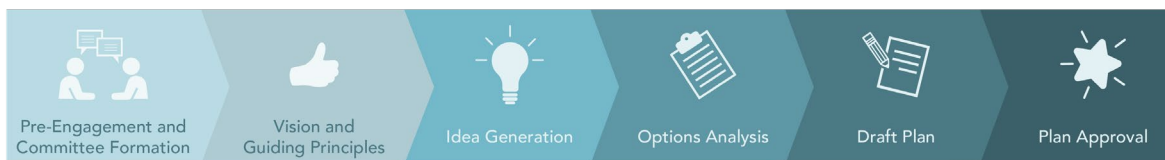
Why Update the Solid Waste Management Plan?

The region is guided by its commitment to environmental stewardship and cost-effective and accessible waste management services, including the goals within the [Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan](#), approved by the BC Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy in 2011. Metro Vancouver is updating this plan and is now seeking feedback to help shape how our region manages waste for the next decade.

Metro Vancouver's current solid waste management plan establishes goals and targets for waste reduction and the recovery of materials and energy from waste, and supporting strategies and actions for Metro Vancouver and its member jurisdictions.

Important themes for an updated plan will include reducing greenhouse gases and promoting a circular economy, which considers environmental, social, and economic factors.

The plan update process is expected to take two to three years and will be supported by robust Indigenous and public engagement. Metro Vancouver will engage audiences and gather feedback to support the plan update:



About Metro Vancouver

Metro Vancouver is a federation of 21 municipalities, one Electoral Area and one Treaty First Nation that collaboratively plans for and delivers regional-scale services in the greater Vancouver region of British Columbia. Core Metro Vancouver services include the provision of drinking water, wastewater treatment and solid waste management. Metro Vancouver also provides affordable housing, regulates air quality, plans for urban growth and manages a regional parks system.





Metro Vancouver services

Vision

Metro Vancouver embraces collaboration and innovation in providing sustainable regional services that contribute to a livable and resilient region and a healthy natural environment for current and future generations.

Mission

1. **Serve as a Regional Federation**
Serve as the main political forum for discussion of significant community issues at the regional level and facilitate the collaboration of members in delivering the services best provided at the regional level.
2. **Deliver Core Services**
Provide regional utility services related to drinking water, liquid waste and solid waste. Metro Vancouver also provides other core regional services including parks and affordable housing, and acts as the local government for Electoral Area A.
3. **Plan for the Region**
Carry out planning and regulatory responsibilities related to the three utility services as well as air quality and climate change, regional planning, regional parks, affordable housing, labour relations, regional economic prosperity, and regional emergency management.

About Solid Waste Services

Metro Vancouver is responsible for planning for less waste, improving reuse and recycling systems as well as managing and disposing of the remaining waste generated by residents and businesses in the region. This reflects the public's expectations of high environmental stewardship, as well as the desire to keep waste management affordable.



The Vancouver Transfer Station and the Vancouver Landfill are owned and operated by the City of Vancouver and function as part of the overall regional solid waste system.

Solid Waste Management

The existing solid waste management plan, approved by the Province in 2011, focuses on reducing waste, improving reuse and recycling, recovering resources from garbage and disposing of remaining garbage in an environmentally sustainable manner. Metro Vancouver continually collects and reviews data on municipal solid waste – waste generated by residents, commercial/institutional sources, and construction and demolition activity – to track progress towards waste reduction and recycling goals. Metro Vancouver is updating its current solid waste management plan, building on the strengths of the current plan and identifying opportunities to accelerate waste reduction and diversion while reducing greenhouse gases and promoting a circular economy. We are actively engaging with governments – including First Nations – government agencies, waste and recycling industry, waste producers, businesses, communities of interest, and Metro Vancouver residents to guide updates to the plan.

Regional Solid Waste Facilities

Metro Vancouver operates six recycling and waste centres where residents and businesses drop off recyclable materials, yard trimmings and food waste, and garbage. After recycling, the remaining waste is disposed at the Metro Vancouver Waste-to-Energy Facility and the Vancouver Landfill, and any excess is disposed of at remote landfills.

Education and Outreach

Some of the waste that has to be managed can be prevented in the first place. Wise purchasing, repair and reuse of goods, and better access to recycling could lead to less waste going to disposal. Metro Vancouver works with local governments to develop educational materials and behavior change campaigns that encourage a change in our approach to generating waste.

Waste Reduction – Local and National

Our existing solid waste management plan includes a target of reducing the waste created per person by 10% compared to 2010. The 10% reduction in waste generation target has been achieved, but further reducing the amount of waste generated continues to be an important goal for the region. This means advocating for better product and packaging design as well as more selective purchasing by consumers and businesses. To bring about those changes we're engaging partners from across Canada through the National Zero Waste Council.

An Integrated Waste Management System

The solid waste management system in Metro Vancouver depends on the interconnected operations of many different organizations, including governments, the private sector, non-profit organizations and the public.



How do I fit in?

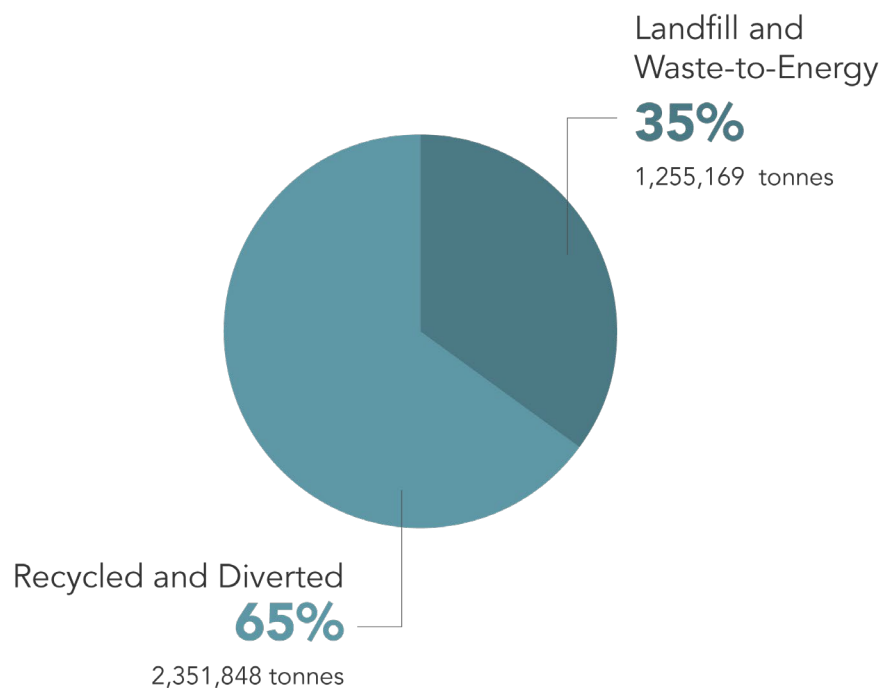
As individuals we can have a huge impact on how much waste is generated in the region. Our habits, such as shopping second hand, repairing and reusing, and putting our food scraps in the green bin have helped Metro Vancouver become a North American leader in waste reduction and recycling. At home, at work, and everywhere we go in between, the choices we make have a big impact on recycling and waste disposal in the region. We can use our voices to advocate for less wasteful practices and increased access to recycling services. Thanks to dedicated Metro Vancouver residents, grassroots movements such as saying no to single-use items have led to policy changes and less waste. Keep up the great work!

How We Are Doing Today

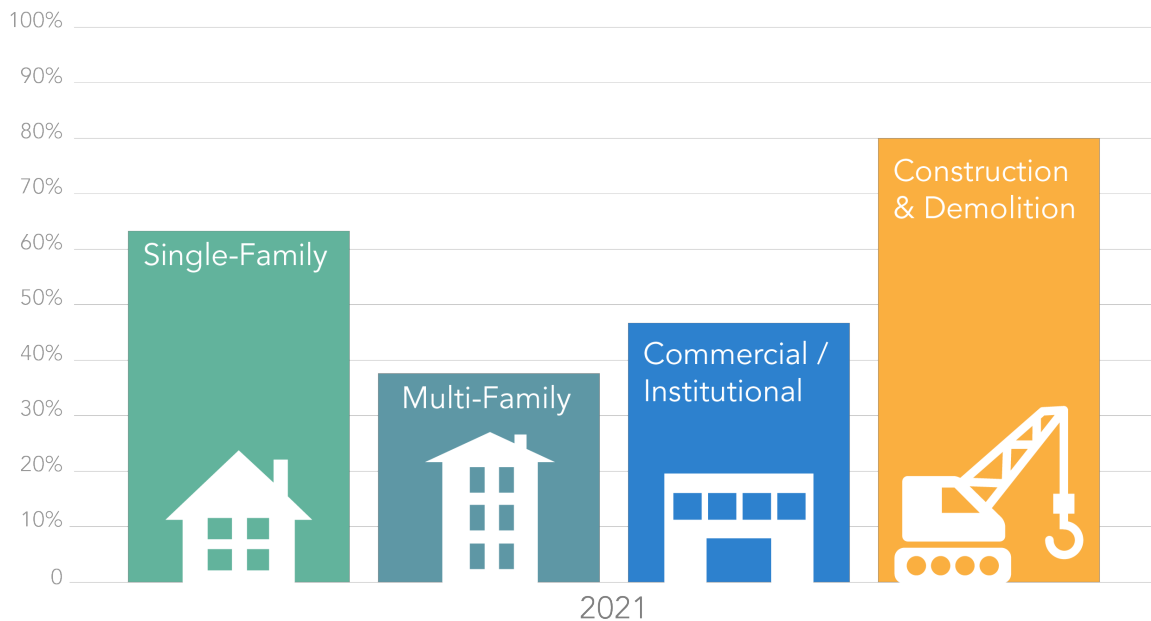
Recycling Rates

Metro Vancouver is a North American leader in waste reduction and recycling because of the committed local residents and businesses who work hard to recycle, policies supporting waste diversion, and a network of publicly and privately operated facilities to maximize recycling opportunities.

Based on 2021 data, 65% of the waste generated in the Metro Vancouver region is recycled (compared to a Canadian average of 26.5%) and the amount of waste generated has decreased by 11% per person since 2010. Even so, Metro Vancouver residents and businesses dispose of close to 1.25 million tonnes of garbage every year, an indication there is much work to be done. Metro Vancouver's annual solid waste and recycling report provides baseline information and data about how garbage and recycling is managed in Metro Vancouver. [View the 2021 report here.](#)



Regional Recycling Rates by Sector



What We've Accomplished Together

A lot has changed over a decade. Together in Metro Vancouver, we've made great strides toward zero waste and are recognized as North American leaders in waste reduction and recycling. Here are some examples of accomplishments in the past decade, thanks to our dedicated residents, businesses, actions by non-profits and governments, progressive waste management policies, programs and regulatory framework:



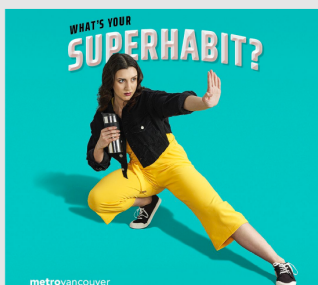
The National Zero Waste Council, an initiative of Metro Vancouver formed in 2013, is leading Canada's transition to a circular economy by bringing together governments, businesses and NGOs to advance a waste prevention agenda that maximizes economic opportunities for the benefit of all Canadians. The Council acts 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. The council's many initiatives and collaborations have been instrumental in opening a national dialogue on waste reduction, which has impacted not only our region, but the entire nation.



In 2014, Multi-Material BC (now Recycle BC) took over the management of residential packaging and printed paper in the province, which represents the bulk of material that residents recycle. As a result, a consistent province-wide recycling system for these materials is now in place, making it easier to collect, process, and make new products from these materials.



In 2015, food scraps were added to Metro Vancouver's already extensive list of items banned from disposal. This policy supported the organics processing industry in the region to transform food scraps and yard trimmings into compost or energy. This helped pave the way for municipalities to collect food scraps at the curb, and to switch to garbage collection every two weeks, thus effectively reducing the amount of garbage from single-family homes.



Metro Vancouver's many behavior change campaigns have helped educate residents on many zero waste initiatives, including tips for using the green bin ("Food Scraps Aren't Garbage" campaign), how simple habits can help reduce single-use items ("What's Your Superhabit" campaign), ways to make clothing last longer to reduce textile waste ("Think Thrice About Your Clothes" campaign), how to have a less wasteful holiday season ("Create Memories, Not Garbage" campaign) and many more.



Recycling services continued to expand at Metro Vancouver solid waste facilities, and the new United Boulevard and Central Surrey recycling and waste centres feature extended and convenient recycling opportunities for residents and businesses.

Where We Are Headed

Building off the progress of initiatives such as the organics disposal ban, Metro Vancouver strives to continually increase recycling and re-use opportunities in the region. Recent progress on waste reduction, re-use and repair initiatives, as well as investigation into renewable energy opportunities, indicate Metro Vancouver's response to industry trends and efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through effective waste management.

- **Waste Prevention Collaborations:**
 - **FoodMesh:** Metro Vancouver contracted FoodMesh to develop a regional food recovery network to help rescue and redistribute surplus food, moving food up the waste hierarchy to feed animals and people.
 - **Urban Repurpose:** Metro Vancouver implemented 'ReUse Days' at recycling and waste centres working with Urban Repurpose, collecting items from customers that can be reused instead of recycled or disposed.
 - **Ocean Ambassadors:** Metro Vancouver is working with Ocean Ambassadors to expand their successful reusable container program on the North Shore, with the intention to encourage similar programs throughout the region.
- **Renewable Energy:**
 - Metro Vancouver is developing a district energy system to provide energy for heat and hot water to developments in Vancouver, Burnaby and potentially New Westminster. The project will provide heat and hot water for up to 30,000 homes and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 45,000 tonnes per year.
 - Small load waste, consisting of materials brought to Metro Vancouver facilities by residents and contractors in hand-unloaded vehicles, has been identified as another target for future renewable energy initiatives, with the potential to reduce disposal by up to 120,000 tonnes per year through the recovery of recyclables and alternative fuel.
- **Greenhouse Gas Reduction:**
 - Metro Vancouver is exploring carbon capture and utilization opportunities to reduce emissions from regional solid waste facilities. Metro Vancouver will revisit opportunities to incorporate new technologies to minimize our carbon footprint

Your Opinion Counts

Metro Vancouver is committed to engaging audiences and governments who may be impacted by or have an interest in the review and update of the solid waste management plan, with additional emphasis on engaging underrepresented and equity-denied communities by reducing barriers to participation.

Pre-engagement was initiated in 2021 to find out how audiences wanted to be engaged in the process to update the regional solid waste management plan. Metro Vancouver established an Independent Consultation and Engagement Panel, consisting of third party engagement experts to guide the development and implementation of a robust and inclusive engagement process.

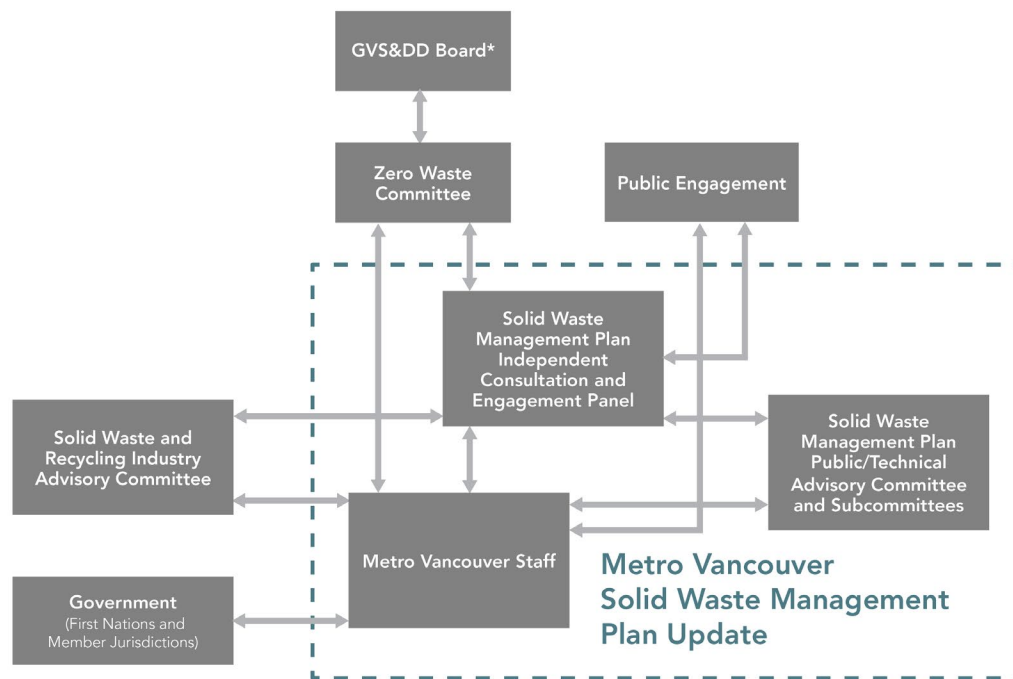
Audiences will be asked to provide feedback during all phases of engagement. Key examples include:

- **Government and regulatory agencies, including Indigenous Peoples**, provincial and federal governments, member jurisdictions, adjacent regional districts, crown corporations, airport and port authorities, and health authorities
- **Waste and recycling industry**, including haulers, processors, producer responsibility organizations, disposal facilities, waste/recycling industry associations, binner community, and reuse/repair organizations
- **Waste producers**, including various sectors such as food service, grocery, construction, tourism, office and property management, real estate, retail, residents, and educational institutions
- **Industry and business associations**, professional associations and academic institutions
- **Community, environmental and non-profit groups**, NGOs, youth and students, and urban Indigenous Peoples
- **Metro Vancouver residents**

In 2022, Metro Vancouver convened two advisory committees that will be heavily involved in providing feedback on the plan update throughout the phases of engagement:

- **Public/Technical Advisory Committee** – members represent a diversity of sectors and interests, who bring various personal qualities, perspectives and experiences to solid waste and recycling issues. [Learn more.](#)
- **Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee** – members represent private waste and recycling collection and processing companies, and their industry associations. [Learn more.](#)

Feedback from these two advisory committees along with input from member staff advisory committees, public engagement efforts, and the Indigenous engagement process, will help shape the updated solid waste management plan over the next 2-3 years.



* Updated solid waste management plan to be approved by Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

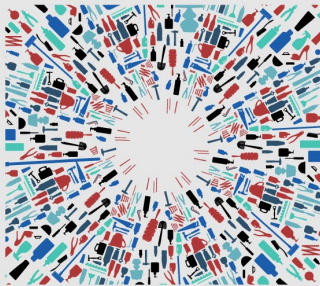
Technical Studies and Planning

Metro Vancouver is also undertaking technical studies that will support engagement on the solid waste management plan update. The studies inspire idea generation and guide the analysis of options to accelerate waste reduction and diversion while reducing greenhouse gases and promoting a circular economy.

The studies will provide information on:

- how various future scenarios could affect the Metro Vancouver solid waste system
- current challenges and opportunities
- global best practices, and new research and technologies
- financial, social and environmental impacts of various future options/scenarios, and
- performance metrics.

Information from the technical studies will be shared as background information during engagement to help participants discuss ideas, compare options and support actions that could be included in the updated plan.



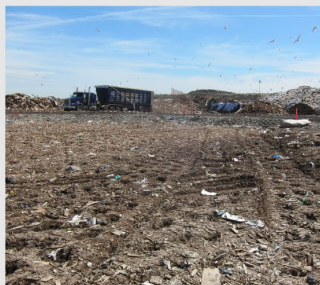
Circular Economy and 3Rs Study

This study introduces the circular economy and highlights opportunities for our region through local and global examples with the potential to reduce waste and address climate change, equity, community cohesion, regional prosperity, ecological health, and air quality.



Solid Waste System Assessment Study

The study assesses the current regional solid waste system by profiling existing programs and facilities, highlighting best practices, and modeling different facility scenarios to forecast future demands and improvements.



Residual Disposal Management Options Review

This study will review options to manage garbage and investigate innovative approaches to managing residual materials.



Solid Waste Management Plan Literature Review

This study will review solid waste management plans from other leading jurisdictions globally and summarize leading initiatives and best management practices.



Solid waste management plan update – planning inputs

Next Steps

Metro Vancouver looks forward to collaborating with you in the coming years to develop and implement a solid waste management plan that reflects your values, priorities and interests. This can be achieved through rigorous technical research and a robust engagement process involving governments – including First Nations – government agencies, waste and recycling industry, waste producers, businesses, communities of interest, and Metro Vancouver residents.

At each phase of engagement on the solid waste management plan, an accompanying Discussion Guide will present themes and issues for consideration, and provide prompting questions for discussion, reflection and feedback. Information and resources related to the current phase of engagement can be found on the [Metro Vancouver website](https://metrovanancouver.org) (visit metrovanancouver.org and search 'solid waste management plan engagement').

We hope that through this process we can accelerate waste reduction and diversion, reduce greenhouse gases, promote a circular economy, and build new goals to advance towards. **Together we make our region strong.**

Metro Vancouver Solid Waste Management Plan Update

Vision and Guiding Principles

DISCUSSION GUIDE

March 2023

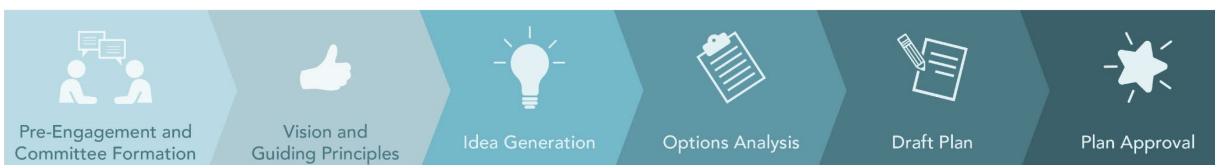
**Prepared By:
Solid Waste Services**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Metro Vancouver is updating its solid waste management plan, building on the strengths of the current plan, and identifying opportunities for accelerated waste reduction and diversion, while reducing greenhouse gases and promoting a circular economy, where products are kept at their highest value. The plan update process will be supported by robust Indigenous and public engagement.

In 2021, Metro Vancouver conducted pre-engagement to learn how audiences would like to engage with Metro Vancouver on the solid waste management plan update. An Engagement Plan was developed, incorporating feedback received from 350 individuals through a questionnaire, written responses, meetings, and presentations, and considering input from a panel of engagement experts. In 2022, Metro Vancouver convened two key advisory committees – the Solid Waste Industry Advisory Committee and the Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee – to provide ongoing advice and support.

This discussion guide focuses on the **vision and guiding principles** for the updated solid waste management plan, which will set the overall plan direction before the next phase, Idea Generation.



This document describes what a vision statement and guiding principles could entail, draws inspiration from existing vision statements and guiding principles from Metro Vancouver, the provincial government, and leading jurisdictions around the world, and seeks feedback through discussion questions.

Vision

A succinct narrative that describes the desired future

"Where are we headed?"

"What do we want the future to look like?"

Guiding Principles

A list of values that guides decision-making and determine how the work is approached

"What do we need to consider as we develop the plan?"

"What should all strategies and actions take into account?"

2.0 ENGAGEMENT ON VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The vision and guiding principles will set the plan foundation and direction, and reflect fundamental values that guide plan development and implementation.

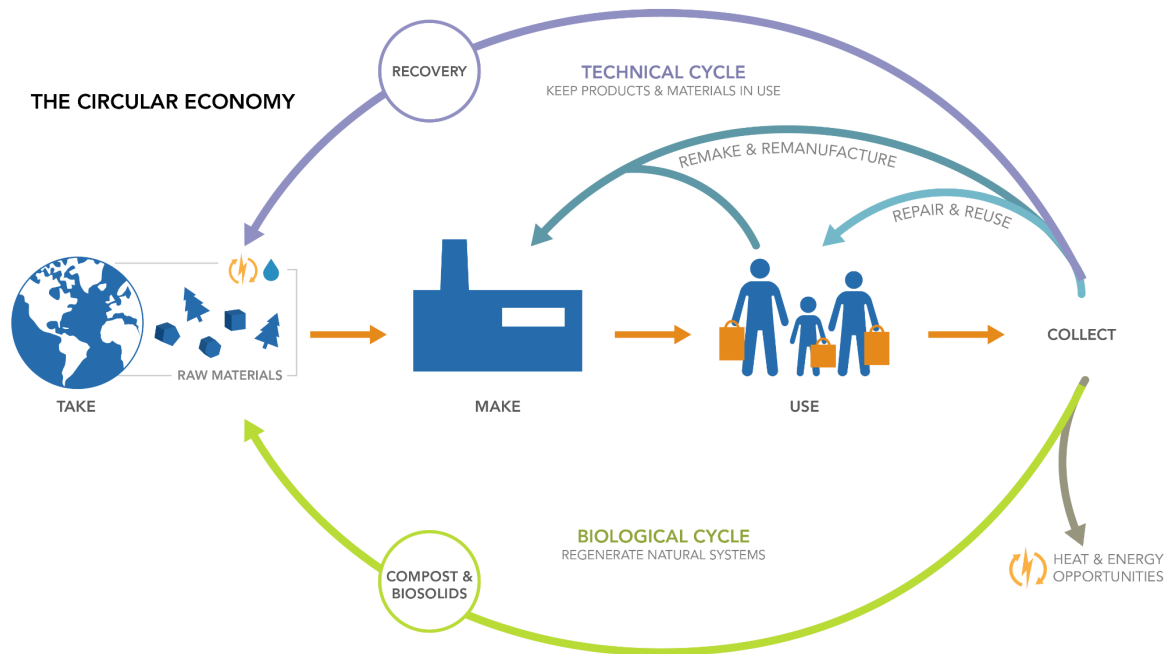
Metro Vancouver is actively engaging with governments – including First Nations and member jurisdictions – government agencies, waste and recycling industry, waste producers, businesses, communities of interest, and Metro Vancouver residents to guide updates to the plan. Engagement feedback will be used to help develop the vision and guiding principles for the updated plan, setting the direction and building the foundation as we enter into the next phase of engagement: Idea Generation.

3.0 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN METRO VANCOUVER

Metro Vancouver is a North American leader in waste reduction and recycling. Metro Vancouver's solid waste facilities, programs, and policies are known throughout the industry and our 65% recycling rate is among the highest in North America. So where do we go next?

Metro Vancouver's vision and guiding principles for managing solid waste should take into account the vision and principles of the region as a whole, as well as those of the province and of leading jurisdictions around the world. The BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy's *A Guide to Solid Waste Management Planning* provides eight provincial principles for solid waste management. Additional guiding principles for the Metro Vancouver solid waste management plan will be developed through this phase of the plan update process.

In addition to waste reduction and diversion, important themes for the updated plan will include reducing greenhouse gases and promoting a circular economy, which considers environmental, social, and economic factors. A circular economy framework is critical to reducing waste and greenhouse gas emissions. A circular economy framework also aligns with the provincial waste management 5Rs hierarchy. In a circular economy the value of products is retained after their initial use through rethink, reduce, reuse, repair, and remanufacture. Keeping products functioning at their highest potential reduces embodied emissions and reduces emissions associated with waste management. Transitioning to a circular economy will gradually decouple economic activity from the consumption of finite resources by designing waste out of the system and helping to regenerate natural systems.



4.0 WHAT IS A VISION STATEMENT?

A vision statement answers the questions “Where are we headed?” and “What do we want the future to look like?” It is a short statement that describes the desired future in relation to the scope of the plan, or a shared understanding of the desired future state or success.

A vision looks to the future and must consider the future context, including but not limited to solid waste management. Themes might include regional growth, affordability, climate change, reconciliation, equity, stewardship, innovation, and resilience, and account for changes that should be expected in the coming years.

5.0 WHAT ARE GUIDING PRINCIPLES?

Guiding Principles outline the values that guide decision making and determine how the work is approached. Guiding principles describe the fundamental values that guide plan development and implementation and can be used to help evaluate goals, strategies, and/or actions.

The Metro Vancouver Board’s cross-cutting themes include principles of regional growth, regulation and legislation, affordability, reconciliation and equity, climate action/resilience, and system stewardship. Guiding principles can also be adapted into short phrases rather than individual words, such as “Provide for ongoing prosperity” (Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan) or “Promote zero waste approaches and support a circular economy” (BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy).

6.0 EXISTING SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan, approved by the Province in 2011, sets out Metro Vancouver’s existing waste management and recycling goals and targets. An updated plan will build upon the successes of the current plan, adapting it for the challenges we face today and utilizing the most up-to-date solutions.

6.1. Vision statement: current solid waste management plan

The following is an excerpt from the 2011 approved *Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan’s* Vision Statement, which adopted the regional vision at the time:

“Metro Vancouver has a vision to achieve what humanity aspires to on a global basis – the highest quality of life embracing cultural vitality, economic prosperity, social justice and compassion, all nurtured by a beautiful and healthy natural environment”

“Building a sustainable, livable region is the overarching regional vision.”

6.2. Guiding principles: current solid waste management plan

The *Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan* follows the sustainability principles set out in Metro Vancouver’s Sustainability Framework, the principles of Integrated Resource Recovery and the 5R hierarchy of resource management (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover energy or materials, and dispose of residuals).

- Sustainability
 - Having regard for both local and global consequences, and long-term impacts
 - Recognizing and reflecting the interconnectedness and interdependence of systems
 - Being collaborative
 - Protecting and enhancing the natural environment
 - Providing for ongoing prosperity
 - Building community capacity and social cohesion
- Integrated Resource Recovery
 - Enabling the ‘wastes’ from one system to become ‘resources’ for another
- Resource Management Principles: The 5Rs
 - Reducing waste at source
 - Reusing where possible
 - Recycling products at the end of their useful life
 - Recovering energy or materials from the waste stream
 - Managing Residuals in an environmentally sound manner

- Public Health Principles
 - Investing in upstream preventative solutions as opposed to downstream problem management
 - Fairness and equity
 - Transparency
- Process and Consultation
 - Consulting and cooperating with municipalities, senior government, First Nations, health authorities, the business community, and the public
- Aligning with Provincial Initiatives
 - Ensuring environmental and fiscal objectives are mutually supportive and successful
- Aligning with Federal Initiatives
 - Supporting principles of and including actions to accelerate Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), aligning with the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) waste management approach

7.0 OTHER METRO VANCOUVER MANAGEMENT PLANS AND OTHER LEADING JURISDICTIONS

Below are examples of vision statements and guiding principles found in other Metro Vancouver plans.

Plan	Vision Statement	Guiding Principles
Integrated Liquid Waste and Resource Management Plan (update ongoing)	<i>Healthy Waters: For All. Forever.</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Innovate, strive for value and cost effectiveness, be resilient and adaptive to climate change 2. Collaborate closely with a range of organizations to achieve outcomes that are beneficial for all, share data on how we are doing openly and transparently, and align with other initiatives taking place in the region 3. Integrate equity throughout, including fairness and justice, to address any barriers that may keep people from accessing wastewater services 4. Minimize greenhouse gas emissions and contributions of pollutants to the environment, including the ocean and our local rivers and streams

Clean Air Plan	<i>Metro Vancouver is a carbon neutral region where residents experience healthy, clean and clear air.</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ambitious 2. Evidence-based 3. Equitable 4. Inclusive & Collaborative 5. Preventative 6. Continuous Improvement 7. Prioritize Co-benefits (improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions) 8. Dynamic 9. Transparent 10. Comprehensive & Integrated
Metro Vancouver Board Strategic Plan *	<i>Metro Vancouver embraces collaboration and innovation in providing sustainable regional services that contribute to a livable and resilient region and a healthy natural environment for current and future generations.</i>	<p>Metro Vancouver Board Strategic Plan Cross-Cutting Themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regional Growth 2. Regulation & Legislation 3. Affordability 4. Reconciliation & Equity 5. Climate Action/Resilience 6. System Stewardship

*To be updated in 2023

A literature review of vision statements and guiding principles in solid waste management plans from other leading jurisdictions revealed several common themes:

- Social, environmental and economic sustainability
- Waste reduction
- Waste management hierarchy
- Recovery and reuse
- Collaboration at all levels
- Social justice, equity and accessibility

8.0 PROVINCIAL GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Under the *BC Environmental Management Act*, regional districts are required to develop a solid waste management plan for approval by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy. The BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy's *A Guide to Solid Waste Management Planning* provides eight provincial principles for solid waste management. Engagement will help to inform additional guiding principles, with a focus on areas that are specific to our local region.

The provincial guiding principles are as follows:

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 behaviour outcomes
5. Prevent organics and recyclables from going into the garbage wherever practical
6. Collaborate with other regional districts wherever practical
7. Develop collaborative 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

9.0 DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Metro Vancouver is engaging audiences on the creation of **vision and guiding principles** for the updated solid waste management plan, which will set the overall plan direction. A vision describes what we want the future to look like, while guiding principles describe the fundamental values behind the updated plan. To help develop a vision and guiding principles that are reflective of the goals and values of Metro Vancouver residents, the questions below prompt discussion to help us understand what matters to you, and what your hopes are for the future.

Q1 What waste reduction, recycling and garbage disposal topics are most important, now and into the future?

Q2 List words or phrases that describe what matters, when deciding what to do with products, packaging and materials that are no longer needed.

Q3 The updated solid waste management plan is intended to reflect the values of everyone in the region. What values, interests, and priorities can be considered?

Q4 Thinking of how we purchase, use, reuse, repurpose, recycle and throw things away in the Metro Vancouver region, what could be better in the future than it is today?

To: Zero Waste Committee

From: Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services

Date: April XX, 2023

Meeting Date: May 23, 2023

Subject: **Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee 2022 Summary**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Zero Waste Committee receive for information the report dated April XX, 2023, titled "Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee 2022 Summary".

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee (Industry Advisory Committee) was formed in 2022 to provide advice to Metro Vancouver. Director Craig Hodge is the Metro Vancouver Board appointed Co-Chair. Mary Polak was elected by Industry Advisory Committee members as the other Co-Chair. In the first year, 32 recycling and waste collection and processing representatives participated in eight meetings including a workshop. Key topics of discussion included:

- updates to the committee terms of reference to include an existing or potential conflict of interest section,
- waste and recycling data and calculation methodologies,
- the disposal ban program,
- extended producer responsibility programs and more.

Industry Advisory Committee meetings are open to observers, and all information (agendas, minutes and presentations) are posted on the Metro Vancouver website.

Industry Advisory Committee members have a one-year term with members reapplying to participate each year. The 2023 Industry Advisory Committee has had one meeting to date with a total of 30 members, with the majority of members returning from the 2022 committee.

PURPOSE

To provide the Zero Waste Committee an update on the activities of the Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee a year after the formation of the committee.

BACKGROUND

In July 2021 the Board received for information the terms of reference for the Industry Advisory Committee. As part of the terms of reference, the Industry Advisory Committee reports through its Co-Chairs to the Zero Waste Committee in addition to providing advice and recommendations to Metro Vancouver staff. Director Hodge is the Metro Vancouver Board appointed Co-Chair. Under the terms of reference, the other Co-Chair is elected by the Industry Advisory Committee members.

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Industry Advisory Committee Formation

To initiate the formation of the Industry Advisory Committee, Metro Vancouver invited submissions from representatives of private waste and recycling collection and processing companies and their industry associations to join the committee during a seven-week period from December 10, 2021 to February 14, 2022.

The Industry Advisory Committee is open to participation by representatives of private waste and recycling collection and processing companies and their industry associations. The purpose of the Industry Advisory Committee is to provide a forum for industry contribution, discussion, and advice on management planning, operations, and policy issues related to solid waste and recycling services in Metro Vancouver. All potential participants that completed the self-selection assessment framework, and submitted a statement of interest declaration were able to participate in the Industry Advisory Committee.

Individuals representing waste and recycling collectors and processors who applied to participate in the Industry Advisory Committee were accepted as members. The Industry Advisory Committee held its inaugural meeting on March 1, 2022 with 32 members and Director Craig Hodge as the Metro Vancouver Board appointed committee Co-Chair. At the May 3, 2022 meeting Mary Polak, representing Waste Connections of Canada, was elected by the committee to serve as Co-Chair for the committee for one year. The 2022 Industry Advisory Committee held nine meetings on roughly a monthly schedule with its last meeting in February 2023.

Transparency

All Industry Advisory Committee information is provided publicly on the Metro Vancouver website, the items available include:

- Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Terms of Reference
- Meeting Agendas, Minutes, and Presentations
- Industry Advisory Committee Member's Existing or Potential Conflict Statements
- Industry Advisory Committee Membership List
- Industry Advisory Committee Membership Biographies

The Industry Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public and anyone wanting to observe a meeting can request an invitation via the website. Meeting agendas, including the presentations, are posted to the website at least 72 hours before the meeting to provide all meeting attendees time to review.

Industry Advisory Committee Actions

Members of the Industry Advisory Committee suggested and subsequently passed a motion to update the committee terms of reference to require committee members to submit a Committee Member Existing or Potential Conflict Statement regarding their relationship with Metro Vancouver. As a result, the terms of reference of the Industry Advisory Committee were updated and Metro Vancouver created the Committee Member Existing or Potential Conflict Statements that were required to be completed by all committee members before they could participate in meetings, as well as shared with the Co-Chairs.

Key Topics of Interest

To learn priority topics and themes that Industry Advisory Committee members are most interested and engaged on, Metro Vancouver facilitated an online discussion. With the results from this discussion Metro Vancouver facilitated a hybrid workshop on September 7, 2022 to delve deeper into a few of the key priority topics. Topics and interests discussed at the workshop and subsequent Industry Advisory Committee meetings:

- Waste reduction and recycling data including calculation methodology
- Metro Vancouver disposal ban program
- Extended producer responsibility
- Construction and demolition waste management
- Zero waste and circular economy
- Public education and communications regarding contamination, behaviour change
- Role of public and private sectors in delivering solid waste services and advancing zero waste and the circular economy
- Residential and commercial/institutional residual garbage management
- Waste flows
- Waste composition study results

Recycling and garbage disposal data including methodology has been the topic of most discussion with some members suggesting specific materials such as concrete and any materials used as fuel not be included in recycling statistics. Metro Vancouver includes those materials as they are within the spectrum of municipal solid waste materials, and the materials are managed for recycling and beneficially used. Additional clarity was provided within Metro Vancouver *2021 Solid Waste Management Annual Summary* to provide more clarity with respect to calculation methodology.

Feedback from Co-Chairs

Attachment 1 includes feedback from the committee Co-Chairs, Director Hodge and Mary Polak on the 2022 Industry Advisory Committee.

2023 Industry Advisory Committee Updates

Towards the end of 2022, based on Industry Advisory Committee feedback, staff supporting the committee suggested a number of changes to the terms of reference to make committee membership easier, allowing members to send alternates to meetings they are unable to attend. The committee membership has voted to support these changes and Attachment 2 includes the updated terms of reference.

Industry Advisory Committee members have one-year terms with a requirement to reapply each year. The 2023 Industry Advisory Committee has now had its first meeting, with 30 members participating including 24 returning and 6 new members participating.

ALTERNATIVES

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Coordination of the Industry Advisory Committee is included in the current Solid Waste Services work plan and budget.

CONCLUSION

The Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee was formed in 2022 to support Metro Vancouver in management planning, operations and policy issues related to solid waste and recycling services in the Metro Vancouver region, as well as the ongoing solid waste management plan update. The purpose of the Industry Advisory Committee is to act as a forum through which industry representatives receive information, provide advice, and channel feedback. The Industry Advisory Committee will be actively involved in all phases of the solid waste management plan update and will be actively engaged this spring.

Attachment 1: Industry Advisory Committee Co-Chairs Feedback

Attachment 2: Industry Advisory Committee Updated Terms of Reference (February 2023)

References

[Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee \(metrovancover.org\)](https://metrovancover.org)

Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee

Terms of Reference

Updated February 7, 2023

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) is to provide a forum for industry contribution, discussion and advice on management planning, operations and policy issues related to solid waste and recycling services in Metro Vancouver.

The purpose of these terms of reference is to describe the role of the committee.

2. OBJECTIVES

The IAC will:

- Provide industry representatives with a formal structure through which they can receive information and provide management planning, operational and policy advice related to solid waste and recycling within Metro Vancouver;
- Provide Metro Vancouver with a venue to engage the private waste services sector on solid waste and recycling plans, policies and services within the region; and
- Provide affected industry stakeholders with the opportunity to be heard and to channel ongoing feedback to Metro Vancouver, including engagement on Metro Vancouver's solid waste management plan update process as well as other waste management issues of regional importance.¹

3. MEMBERSHIP

The IAC membership is comprised of representatives of private waste and recycling collection and processing companies and their industry associations affected by existing and proposed operational and policy items related to solid waste and recycling plans, policies and services within Metro Vancouver. A representative from the Zero Waste Committee will attend all IAC meetings and will be one of the Co-Chairs for the IAC.

Membership is voluntary, self-selecting and carries a term of one year. The initial open call for membership will be advertised on Metro Vancouver's website and through Metro Vancouver's solid waste industry mailing list a minimum of 45 days prior to the inaugural IAC meeting. An annual open call for new members will be advertised a minimum of 30 days prior to each anniversary of the inaugural committee meeting. Existing members that wish to continue participation on the IAC will be asked to re-submit their statement of interest annually.

All private waste and recycling collection and processing industry representatives who express interest in participating in the IAC will be required to review the IAC Self-Selection Assessment Framework and complete the Statement of Interest Declaration confirming agreement, and expressed intention, to work within the Terms of Reference. All persons who complete this process will become members of the IAC for a term of one year.

¹The IAC is not intended to be the sole venue or mechanism for industry consultation and engagement on the solid waste management plan update. Although the IAC will provide feedback and advice related to the plan update process, the scope of the committee includes other regional solid waste management considerations and will continue beyond the approval of the solid waste management plan.² It is anticipated that this may represent a time commitment of 6 hours+ per month.

4. EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS

- Members must be prepared to invest time and energy towards learning and understanding existing and proposed solid waste and recycling policies, practices, and bylaws, as well as the regional waste management system and issues associated with their administration and implementation.
- Members must be prepared to work constructively and collaboratively at committee meetings to address areas of mutual concern, recognizing the multi-faceted issues and interests of all impacted stakeholders. While it is recognized that private companies are not accountable to other members of their same industry, it is expected that all IAC members act in good faith to present the experience and concerns that are reflective of their broader community.
- Members must be prepared to commit the time required to attend monthly committee meetings, pre-read the agenda and all supporting material provided for each meeting, participate fully and constructively in committee discussions, and complete required actions and tasks on time.² Members must provide advance written notice to the Co-Chairs if they are unable to attend a meeting. Members are permitted to send alternate representatives if they are unable to attend a meeting, members must provide advance written notice to the Co-Chairs advising the name and position title of their alternate.

5. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Members are to file with the IAC Co-Chairs a written statement detailing all existing or potential conflicts of interest that the member and the organization they represent may have in regards to their relationship with Metro Vancouver. Members are asked to update that statement in a timely fashion to reflect any change of circumstances or if the IAC's deliberations expose conflicts of interest that may not have been initially apparent.

The IAC Co-Chairs will compile a record of all reported conflicts and deliver them to all IAC members and such record will be neither confidential nor privileged. Any member or principal who does not have a conflict of interest must file a NIL statement to that effect. Members who fail to file the requisite statement and updates will be excluded from the IAC and its deliberations until such time as he or she fully complies.

IAC member conflict of interest statements will be posted online on the IAC website and publically available.

Alternate representatives are not required to provide a conflict of interest statement to the Co-Chairs unless the alternate representative is attending three or more IAC meetings within the year.

The Co-Chairs have the power to remove any IAC member whose actual or potential conflicts of interest are inconsistent with a fair and objective deliberation of the issues that may come before the IAC.

6. CHAIRS

There will be two IAC Co-Chairs. The Zero Waste Committee representative will be a Co-Chair and a second Co-Chair will be selected annually for a term of one year by a 50%+1 majority vote of voting members present. Voting members are defined as IAC members who have held membership for at least one month prior to the day of the vote. The initial nominations for the Co-Chair will be held at the inaugural IAC meeting, with a vote to be held at the following IAC meeting. Subsequent Co-Chair selections will take place on the one-year anniversary of the member Co-Chair's appointment.

² It is anticipated that this may represent a time commitment of 6 hours+ per month.

7. ADVISORY STRUCTURE & DECISION MAKING

The IAC is an advisory body, providing advice and recommendations to Metro Vancouver staff and, through the IAC Co-Chairs, to the Independent Consultation and Engagement Panel and the Zero Waste Committee. While sincere efforts will be made to achieve consensus on recommendations and advice, consensus is not a precondition to advancing committee recommendations. Where consensus exists it will be noted, and where it does not exist, all perspectives will be included in the meeting minutes. The IAC is not generally a voting body. Voting will only occur in the following four circumstances, and in these circumstances, there will be one vote allocated per company/entity represented:³

1. annual election of the second Co-Chair;
2. updates to the terms of reference
3. confirmation of the annual work plan; and
4. during the appeal of member's dismissal, as described in section 10 of this Terms of Reference.

In each of these scenarios, voting will be a 50% +1 majority decision-making model of votes cast.

8. WORK PLAN

A work plan for the IAC will be developed by Metro Vancouver staff based on an annual call for work plan topics submitted by IAC members reflecting priority issues they would like to see considered during the year. The work plan, once confirmed by the IAC, will guide development of meeting agendas for the year. The work plan may be amended during the year, at the agreement of both Co-Chairs, to allow for flexibility to address emerging issues or unanticipated, time-sensitive topics. Implementation of the annual work plan is at the prerogative of IAC members and does not direct activities of Metro Vancouver staff or resources, beyond the provision of committee secretariat support functions.

9. MEETINGS

- Meetings will be held monthly, except in July, August, and December, where no meetings will be held. The meeting dates and times will be determined by the Co-Chairs in consultation with IAC members, with a confirmed pre-set schedule for all meetings within the calendar year. On agreement of both Co-Chairs, meetings may be added or cancelled as appropriate.
- Metro Vancouver will provide a venue, a third party note taker and refreshments for meetings, or as determined otherwise by the IAC. Through 2023, all meetings will be held virtually for IAC members, with the exception of two workshops to be held in-person.
- The Co-Chairs will work with Metro Vancouver staff to draft meeting agendas and coordinate any necessary meeting materials, which will be circulated to meeting participants a minimum of 72 hours in advance of the meeting.
- The meetings will be structured to encourage free and open discussion of relevant issues within the constraints of the planned agendas.
- Meeting minutes and action trackers will be kept for each meeting, through secretariat support provided by Metro Vancouver staff.⁴ Minutes shall not reflect the names of individual speakers or their stance on issues; rather, they shall reflect the issues discussed, significant points of view on the issues and the resolutions or actions to be taken.
- A meeting quorum will be 50%+1 of active members.

³ If there are multiple members representing a single company, they will be asked to convene among themselves to determine their collective vote.

⁴ Metro Vancouver staff are not members of the IAC, but will attend meetings of the IAC to provide information on various issues, respond to questions etc.

- The IAC may establish other meeting procedures, which will be considered as an appendix to these terms of reference.
- Meetings will be open to any individuals who wish to observe the discussions either in person or through video or teleconference, although only IAC members will be provided standing to participate in the discussion. Individuals interested in observing can request meeting information two weeks in advance of the meeting time and date. Non-member stakeholders may request an opportunity to present to the IAC, through two weeks' advance written submission for consideration by the Co-Chairs.
- The IAC may invite groups and subject-matter experts to present to the IAC and provide advice and feedback on specific IAC agenda items, at the discretion of the Co-Chairs.
- All IAC agendas will be published and publicly available in advance of meetings, with IAC presentations and meetings minutes posted for information on Metro Vancouver's website.

10. CODE OF CONDUCT

This code is intended to serve as a framework to guide the spirit and intent of how IAC members are expected to deliver on the IAC's purpose, objectives, and intent in an ethical and respectful manner.

1. Respect and Collaboration: Discussions and debates shall take place in an atmosphere of mutual respect and solutions-oriented collaboration, recognizing the value of different perspectives and seeking to understand the interests and needs of all affected parties.
2. Transparency: It is expected that all members speak honestly and transparently, engaging in good-faith dialogue and sharing information openly to encourage fact-based dialogue.
3. Treatment of other Members: Members of the committee have a duty to treat other members with respect during IAC meetings. Specifically, members have a duty to avoid:
 - a. Disrupting meetings by making continual interruptions or whispered asides;
 - b. Making offensive or abusive remarks directed at other members;
 - c. Impugning the motives of other IAC members or supporting staff;
 - d. Ignoring the legitimate direction of the Co-Chairs.

Members who object to the behaviour of another member as identified in this code of conduct are asked to identify their concerns immediately to the IAC Co-Chairs.

11. MEMBERSHIP DISMISSAL

IAC members must recognize the importance of their commitment through active participation, regular attendance and adherence to the IAC Terms of Reference. The following are potential reasons for membership dismissal.

- Failure to attend two or more consecutive monthly meetings, or,
- Lack of adherence to the IAC Terms of Reference, specifically including section 10: Code of Conduct, and Section 14: Media Protocol.

At the agreement of both Co-Chairs, members who have committed one or more of the potential reasons for losing membership may be dismissed from the committee by way of written notification. The dismissed member is ineligible for re-instatement at the subsequent annual call for membership.

If the member wishes to appeal the dismissal, they can request a vote from the IAC membership, to be undertaken using secret ballot. Voting will be a 50% +1 majority decision-making model. The impacted member is not eligible to vote in this process.

12. MEMBERSHIP RESIGNATION

Members wishing to resign from IAC committee membership should provide written notice of their intent to resign, including the effective date of their resignation, addressed to the IAC Co-Chairs.

13. BUDGET AND RESOURCES

Funding for general meetings, secretariat and support expenses is provided by Metro Vancouver. Any additional funding for special projects or studies is subject to Metro Vancouver approval.

14. MEDIA PROTOCOL

Individual IAC members will not speak on behalf of the IAC, unless it has been approved by the Co-Chairs in advance.

15. REVIEW OF THE IAC TERMS OF REFERENCE

The IAC will review this Terms of Reference at least every 18 months, for consideration on whether any amendments or modifications to the process are required. Amendments will be provided to the Zero Waste Committee for information.

2023 SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACTION TRACKER

To be updated after every Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) meeting to keep track of the actions or tasks that Metro Vancouver staff are responsible for.

Meeting Date	Requested Action/Item	Assigned Staff	Target / Completion Date	Status
February 10, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metro Vancouver to invite members of the National Zero Waste Council to present on how their work gets incorporated into each phase of the solid waste management plan update process 	Paul Henderson	Q3	In progress
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jurisdictional Scan of Recycling Statistics and Methodologies - Metro Vancouver will report back on scope of work and findings of a review of existing and future performance metrics including opportunities to improve tracking progress toward waste reduction and recycling goals 	Terry Fulton	Q2	In Progress
March 7, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request on calculations for Metro Vancouver Recycling and Solid Waste Management 2021 report 			Pending

Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee 2023 Draft Work Plan

Report Date: April 4, 2023

Priorities	
1st Quarter	Status
2021 Solid Waste and Recycling Annual Report	Complete
Disposal Ban Program Review report out	Pending
Circular Economy/ 3Rs Study	Pending
Jurisdictional Scan of Recycling Statistics and Methodologies	Complete
Regional Solid Waste System Assessment Study	Complete
Call for Submissions for 2023 IAC Membership	Complete
2nd Quarter	Status
Workshop 1: Solid Waste Management Plan Update Vision and Guiding Principles	In progress
Zero Waste Committee/Public and Technical Advisory Committee Co-Chair Report out on Industry Advisory Committee Activities	In progress
IAC Co-Chair Election	Pending
2022 Waste Composition Program Results	Pending
3rd Quarter	Status
Workshop 2: Topics to be determined	Pending
Roles of public and private sector in providing essential solid waste management services and advancing zero waste and the circular economy – potential workshop topic	Pending
National Zero Waste Council Presentation on Incorporating Input in the Solid Waste Management Plan Update	Pending
Solid Waste Residual Management Options Study Update	Pending
2022 Disposal Ban Program Update	Pending
4th Quarter	Status
Solid Waste Services Financial Plan/2024 Proposed Garbage Tipping Fees	Pending
Solid Waste Management Plan Update – Guiding Principles Report Back	Pending

March 8, 2023

Dear Metro Vancouver and Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee (IAC);

Re: Tracking and Reporting Diversion

Last year a member of the IAC proposed that one of the main objectives of the IAC was to support Metro Vancouver in developing more transparent and meaningful metrics for the tracking of the reduction, reuse, and management of waste within the region. This was supported by several members of the IAC, and intern the IAC along with Metro Vancouver have been working together to improve this system of tracking and reporting.

One of the main revelations that came out of this work was that Metro Vancouver has been classifying materials sent to various industries for fuel, as Recycled. One member pointed out, which was then supporter by several other members, that burning of waste even for refused derived fuel (RDF) should not be classified as recycled. In order to be fully transparent to the industry and to the public, and in order to ensure that the data that is collected and reports that are provided are meaningful, appropriate classification is critical.

Over the past decade, there has been a concerted lobbying effort to classify burning of waste for fuel as recycling. Doing this undermines how the general public and the industry at large view recycling. More importantly, classifying engineered fuel or Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) as recycling undermines the recycling industry which has been working tirelessly over the past several decades to convert materials into commodities that could be re-introduced into the manufacturing process over and over again, with the aim of continuous circularity.

Converting waste materials into (RDF) and then burning it in a furnace is simply another disposal method and should be classified as such.

In order to continue Metro Vancouvers efforts of continuous improvement and ensuring that their data and reports are as transparent and meaningful as possible. I propose that they re-classify waste that is converted into a fuel product as incineration and thus as part of disposal.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter and I look forward to further discussions on how to support the regions goals with transparent and meaningful measurements and reporting.

Sincerely,

Jamie Kaminski

Member of the IAC