

**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 in person at Metro Vancouver Headquarters from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Craig Hodge, Director, Zero Waste Committee  
(Co-Chair)

Bryan, Lori, Executive Director, Waste  
Management Association of BC (Co-Chair)

Abrams, Izzie – Waste Connections of Canada

Agassiz, Sam – West Coast Reduction Ltd.

Furtado, Glen – Cement Association of  
Canada

Hankins, Grant – Canada Minibins.com Ltd.

Johnson, Gord – Northstar

Kaminski, Jamie – HSR Zero Waste

MacFarlane, Angus – Growing City

Mallari, Achilles – Sierra Waste Services Ltd.

McRae, Ralph – Revolution Infrastructure Inc.

Millman, David – Waste Management of  
Canada Corporation

Moucachen, Maya – Merlin Plastics

Muir, Wesley – Veolia North America  
(Canada)

Pantazopoulos, Dimitri – Waste Connections  
of Canada

Prasad, Shad – Cascades Recovery +

Punja, Rustam – Geocycle Canada Inc.

Sigmund, Sandy – Encorp Pacific Canada,  
Return-It

Skei, Dayton – Evergen Infrastructure Corp.

Skoropada, Lorne – Ridge Meadows Recycling  
Society

Van Beusekom, Brent – Product Care  
Association

Vargas, Pinky – Republic Services

Zarbl, Michael – Major Appliance Recycling  
Roundtable

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Collins, James – Tymac Launch Service Ltd.

Crawford, Jeremy – Waste Control Services

Kawakami, Sean – Convertus Canada Ltd.

Kheyrandish, Ataollah – Richmond Steel

Kiani, Aiden – Lock-Block Ltd

Lannin, Mike – Super Save Group

JansenVandoorn, Josh – Anaconda Systems

Janzen, Tessa – Recycle BC

Johnston, Kurt – CleanStart Property Services

Mac Neil, Patrick – Wescan Disposal Ltd.  
Canada Corp.

Stefenelli, Nicole – Urban Impact  
Recycling Ltd.

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

Brooke Atkinson, Senior Engagement Specialist, Metro Vancouver  
Terry Fulton, Senior Project Engineer, Metro Vancouver  
Vanessa Halten, Program Manager, Metro Vancouver  
Paul Henderson, General Manager, Metro Vancouver  
Samantha Joy, Engagement Specialist, Metro Vancouver  
Allen Jensen, Senior Project Engineer, Metro Vancouver  
Stephanie Liu, Manager, Community Engagement, Metro Vancouver  
Zeenia Mizan, Program Assistant, Metro Vancouver  
Karen Storry, Senior Project Engineer, Metro Vancouver  
Chris Underwood, Division Manger SW Planning, Metro Vancouver  
Nanette van Doon, Communications Coordinator, Metro Vancouver

**GUESTS:**

Veronika Bylicki, Panel Member  
Komal Fatima, Panel Member  
Andrea Reimer, Panel Member

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

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

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Zoom Teleconference

**A G E N D A**

- 1. AGENDA**
  - 1.1 November 4, 2025 Meeting Agenda**
  
- 2. MINUTES**
  - 2.1 September 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes**
  - 2.2 October 7, 2025 Meeting Minutes**
  
- 3. REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**
  - 3.1 SWMP: Metrics and Targets**

*For plenary discussion – primary metrics and targets*  
*For small group discussion – secondary metrics*  
*Designated speaker: Terry Fulton, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Services*
  
  - 3.2 2026 Industry Advisory Committee Draft Work Plan Development**

*For input/feedback – plenary discussion*  
*Designated speaker: Lori Bryan*  
*What are some potential topics the committee could focus on in 2026?*
  
- 4. OTHER BUSINESS**
  - 4.1 Zero Waste Committee and Other Updates**

*For information*  
*Designated Speaker: Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services*
  
  - 4.2 IAC 2026 Draft Meeting Dates**
  
- 5. INFORMATION ITEMS**
  - 5.1 Regional Waste Flows**
  - 5.2 2025 IAC Work Plan**
  - 5.3 Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Disposal\***
  - 5.4 Solid Waste Management Plan – Options Analysis Update (November 6, 2025 Zero Waste Committee Report)**
  - 5.5 Disposal Cost Comparison Details (October Manager’s Report excerpt)**
  - 5.6 Solid Waste Management Plan Update Draft Recycling and Waste Centre Strategic Approach**
  - 5.7 Solid Waste Management Plan Update Draft Regulatory Strategic Approach**

## MEETING MINUTES

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Co-Chair Craig Hodge, called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. and welcomed attendees to the Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee meeting. Members were reminded that the meeting was being livestreamed and recorded and will be posted to the Industry Advisory Committee webpage.

It was noted that there were four members from the Consultation Engagement Panel in attendance: Komal Fatima, Veronika Byliciki, Andrea Reimer, and Peter Fassbender. The intention behind the Consultation and Engagement Panel is to provide advice to Metro Vancouver staff on engagement practices for the solid waste management plan update and to help ensure transparent engagement and reporting of feedback.

### 1. AGENDA

#### 1.1 November 4, 2025, Meeting Agenda

Co-Chair Hodge reviewed the November 4, 2025, meeting agenda. No additions were made.

### 2. MINUTES

#### 2.1 September 9, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Co-Chair Hodge called for any additions or changes to the Minutes of the September 9, 2025, Industry Advisory Committee meeting. No additions or changes were made.

#### 2.2 October 7, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Co-Chair Hodge noted that the in-person meeting held on October 7, 2025 meeting was treated as a workshop because quorum was not reached. Highlights from the discussion were included in the agenda as workshop notes and not as official meeting minutes.

Co-Chair Hodge invited members to share related questions and/or comments. The following questions and comments (Q/C) and *responses (R)* were captured:

Q/C: Were there any agenda items that need to be carried forward to a future meeting?

R: *An information item related to greenhouse gas emissions and the adoption of the September 9, 2025, meeting minutes were carried forward to the November 4, 2025, meeting.*

Q/C: The summary of reports that was shared in the October 2025 workshop was important information that should be presented to the Industry Advisory Committee. Usual practice when there is no quorum is to cancel or postpone the meeting.

R: *The two agenda items that were discussed at the October meeting were about potential actions for recovery and actions that were considered inadvisable by staff. The presentation portion of these agenda items was included in the October agenda package, and Industry Advisory Committee members are encouraged to refer to those materials and provide feedback to Metro Vancouver staff.*

Q/C: The targets presented in the November agenda package are unrealistic and should not be made public. Members want an achievable plan where metrics are not illusory.

Q/C: Recycling and tipping fees continue to rise. Cost effectiveness should be embedded into the plan.

Q/C: This plan needs to be understandable and achievable. Focusing on four to five goals is a better strategy, rather than including too many goals and not being able to meet any of them.

### **3. REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

#### **3.1 SWMP: Metrics and Targets**

Terry Fulton, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Services, Metro Vancouver, shared a presentation titled “Selecting Targets and Metrics for an Updated Plan.” Highlights included:

- Explanation of how strategies and actions were used to inform draft metrics and targets
- How the performance metrics review study informed development of draft metrics and targets
- Overview of draft primary metrics and targets
- Overview of example secondary metrics and the importance of using both primary and secondary to offer a suite of metrics to gauge progress

Paul Henderson, General Manager, Metro Vancouver, noted that there is an overarching lens of affordability that applies to all of Metro Vancouver’s work. The affordability lens will be considered with respect to all aspects of the plan implementation and the draft plan will reflect this.

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

Q/C: A recommendation to be accountable and transparent. Construction and demolition waste should be considered separately from residential and commercial waste when calculating diversion rates. There should also be separate targets. The targets being set could reflect how well the program is performing – focus should be placed on source-separated recyclables and organics, rather than recovery (especially energy recovery).

R: *Individual targets will be considered once there is an overarching target.*

Q/C: There is a high possibility of skewing numbers if construction and demolition are not in their own sector.

*R: Metro Vancouver is tracking and reporting by sector.*

Q/C: What scientific justification led to the determined targets and metrics?

*R: Various considerations included waste composition studies, current data from annual reports, and the draft strategies and actions (i.e. what targets could be achieved if the draft actions were implemented). Waste composition studies are available on the Metro Vancouver website*

Q/C: There does not seem to be any scientific justification based on the information shared.

*R: Metro Vancouver can share high level calculations and how the targets relate to the materials in question.*

Q/C: There is not much value left in the recycling stream beyond metals and concrete. There is little value in wood waste and plastics – a very low percentage is recyclable, and it is down-cycled. Trying to divert those materials to reach our goals is unrealistic if the materials do not have value.

Q/C: Only 7-10% of plastics are currently recyclable, and more production of plastics will take place over the next 25 years. There is currently no effective way to turn these plastics into anything.

Q/C: Disposal capacity analysis should be a key element of the plan.

Terry Fulton stated that secondary metrics are a suite of metrics that provide additional context beyond high-level targets, helping to demonstrate progress in specific areas. An image of the waste hierarchy was shared. Within each goal, examples of secondary metrics were noted.

The Industry Advisory Committee was invited to join breakout rooms to further discuss the suggested secondary metrics and to identify new ones for consideration.

Members were asked to select a discussion room and focus on secondary metrics for the following levels of the hierarchy:

- Rethink/Reduce
- Reuse/Recycle
- Recover/Dispose

The Industry Advisory Committee moved into small group discussions at 3:21 p.m. and reconvened at 3:41 p.m.

Members were encouraged to share feedback on the discussions, and the following comments were offered:

- There are many goals embedded into the plan, with no consideration of costs
- Metro Vancouver is committed to spending millions of dollars on projects, and tipping fees are set to be increased
- There seems to be no consideration for taxpayers and how this will impact them
- Concrete and asphalt management should not be an element of the plan as very little of these materials originate from single family homes and Metro Vancouver does not license the facilities that process this material.
- There are significant issues with the two primary disposal options (Vancouver Landfill and Ecowaste), and it is unknown whether those facilities will be available long term
- There needs to be contingency planning to identify where materials will be going and the cost.

It was noted that Metro Vancouver staff were in the breakout rooms taking notes, and feedback will be considered as the solid waste management plan is drafted. A summary of the notes from the breakout rooms is attached to these minutes.

### **3.2 2026 IAC Draft Work Plan Development**

Co-Chair Lori Bryan, Waste Management Association of BC, led a review of the 2025 Work Plan topics that were discussed and noted that the following topics were not addressed in 2025:

- Public education – role of public and private entities
- Soil management
- Source reduction incentive program
- Vancouver landfill/long-term disposal planning options.

Members suggested the following topics could be included in the 2026 Work Plan:

- The two topics that were discussed in the October 7, 2025, meeting:
  - Actions related to recovery of materials and energy from non-recyclable materials
  - Actions considered unadvisable by Metro Vancouver staff
- Infrastructure over the next 15 years
- Utilizing Metro Vancouver’s infrastructure to maximize benefit.

Paul Henderson noted that a key action for discussion will be the updated solid waste management plan.

The Industry Advisory Committee were advised that a draft Work Plan will be presented discussed in January 2026. Members will vote on the Work Plan in early 2026.

## **4. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

Paul Henderson shared a presentation titled, “Zero Waste Committee and Other Updates,” and highlighted:

- The next Zero Waste Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 6, 2025
- The 2026 tipping and recycling fees have been approved
- Report on waste reduction and recycling – materials collected and investments:
  - Described recycling activities are taking place at the recycling and waste centres
  - 88,000 tonnes which goes to recycling from Metro Vancouver solid waste facilities
  - Clean wood goes to recovery as an alternative fuel
  - Total annual investment is approximately \$25 million
- Funding was provided for the Coffee Cup Revolution, which recovered 213,841 cups
- Options Analysis update report is included in the Information Items and refers to feedback specifically from the Industry Advisory Committee
- Metro Vancouver is hosting a Record Keeping and Tipping Fee Bylaw webinar in January 2026

The following questions and comments (Q/C) and *responses* (R) were captured after the report-out:

Q/C: Member asked what happened to the coffee cups from the Bidders event once they were recovered?

R: *The cups were sent to the Waste-to-Energy Facility due to the number of coffee cups collected. There have been ongoing efforts to identify recycling opportunities for coffee cups, without success so far.*

#### **4.2 IAC 2026 Draft Meeting Dates**

Samantha Joy, Engagement Specialist, Metro Vancouver, shared the proposed 2026 meeting schedule. It was noted that the invitations for the January 2026 and February 2026 meetings will be sent soon.

Co-Chair Hodge advised that Industry Advisory Committee Membership submissions will take place in early February 2026. As stated in the committee Terms of Reference, existing members must resubmit their interest if they wish to continue serving on the Industry Advisory Committee.

### **5. INFORMATION ITEMS**

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

#### **5.2 2025 IAC Work Plan**

#### **5.3 Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Disposal**

#### **5.4 Solid Waste Management Plan - Options Analysis Update (November 6, 2025 Zero Waste Committee report)**

#### **5.5 Disposal Cost Comparison Details (October Manager's Report excerpt)**

#### **5.6 Solid Waste Management Plan Update Draft Recycling and Waste Centre Strategic Approach**

#### **5.7 Solid Waste Management Plan Update Draft Regulatory Strategic Approach**

Regarding Item 5.5, Disposal Cost Comparison Detail, a suggestion was made to keep transfer costs separate from the incinerator costs to support transparency. Paul Henderson advised that information is presented in a specific way in the tables, and a conclusion will also be provided.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled for January 13, 2026. Industry Advisory Committee members were thanked for their contributions and feedback for the year.

The Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.