

**Cariboo Regional District  
Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) – Nov 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Present: Al Richmond, Amanda Vibert, Cory Delves, Mary Forbes, Peter Jarvis, Sherri Jonkman, Joanne Doddridge, Vince Benner, Oliver Berger, Leonard Cook, Ted Olfert, Tera Grady

Absent: Jared Taylor, Dan Harrison, Davee Palmantier, Enver Hrbinic, Pat Mahood, Roxanne Pop, Steve O'Hara, Leslie Glen, Tyron Harry

Meeting was called to order at 4:03pm.

**Agenda:**

1. Call to Order
  - a. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Adoption of Minutes
  - a. October 6, 2021
3. Consultation Updates
  - a. Workplace Survey Results
4. Option
  - a. Ranking Table Results
  - b. Options Activity (Level effort/level impact)
5. Next Steps

**1. Call to Order**

The motion to approve the agenda was made by Cory and seconded by Oliver.

**2. Adoption of Minutes**

Minor edits were agreed upon related to the options list. With edits factored in, Peter made the motion to approve the minutes, Joanne seconded the motion, none opposed, and it was carried.

**3. Consultation Updates**

The workplace survey was completed by 26 CRD businesses representing the four municipalities in the region as well as Areas D, E and F. Twenty-four of the businesses currently participate in some aspect of waste reduction or recycling. Eight of those businesses were interested to be involved in a recycling pilot.

Businesses generate a wide variety of materials and products, from packaging and printed paper to products to batteries, tires, scrap metal, wood waste, food scraps, animal manure and paint containers. Barriers to recycling included the distance to self-haul, not being able to access recycling programs intended for residents only (packaging and printed paper in particular) and finding ways to handle harder to recycle items. Businesses noted that local government could support diversion efforts by providing commercial packaging and printed paper recycling and composting, supporting ways to recycle more items overall, setting goals

and targets to add incentive for participation, and exploring technology vendors to process materials. The Committee acknowledged the lack of economy of scale/throughput to consider the latter option.

Committee members also discussed what types of materials are accepted as packaging and printed paper in the current residential only extended producer responsibility (EPR) program, namely plastic film and other flexible plastic packaging. The volume of commercial packaging and printed paper and related cost to collect and process those materials was also reviewed; it was noted that cardboard currently sells at \$95 per tonne but tends to fluctuate while other packaging and printed paper materials have less value. Tera provided highlights from the fall 2021 Ministry's intentions paper that listed new products for future extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs including commercial packaging and printed paper, mattresses, propane canisters, electric vehicle batteries, and solar panels. While adding these products to the Recycling Regulation is a positive development, it is anticipated that it will take several years for those programs to be finalized and implemented. See the presentation for workplace survey graphs and more explanation

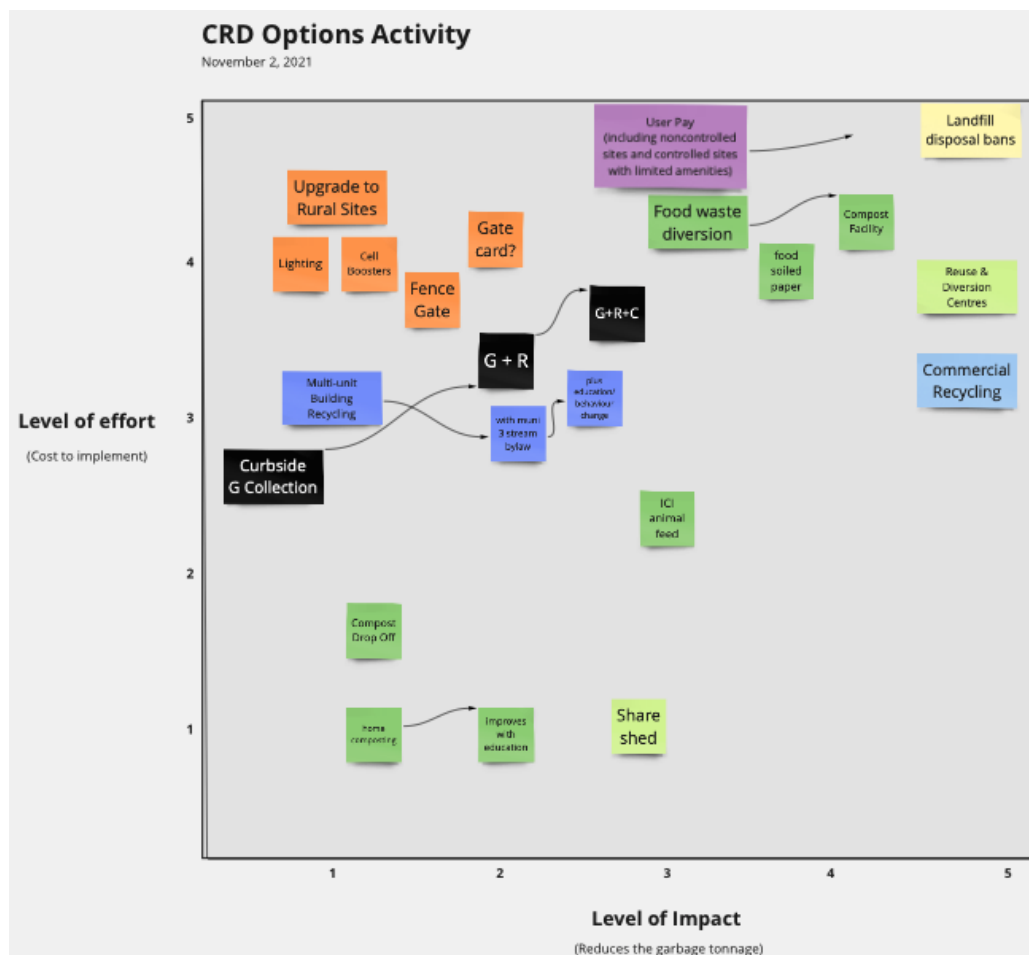
#### 4. Options

Options rankings from the October meeting were recapped, then the Committee participated in a digital white board exercise to estimate relative level of effort (cost) and level of impact (garbage tonnage reduction) related to each colour-coded option. The rankings were 1-5 with 5 being highest as shown in the white board screen capture below. The following items were discussed, and some were disaggregated to show varied rankings within one option. After the discussion, Committee members signed up for subgroups related to topics prioritized for further inquiry.

- **Reuse and Diversion Centres** – the option to develop full reuse and diversion centres prioritizing upcycling, reuse, and repair would require significant level of effort (4) to establish but also were identified as having a high level of impact (4).
- **Multi-unit Building Recycling** – there is value to addressing this gap in collection service to further optimize Recycle BC product stewardship compensation and optimize diversion. The level of effort was estimated at 3 while the impact was determined to be lower (1.5) given a smaller percentage of the population lives in multi-unit buildings. The impact level could increase with municipal three stream bylaws activated and behaviour change programming.
- **Commercial Recycling** – this option was ranked high for level of impact (5) and over 3 for effort. A commercial recycling pilot could help to determine region-specific costs. The Provincial Recycling Regulation expansion to include commercial packaging and printed paper was also discussed; it was agreed that while it is a positive development, it could be several years and this initiative should be actively pursued.
- **Food Waste Diversion** – this option includes a prevention element plus multiple ways to collect and manage food scraps. Lower effort/impact options include home composting (1:1) and compost drop off (1.5:1.5) and both increase impact with promotion and behaviour change. Linking high organics generators to farms for animal feed ranked

2.5:3 for effort and impact respectively while having a compost facility that could also capture food soiled paper ranked 4:4.

- **Landfill Disposal Bans** – Kept on the list but deprioritized for further research given the resources that would be needed to staff sites and enforce the ban.
- **Upgrades to Rural Sites** – several sub options related to safety such as lighting and cell boosters have higher effort (4) and minimal impact (1) but lay the ground work for fences/gates with a future gate card system. A gate card system could further increase impact from 1 to 2.
- **User-Pay** – transitioning high priority sites from non-controlled to controlled sites can help to support user pay which has considerable cost but significant impact (5:3). Discussion ensued about the importance of having a mixed revenue approach from tax and user pay over time to add incentive for diversion while keeping the budget balanced.
- **Curbside Garbage Collection** – there could be value for fringe areas with some housing density outside municipalities to receive garbage collection with recycling and organics to be added over time. The level of effort was rated at 3 while the level of impact moves progressively from 1 to 2 and then 3 as more materials streams are added to use a universal collection system approach.



## **5. Next steps.**

The next meeting will take place in early December. Follow up will also occur re option subgroups with baseline information collected prior and December meetings also to be scheduled.