

## **Cariboo Regional District**

### **Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) – January 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Present: Al Richmond, Amanda Vibert, Sherri Jonkman, Joanne Doddridge, Leslie Glen, Oliver Berger, Leonard Cook, Pat Mahood, Steve O'Hara, Tera Grady,

Absent: Cory Delves, Dan Harrison, Mary Forbes, Jared Taylor, Peter Jarvis, Davee Palmantier, Enver Hrbinic, Roxanne Pop, Tyron Harry, Vince Benner

Meeting was called to order at 12:05pm.

#### **Agenda:**

1. Call to Order
  - a. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Adoption of Minutes
  - a. December 2, 2021
3. Current Reality
4. Ministry landfill Criteria Conformance
5. Options
  - a. External Scan Updates
6. Next Steps

#### **1. Call to Order**

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

#### **2. Adoption of Minutes**

Minor edits were agreed upon related to landfill criteria specifications. Oliver made the motion to approve the minutes, Amanda seconded the motion, none were opposed, and it was carried.

#### **3. Current Reality**

Completion is in progress for the current reality report. For additional context, a map was shared to show the Cariboo's four primary waste sheds with facilities and total garbage tonnage. The West Chilcotin totals 2% of the total garbage for the regional district while the North Cariboo represents 40% of the region's garbage. There are less facilities relative to further south. Adding northern facilities therefore is likely to have a bigger impact on the region's diversion potential. Discussion ensued on what refuse sites collect from what household areas.

#### **4. Ministry Landfill Criteria Conformance**

Additional updates were provided to further define landfill criteria exemptions. In 2016 the BC Ministry of Environment – currently the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (MOECCS), published the second edition of the "Landfill Criteria For Municipal Solid Waste"

[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/waste-management/garbage/landfill\\_criteria.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/waste-management/garbage/landfill_criteria.pdf) . New landfills in BC are required to conform to the

criteria listed in the document, which include location, environmental monitoring, design, daily operations, closure, plans, and reporting. The first edition of the landfill criteria allowed for non-plastic lined landfills, the second edition does not; all new landfills must be designed with an engineered plastic liner. The 2016 document also states that any lateral expansions of existing landfills must be lined, but does provides exemptions for landfills that:

- receive less than 5,000 tonnes of waste per year,
- are in very remote areas (more than 100 km from an engineered landfill site),
- receive less than 500 mm of precipitation per year, and
- show evidence of no existing groundwater contamination from the landfill.

Additionally, the updated document states that all existing landfills in BC should undergo an “conformance review” against the new landfill criteria with 5 years of publication of the document, or during the next SWMP review, whichever comes first.

The CRD currently manages 14 landfills. The Gibraltar location is engineered with a plastic liner, phased closures, ground and surface water monitoring, leachate collection and treatment, and is plumbed for future landfill gas collection. The remaining 13 landfills are natural attenuation sites that rely on existing soil make up and density to contain or slowly filter leachate generated. Four sites do not have any ground water monitoring wells, the remaining nine have between one and three ground water monitoring wells. The City of Quesnel Landfill is also a natural attenuation site.

## 5. Options

Additional external scan results and proposed next steps to consider feasibility were provided for the options listed below.

1. **Multi-unit Building Recycling** – Three CRD jurisdictions are eligible for the Recycle BC incentive to promote multi-unit building recycling. Williams Lake has a Recycle BC contract in place to provide municipal service and some collection underway that could be expanded. Quesnel has a direct service contract in place where haulers receive the incentive and reach out to property managers. Service is not currently in place following program changes (glass separated out) and there are barriers to service uptake given property managers are being charged to help cover the full costs of the program. 100 Mile is still pending a statement of work (SOW) that would allow the municipality to enter the onboarding process to activate the initiative.

There is an opportunity to engage Recycle BC for a statement of work for 100 Mile and pursue a required recycling separation bylaw for Quesnel and Williams Lake would help to support recycling programs more actively and support compliance. Feasibility review includes determining potential diversion and cost.

2. **Commercial Recycling** – establish commercial recycling for commercial businesses and institutions. Determine program components including education and technical assistance, legislative requirements (municipal), and infrastructure support. The Provincial Recycling Regulation expansion – to include commercial packaging and printed paper –is also expected to be put into place at a future date.

There is an opportunity to conduct a small-scale business recycling pilot to gauge uptake, capture, contamination, and costs. This will help to determine diversion potential and costs for potential recycling expansion before and/or as part of the Provincial Recycling Regulation expansion.

3. **Food Waste Diversion** – use the food waste hierarchy (<https://ilsr.org/food-waste-hierarchy>) to prevent wasted food, support source reduction via home and community composting, and explore options for a centralized facility and municipal curbside collection. Examples from recent food scraps collection programs at depots (Comox Valley RD) and City of Kamloops (curbside collection) were reviewed.

Pursue varied opportunities to collect and manage food scraps depending on population density, geography, cost and other factors. Conduct pilots for small scale processing at transfer stations and include development of an organics management strategy in the Plan Update that factors feedstock potential by the four main Cariboo waste sheds, considers processing methods, facility sites, and costs.

4. **User-Pay** – as feasible, transition high priority sites from non-controlled to controlled sites to help support a user pay approach so those who generate more garbage pay more. Capital and direct costs need to be factored in as well as balancing revenue from tax requisitions and tipping fees over time. The Thompson Nicola RD user pay program was reviewed, from their initial punch card and outreach tools through to their transition more recently to a reloadable card that is more cost effective, has higher customer satisfaction, and tracks usage by weight and volume using software.

There is an opportunity to determine which transfer stations could switch to controlled sites as part of strengthening the Cariboo region's user pay approach. Feasibility review includes determining what sites are most appropriate based on containment, cell access, power etc. Financial resources need to be assessed for those specific sites.

## 6. Next steps

Availability for the February 2022 Advisory Committee meeting and subgroups was reviewed. It was decided to group the eight options into four subgroupings for more detailed breakout discussions around feasibility. These sessions will take place in February and can be attended by interested committee members. An initial poll of who was interested in each group was taken and is reflected in the table below.

Options – Consolidated	Committee Members
1. Reuse and Diversion Centres	Ted, Joanne, Pat, Leslie Tera, Al, Mary, Amanda, Oliver

Options – Consolidated	Committee Members
2. Multi-unit Building Recycling, Commercial Recycling, Curbside Garbage	Vince, Peter, Pat, Joanne, Cory, Joanne, Steve, Leslie Tera, Al, Mary, Amanda, Oliver
3. Food Waste Reduction and Diversion	Ted, Peter, Joanne, Sherri, Leslie Tera, Al, Mary, Amanda, Oliver
4. Upgrades to Rural Sites, User Pay, Disposal Ban	Sherri, Len, Steve, Pat, Steve, Quesnel staffer Tera, Al, Mary, Amanda, Oliver