



Metro Vancouver Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan Update Comox Strathcona Waste Management Board Meeting: April 15, 2016

Metro Vancouver's Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan (ISWRMP) was approved by the Minister of Environment in July 2011. The ISWRMP targets 70% waste diversion by 2015, and 80% by 2020. As of 2014, the regional diversion rate was 61% up from approximately 45% in 2000.

Metro Vancouver and partners have initiated a range of initiatives to reduce the amount of waste in the first place. The National Zero Waste Council, Love Food Hate Waste, and the Christmas campaign are all examples of waste reduction programs. Metro Vancouver multi-media resources such as videos and graphics are available free of charge to waste management stakeholders including local government.

Organics recycling is proceeding successfully in Metro Vancouver. In 2015, approximately 350,000 tonnes of organics including yard trimmings and food scraps were recycled. Between 2014 and 2015, the amount of organics recycled increased by approximately 50,000 tonnes while the amount of organics in the garbage reduced by about the same amount. Metro Vancouver's 2015 organics disposal ban is a key waste reduction tool.

Per capita and total waste disposal are continuing to reduce. In total, approximately 800,000 tonnes of waste from residential, commercial and institutional sources required disposal in 2015. In 2015, residual garbage was managed at three facilities: the Vancouver Landfill, the Cache Creek Landfill and the Waste-to-Energy Facility (WTEF). The WTEF has excellent environmental performance, and Metro Vancouver continues to implement new emission reduction programs.

The Metro Vancouver Board discontinued a new waste-to-energy procurement process in late 2015 due to uncertainty in future waste flow and continued success in waste diversion. Staff will report back to the Board with options on the development of new waste-to-energy.

A variable tipping fee structure was implemented in April 2015. Under the new structure, large loads are charged less per tonne than small loads. This approach aligns with the cost of managing the waste, and has resulted in waste returning to the Metro Vancouver system that was previously being delivered to transfer stations in Abbotsford for shipment to U.S. Landfills.

Metro Vancouver contracts for transfer station operations and landfill disposal expire at the end of 2016. Procurement processes are underway for transfer stations operations and contingency landfill disposal.

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