



Reference: 326052

File: 10400-60\SWMP Regional District of Nanaimo

**MAR 05 2020**

Ian Thorpe, Chair  
and Directors  
Regional District of Nanaimo  
6300 Hammond Bay Road  
Nanaimo BC V9T 6N2

Dear Chair Thorpe and Directors:

I am pleased to respond to the July 3, 2018 submission of the Solid Waste Management Plan for the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN).

I am informed that in 2017, the RDN achieved the third lowest per capita waste disposal rate (384 kg/capita/year) of all regional districts. I am pleased to see that the updated 2018 Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) proposes even lower waste disposal targets of 109 kg/capita/year.

Ministry staff have reviewed the updated plan and accompanying documentation. The plan reflects challenges and opportunities specific to the RDN. I am pleased to see that the plan adopted the ministry's guiding principles. I am satisfied that there has been adequate public review and consultation with respect to the development, amendment and final content of the 2018 SWMP.

As indicated in the 2018 SWMP, the RDN will be requesting the Province consider a new regulation that would grant powers to the RDN to implement the mandatory waste source separation bylaw. The consideration of a new regulation is outside the scope of this SWMP review; however, ministry staff will be available to assist you in this request, as well as with the submission of any future bylaws related to the plan. I look forward to hearing more about your progress towards these regulatory initiatives.

Pursuant to Section 24(5) of the *Environmental Management Act*, I hereby approve the submitted "Regional District of Nanaimo: Solid Waste Management Plan" with the following requirements:

1. Before exercising the authority under Section 25 of the *Environmental Management Act* in the creation of bylaws to regulate the management of municipal solid waste or recyclable materials, the RDN must:
  - a) Consult with the Regional Operations Branch of the ministry; and
  - b) Engage in meaningful consultation with potentially affected stakeholders in accordance with Section 25(4) of the *Environmental Management Act*.

...2

2. The RDN must submit an update on the implementation of the proposed regulatory initiatives (including the waste source separation bylaw and the waste haulers licensing bylaw) and progress towards increasing the diversion of compostable organics to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy by August 31, 2021.
3. In accordance with Section C.3 of *A Guide to Solid Waste Management Planning*, September 2016 (the Guide), the RDN shall submit, to the satisfaction of the director, the following reports to the ministry:
  - a) A Five-Year Effectiveness Review in accordance with section C.3.3 of the Guide by January 1, 2025. In addition to the items listed in section C.3.3 of the Guide, the review must also include any waste composition studies completed during the SWMP's implementation.
  - b) Annual SWMP progress reports by March 31 of every year starting in 2021. The annual progress reports must cover the previous calendar year and include the following:
    - i. A description, including annual quantity (in tonnes) of municipal solid waste (MSW) diverted from the waste stream through the SWMP's reduction, reuse and recycling programs;
    - ii. Annual quantity (in tonnes) of MSW sent to each facility within the RDN; and
    - iii. The name and location of any facility outside the regional district that receives MSW from the RDN, and quantity (in tonnes) of MSW exported to each facility.
4. In accordance with Section 2.2 of the *2016 Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste*, the RDN must submit a conformance review for the Regional Landfill by August 31, 2021.
5. The RDN must submit a full SWMP renewal to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy by December 31, 2029.

Thank you again for your efforts to improve solid waste management in your regional district. We look forward to receiving updates as you implement your SWMP.

Sincerely,



George Heyman  
Minister

cc: Cassandra Counce, Director, South Authorizations, Environmental Protection  
Division, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy  
Randy Alexander, Engineering Environmental Services, Regional District of  
Nanaimo