

Appendix G – RDN Stage 2 Consultation Summary

TO: Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee **MEETING:** May 25, 2017

FROM: Sonam Bajwa
Special Projects Assistant **FILE:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

SUBJECT: Stage 2 Solid Waste Management Plan Consultation and Communications Summary 2017

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee receives this report for information.

SUMMARY

The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) is undertaking a review of its Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP). The current plan review is intended to chart the course for solid waste management for the next ten years. A review is carried out in a three stage process as follows:

- Stage 1: Review of the Current System
- Stage 2: Consideration and Selection of the Preferred Future Options
- Stage 3: Adoption of the Preferred Options and Development of the Implementation Schedule

Public consultation is a mandatory element of the SWMP development. On November 25, 2015, the report *RDN Solid Waste Management Plan Community Consultation Summary* was released which summarized consultation activities from initiation of the planning review in the fall of 2013 to the fall of 2015. This report is a continuation of the November 2015 report and updates consultation activities up to the end of Stage 2.

On December 1, 2016, the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee (RSWAC) endorsed the Draft Stage 2 SWMP to be released for public consultation. Subsequently, the Draft Stage 2 SWMP report was sent to a wide range of stakeholders in the region. The package included an offer for RDN staff to present or discuss the report along with a request for feedback and/or comment by the end of February.

A total of 77 different groups were contacted, including municipal councils, First Nations, business, industry, hospitality, institutions, regional districts, and community organizations. A list of those contacted for Stage 2 consultation is presented in Attachment 1 and questions and comments received during the consultation period are presented in Attachment 2. The overall response can be characterized as follows:

- Support for effort to increase commercial and multifamily diversion and increased education and enforcement.
- Support for 90% diversion goal.
- Do not support the RDN investing in a material recovery facility.
- Open to seeking additional regulatory tools, pending further detail and discussion.

BACKGROUND

The SWMP has been amended three times since provincial approval of the original Plan in 1988. The RDN fully implemented their last SWMP, which was prepared in 2004. The status of the current SWMP review is as follows:

- Stage 1 (completed) – Review and analysis of current solid waste management system, status of the 2004 Plan, and identification of issues and opportunities for improvement;
- Stage 2 (nearing completion) – Identify and review options to address the region’s future waste management requirements, select preferred options and prepared report presenting the findings;
- Stage 3 (summer/fall 2017) - Prepare a draft updated SWMP with an implementation timeline and costing, carry out a public review of the draft plan, incorporate changes from the public review and finalize the plan.

Consultation is a mandatory component of the solid waste management planning process and is critical to the creation of a plan that is supported by the public. The Ministry of the Environment (MoE) outlines the expected components of a community consultation process in their document *Guide to the Preparation of Regional Solid Waste Management Plans by Regional Districts*. In addition, the RDN has a public consultation/communication framework to ensure a consistent, comprehensive and cost-effective approach to public consultation and communication initiatives.

This framework, along with the Ministry’s guide, was used to prepare the Consultation & Communications Plan, which was presented and supported by the RSWAC and the Solid Waste Management Select Committee. An external consultant with expertise in solid waste management planning also reviewed the plan and confirmed that it is consistent with provincial requirements. A copy of the plan was also sent to the Ministry of Environment.

The Consultation & Communications Plan is intended to achieve the following objectives: ensure that the process to develop the SWMP is collaborative and reflects a broad range of perspectives; provide opportunities to educate the public about the SWMP and future options for managing waste, provide opportunities for public input on a range of options and estimated costs, increase support for the resulting solid waste management planning and programs and meet the consultation expectations of the Ministry of the Environment.

Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee

The Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee (RSWAC) plays a significant role in representing the community’s interests with the expectation that their perspectives will largely reflect those of the broader community. The RSWAC is made up of a cross section of representatives from the community and as intended to address social, business, technical and political interests.

RSWAC provides advice to the RDN Board via the Solid Waste Management Select Committee, which is made up of a subset of the Board.

The RSWAC is chaired by a non-voting RDN Board member to provide a direct link between the advisory committee and the Select Committee and Board. In 2016 the RSWAC met 9 times to discuss the SWMP update. Current membership of the RSWAC is provided in Attachment 3.

Consultation & Communications

A list of 77 groups contacted for Stage 2 consultation is presented in Attachment 1 and comments received during the consultation period are presented in Attachment 2.

Public Communications:

A number of communication tools have been employed during the SWMP update process to keep the community informed and hear their opinions, including:

- Residential Newsletters:
 - A brief introduction to the Stage 2 SWMP Highlights was included on the front page of the spring 2017 Zero Waste Newsletter mailed out to all residential homes in the RDN.
- RDN Website
 - The RDN website has a dedicated SWMP webpage that is updated regularly with information about the SWMP process. Information posted includes:
 - RSWAC agendas and minutes
 - Technical memoranda/discussion papers
- Community Events
 - Staffed information displays on the SWMP were in place at several community events:
 - Communities Protecting Our Coast - *Plastic Ocean* Film community viewing. - January 6, 2017 & January 22, 2017.
 - Water Day – March 12, 2017
 - Earth Day – April 23, 2017

Local and Regional Government Consultation:

- Municipal councils are a key stakeholder in the planning process and the Communications and Consultation Plan aims to keep the Councils informed of the Plan’s development. The Draft Stage 2 Solid Waste Management Plan highlights were presented as follows:

City of Nanaimo Council Meeting	January 23, 2017 – 7:00pm
District of Lantzville Council Meeting	January 23, 2017 – 7:00pm
RDN Special Board Meeting	January 24, 2017 – 4:30pm
City of Parksville Council Meeting	February 6, 2017 - 6:00pm
Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting	February 22, 2017 – 10:00am

The RDN received many questions from city councils, some regarding the licensing of waste haulers as agents and other options considered that are not going forward. Feedback was amenable to exploring waste haulers as agents. There was also support for mandatory source separation increased education and enforcement.

- The RDN met with Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) to discuss the options presented in Stage 2 draft of the SWMP and reached out the Comox Valley Regional District and Alberni Clayoquot Regional District as well. The CVRD was receptive to the SWMP and indicated general support.

Stakeholder Consultation:

- Local business associations:
 - The RDN sent consultation invites to local business associations in the region including downtown improvement, construction, strata owners and hotel associations.
 - The RDN presented the SWMP to the Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce on Feb 22, 2017. Comments and questions received support efforts to increase commercial and multifamily diversion.
- Vancouver Island Strata Owners Association:
 - The RDN met with the Vancouver Island Strata Owners Association on April 2, 2017.
 - Comments and questions received concerned the timeline for source separation regulation and how that might affect stratas. There was support for the SWMP overall, specifically support for an increase in education.
- Waste Industry:
 - On February 28, 2017 the RDN hosted a consultation with solid waste industry representatives. Approximately 30 people were in attendance.
 - There was a wide range of opinions from industry. Some were receptive to the fee differential provided the RDN would give more details on what it would look like. Others were firmly against the RDN investing in a Material Recovery Facility (MRF). Many were uncertain of what the SWMP would mean for the future of their business.
 - The RDN received a letter from Vancouver Island Recycling and Waste Industry Coalition highlight areas of the SWMP they support and areas they do not, included in attachment 4. Two key policy messages are:
 - 1) Local governments should not be in competition with the private sector. The role of local governments should be to adopt a target setting, education and enforcement role.
 - 2) Open and fair competition in the sector will create value for residents while keeping costs low. Industry investment in infrastructure can only happen when government sends a clear signal that it will not build competing infrastructure or restrict free trade.
- Other Stakeholders
 - The RDN reached out to a number of other stakeholders such as hotels and inns, community groups, BC Ferries, Vancouver Island University, Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) and School District 68 and 69.
 - The RDN presented to 11 VIHA Environmental Officers on January 25th, 2017. Overall comments and questions received support efforts to increase diversion from the commercial sector.
 - February 15th, 2017 North Cedar Improvement District – Receptive to the plan but suggest that there needs to be a focus on making recycling more convenient for all demographics.

First Nations Engagement:

Local First Nations have been included in the consultation process. To date they receive meeting invites to RSWAC as well as the agendas, meeting minutes and technical information.

RDN Staff hand delivered consultation invitations to Snaw-Naw-As First Nation, Qualicum First Nations and Snuneymuxw First Nation in hopes of discussing any possible implications the Draft Stage 2 SWMP report may have. No replies were received.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no Regional District of Nanaimo budget implications associated with adopting this report.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Considering the environmental impacts of solid waste aligns with the RDN Strategic Priority of protecting and enhancing our environment in all decisions under “Focus on the Environment”. The SWMP also aligns with investing in regional services that look at both costs and benefits as part of “Service and Organizational Excellence”. The consultation process presented in this report is consistent with the Ministry of Environment’s requirements for community consultation.

Sonam Bajwa
Sbajwa@rdn.bc.ca
March 16, 2017

Reviewed by:

- L. Gardner, Manager
- R. Alexander, General Manager
- P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments

1. List of Stakeholders Contacted for Stage 2 Consultations.
2. Feedback from Stage 2 Consultation
3. Current RSWAC Membership
4. Letter from VIRWC

Attachment 1 – List of Stakeholders Contacted for Stage 2 Consultations.

Stakeholder Type	Organization Name
Business Association	Downtown Nanaimo Business Improvement Association
	Better Business Bureau
	Qualicum Beach Downtown Business Association
	Downtown Parksville Business Association
	Parksville Chamber of Commerce
	Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce
	Qualicum Chamber of Commerce
Environmental Organization	Zero Waste Nanaimo
First Nations	Snaw-Naw-As First Nation
	Snuneymuxw First Nation
	Qualicum First Nation
Government Association	Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities
Hospitality Industry	BC Ferries
	Beach Acres Resort
	Best Western Dorchester Hotel
	Coast Bastion Inn
	Days Inn Nanaimo Harborview
	Howard Johnson Harbour side Hotel
	Inn on Long Lake
	Ocean Trails Resort
	Qualicum Bay Resort
	Qualicum Beach Inn
	Quality Resort Bayside
	Sand Pebbles Inn
	Seaview Beach Resort
	Shady Shores Beach Resort/Log House
	Tigh-Na-Mara Seaside Spa Resort & Conference Centre
Wheatsheaf Inn	
Industry Association	Vancouver Island Strata Owners Association
	Canadian Home Builders Association - Central Vancouver Island
	Vancouver Island Construction Association
	British Columbia Restaurant and Food Service Association
	BC Hotel Association
Municipal Partner	City of Parksville
	District of Lantzville
	City of Nanaimo
	Town of Qualicum Beach
	North Cedar Improvement District
Neighbouring Regional District	Cowichan Valley Regional District
	Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
	Comox Valley Regional District
School/Institution	Vancouver Island University
	Vancouver Island Health Authority
	NRGH Home Dialysis Program & Nanaimo Kidney Care Clinic
	School District 68
	School District 69

Service Organization	Nanaimo North Rotary
	Rotary Club of Nanaimo Daybreak
	Rotary Club of Lantzville
Waste Industry	Got Junk
	Haarsma
	DBL disposal Services
	Milner group
	Alpine disposal
	Progressive Waste Inc.
	Island Removal
	Emterra
	The Most Affordable Junk Removal
	Contain A Way Services
	Sun Coast Waste Services
	Nanaimo Exteriors
	Regional Recycling
	Carl's Metal Salvage
	Gabriola Island Recycling Organization
	Parksville Bottle Depot
	Nanaimo Organic Waste
	Earthbank Resources Systems
	Cascades Recovery Inc.
	Coast Environmental Services
Nanaimo Recycling Exchange	
Waste Management	
Super Save Group	
DJC Services	
Waste Management Association	Air and Waste Management Association, Vancouver island Chapter
	Waste Management Association of BC
	Vancouver Island Recycling and Waste Industry Coalition
	Coast Waste Management Association

Attachment 2 – Questions and comments received during Stage 2 Consultation.

Advocacy	Ontario has a requirement to reduce plastic packaging every year. Could we implement such a requirement here?	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Advocacy	Programs are needed to get manufacturers to take back and recycle their products (particularly appliances and electronics). Can RDN work with stakeholders to improve programs?	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Advocacy	Cost of recycling old drywall with asbestos is on the homeowner rather than the manufacturer.	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Advocacy	Confusion over the variety of packaging on the market. Will there come a point when all packaging can be recycled?	VISOA April 2, 2017
C&D	Recycling of Construction and Demolition waste is inconsistent, some do a good job, and some send materials to landfill. What can we do?	City of Nanaimo Council Meeting January 23, 2017
C&D	Presentation pie chart showed 2% demolition waste, believe this is higher. How can we reduce demolition waste disposal? What have other RDs done to reduce Demolition waste? Example of Richmond bylaw?	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Commercial	Comment regarding “fancy” RD facilities vs “cheap” private facilities.	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Commercial	There is some confusion about whether or not recycling is provided for businesses by the RDN.	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Curbside Services	Would the RDN endorse/support a yard waste collection program?	District of Lantzville Council Meeting January 23, 2017
Curbside Services	Interest in options to collect glass curbside, support for some service.	North Cedar Improvement District February 15, 2017
Curbside Services	Regulations are ineffective without enforcement. Enforcement needs to be fair.	North Cedar Improvement District February 15, 2017
Curbside Services	A participant thinks there is strong resident support for yard and garden pickup.	RDN Special Board Meeting January 24, 2017
Curbside Services	Glass recycling is less convenient than plastic recycling, which incentivizes plastic use. Would like to see consideration of glass recycling at curbside.	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017

Curbside Services	Can RDN undertake curbside textiles pickup?	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Curbside Services	What actually happens to the plastic that gets picked up at curbside? Is it reused/recycled?	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Depots	NRE is a great service, but it is unsightly. It needs to be cleaned up.	District of Lantzville Council Meeting January 23, 2017
Depots	Concern that the RDN’s plan to increase diversion will lead the RDN to compete with the Depot model.	Email from Depot January 26, 2017
Depots	Noted that NRE receives an RDN subsidy	District of Lantzville Council Meeting January 23, 2017
Depots	There is a gap in accessibility to recycling facilities for people who do not have a vehicle, seniors, and people with disabilities. This results in recyclable materials ending up in the waste.	North Cedar Improvement District February 15, 2017
Depots	Having to take things to recycling facilities is not convenient and results in materials ending up in the waste.	North Cedar Improvement District February 15, 2017
Education	Education is a missing gap in multi-family buildings – they do not receive the same type of information that single family homes do.	VISOA April 2, 2017
Enforcement	Support spot checks as a starting point in “fairly applying monitoring efforts” across all users.	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Funding	When residents pay their taxes, does the landfill have a line? Do residents know that their taxes are coming to the landfill?	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Funding	What happens when you lose the revenue from waste because of high diversion rates? Who covers the costs of the RDN programs and the landfill?	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Illegal Dumping	Biggest problem is illegal dumping of large items.	RDN Special Board Meeting January 24, 2017
MRF	Requested that the MMRF option be costed and compared to the model proposed in Stage 2 draft report, and that information be publically available.	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
MRF	These options give no assurance for industry and downloads burden and costs. RDN should let industry have a free market and have a greater role with more responsibility. You talk about how is government going to shrink, this doesn’t	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017

	seem like it. How do we know these options won't lead to industry insulating government? The RDN should be driving communication and education. A MRF should be an industry investment not government.	
Organics Diversion	Question about burning bans (backyard burning?)	District of Lantzville Council Meeting January 23, 2017
Other Jurisdictions	What is the status of the MetroVan waste to energy proposal?	City of Parksville Council Meeting February 6, 2017
Proposed options	Original intent of "no charge" days was to soften the blow of starting to charge. They were a big headache; do not support reintroducing "free days".	RDN Special Board Meeting January 24, 2017
RDN programs	Will taxpayers see a reduction in cost as a result of these proposals?	District of Lantzville Council Meeting January 23, 2017
RDN programs	RDN should be congratulated for recycling program.	District of Lantzville Council Meeting January 23, 2017
Source Separation	Will you implement a multi-family focus?	District of Lantzville Council Meeting January 23, 2017
Source Separation	How will we achieve 90% goal without source separation?	City of Nanaimo Council Meeting January 23, 2017
Source Separation	How would new regulatory authority help us achieve source separation (commercial and multifamily)?	City of Nanaimo Council Meeting January 23, 2017
Source Separation	Multifamily programs will continue to increase in importance with an aging population.	North Cedar Improvement District February 15, 2017
Source Separation	Some commercial users do not source separate, how can we encourage or require participation?	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Source Separation	Can the RDN implement any incentives to encourage source separations by local governments (and commercial business)?	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Source Separation	What happens to hospital waste? Would like to see more separation and recycling at hospitals.	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Source Separation	What is in the material at the landfill that can still be diverted?	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017

Source Separation	Is there material that is coming to landfill that can actual be recycled? Is there an end market for this material?	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Source Separation	If organics is such a big issue, the RDN should be educating residents.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Source Separation	Aggressive policing leads to contamination in the restaurant industry, which makes it difficult to deal with materials.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Source Separation	Education and enforcement will be an important part of making source separation work in the RDN.	VIHA Presentation January 25, 2017
Source Separation	When would this regulation be implemented, how much notice would multi-family buildings be given of the changes?	VISOA April 2, 2017
Source Separation	Would there be incentives available for stratas to invest in backyard/onsite composting.	VISOA April 2, 2017
Targets	Support for goal of increasing diversion to 90%	City of Parksville Council Meeting February 6, 2017
Targets	Consider other appropriate metrics besides % diversion (cost to taxpayer?)	RDN Special Board Meeting January 24, 2017
Targets	Questions about slide with breakdown of increasing diversion from 68% to 90%. How does 6% + 6% + 10 % work	RDN Special Board Meeting January 24, 2017
Targets	The 90% goal creates a higher cost burden on end users, resulting in illegal dumping.	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Targets	How does the RDN plan to monitor progress towards the 90% goal?	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Targets	90% is a very high target, it will be expensive and complex, and source separation puts the burden of effort on residents. Some cities collect everything, and then separate at central facilities. This reduces the burden on the individual, and may save money. Has RDN considered this approach?	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Targets	Applaud 90% diversion goal, and education component.	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Waste Haulers	Agree that private sector can be more innovative.	City of Nanaimo Council Meeting January 23, 2017

Waste Haulers	What does waste haulers as licensees mean?	City of Nanaimo Council Meeting January 23, 2017
Waste Haulers	Can waste disposal firms (haulers) dispose of waste anywhere they want to?	City of Parksville Council Meeting February 6, 2017
Waste Haulers	What does “enlisting waste haulers as licensees” mean?	City of Parksville Council Meeting February 6, 2017
Waste Haulers	What do haulers think of “licensed haulers”?	RDN Special Board Meeting January 24, 2017
Waste Haulers	How many haulers are there? Don’t like passing on costs to small business, mandating separation adds cost to small business.	RDN Special Board Meeting January 24, 2017
Waste Haulers	Based on the individual’s personal experience/observation in Ontario, caution must be used to ensure contracts with private haulers require source separation and recycling.	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Waste Haulers	The waste industry is changing as the rest of the world has caught up to North America. We can’t afford to sort recycling. We want to do everything that we can and now you are asking for money from our recycling.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	Residents need to pay the bill. Customers are paying for separate streams, but it doesn’t reduce our costs.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	Having customers separate their material leads to more greenhouse gasses as more trucks are on the road.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	Low hanging fruit, easily divertible material is in commercial and multifamily loads.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	As an industry we need a better understanding of what the haulers as agents and fee differential will look like down the line. Document needs to be more specific relating to haulers as agents and flow control.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	Hard to commit to investing in the area when there are so many open ended questions in the plan.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	Is there any other example where this has been done? (fee differential)	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017

Waste Haulers	A participant thinks the fee differential is a good idea, and it might lead to tip fee reduction in the long run.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	The fee differential is good for depots and haulers. Haulers will pay less overall, and it will be even cheaper if they have no recyclables. If it's expensive for self-haul customers to take material to the landfill they come to depots and other waste facilities in the region.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	Will there be annual licensing fee?	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	What is the difference between licensing agents and flow control?	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	Overall this is not a bad plan but the fee differential sounds like flow control. It's a great concept, but we need more details before we can support it. Need to know our investments are safe.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	Diversion leads to less money coming to the landfill in the long term. These options guarantee fees coming to the landfill, is that why you are doing this?	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	How long will landfill last? A customer should be able to take material elsewhere? Your customer service is not good.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	How will the RDN get the \$30 a tonne for waste accumulation at site if it goes to a different landfill?	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	As industry, it seems that you think we are not doing a good job at composting and recycling when we are. Why are you going in this direction with changing the fees?	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	You should have low tip fees and strongly enforced bans, and then you focus on education. That's what has worked in the past and that is what you should keep doing.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	Bans and tip fees will only work if you have everyone coming to your landfill.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	Do residents pay the same as businesses for user fees?	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	When the Metro Van bylaw was defeated, they instead gave haulers cheaper tip fees, isn't that easier and the same?	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017

Waste Haulers	There needs to be a lower tip fee and more bans at the landfill. This will drive the desired behavior without additional regulation.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	Some plastics and drywall have no recycling streams available. They must go to landfill.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Waste Haulers	How will we apply the rules evenly across the Regional District, so everyone contributes fairly?	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Waste Haulers	Can the RDN provide a list of preferred haulers in the region?	VISOA April 2, 2017
Waste Haulers	Would haulers have the ability to enforce/fine strata buildings for non-compliance	VISOA April 2, 2017
WSML	Is the audit provision why you are changing the WSML reporting to monthly not annually?	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
WSML	As a depot, we don't have tonnage details from the stewardship groups on a monthly basis.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Zero Waste	We have become a "throwaway society" products are no longer refurbished.	North Cedar Improvement District February 15, 2017
Zero Waste	What does the reference to "subsidies" in the Zero Waste Hierarchy mean?	City of Parksville Council Meeting February 6, 2017
Zero Waste	There are more than 3 R's we need to pay attention to them as well.	RDN Special Board Meeting January 24, 2017
Zero Waste	What affect would a plastic Bag Ban have on waste volumes?	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Zero Waste	Will reducing plastics use create other problems, such as increase in glass disposal at landfills?	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Zero Waste	Laminated packaging (foil/plastic/other) is becoming more prevalent and is difficult to recycle. What is being done about this?	Town of Qualicum Beach Special Council Meeting February 22, 2017
Zero Waste	Many plastics have no market so it costs money to get rid of it. No matter what the cost of landfilling is, there are some things that are not recyclable.	Waste Haulers Meeting February 28, 2017
Zero Waste	Support the targets and preferred options layed out in the plan	VIHA Presentation January 25, 2017

Attachment 3: Current RSWAC Membership

Board Representative - Chair	Alec McPherson
Board Representative – Vice Chair	Bill McKay
Community Representatives	Matthew Louie
	Wally Wells
	Dr. Jim McTaggart – Cowan
	John Finnie
	Craig Evans
	Ellen Ross
	Gerald Johnson
	Michele Green
	Amanda Ticknor
Industry Representatives	Michael Tripp
	Dean Jones
	Stewart Young Jr.
	Derek Haarsma
Not - for - profit Representatives	Jan Hastings
	Ben Geselbracht
Non-Voting Technical Advisors	
First Nation Representatives	Michael Recalma – Qualicum First Nation
	Nanoose First Nation
	Snuneymuxw First Nation
City of Nanaimo	Geoff Goodall
City of Parksville	Al Metcalf
Town of Qualicum Beach	John Marsh
District of Lantzville	Fred Spears
Ministry of Environment	Al Leaschen
Environment Canada	Karen Muttersbach
Island Health	Glenn Gibson



Maura Walker & Associates
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

June 2, 2017

Meghan Larson, Solid Waste Planner
Regional & Community Utilities & Solid Waste
Regional District of Nanaimo
6300 Hammond Bay Road
Nanaimo, BC
V9T 6N2

Dear Meghan,

Re: Review of Stage 2 Solid Waste Management Plan Consultation Efforts

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the consultation efforts undertaken to date as part of the process to update the RDN's Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan).

The planning process has completed 2 major stages:

1. An assessment of the existing solid waste management system and review of the implementation status of the current solid waste management plan, and
2. A review of options for the future, including identification of the preferred options.

According to the Ministry of Environment's Guide to Solid Waste Management Planning, the planning process should also include *"a process for comprehensive review and consultation with the public respecting all aspects of the development, amendment and final content of a waste management plan."*

The RDN has certainly responded to this direction and has engaged with the community and stakeholders in a comprehensive manner since the process to update the plan began.

In summary, the RDN continues to undertake an exceptional level of consultation by providing the general public and affected stakeholders with a range of opportunities to learn about the options under consideration. A memo prepared by RDN staff in October 2015 and another in June 2017 detail the consultation activities completed to date, which include:

- A multi-stakeholder advisory committee
- Newsletters to all households
- Meetings with affected stakeholder groups
- Presentations to community groups
- Presentations to municipal councils

- Engagement with First Nations.

I understand that additional consultation activities will be happening in the future associated with the draft version of the updated Plan. The above listed activities and those planned should easily meet the Ministry's expectation that the regional district "provide ample opportunity for the public to provide input into the proposed options, and to identify their support (or not) for each of these" (excerpt from the Guide).

In preparation for the final phase of consultation and submission of the updated Plan and Consultation Report, I'd like to draw your attention to 3 items that are part of the Ministry's plan approval checklist that may need additional attention from the RDN:

1. **Consultation Report should show how public consultation was used to influence the plan:**
Although advisory committee minutes that reflect the discussions and decisions of this committee are posted on the web, the current consultation reports lack a clear line between input received through consultation efforts and how this input influenced the selection of recommendations for inclusion in the draft plan. The final consultation report should incorporate a section that summarizes the relevant feedback and how this feedback was used (to affirm, modify or eliminate options).
2. **Clearly identify implementation provisions in sufficient detail to enable those affected by the provisions to determine their impact:** The current version of the draft plan is vague on what "waste source regulation" and "haulers as agents" are and how they would work. Since these recommendations could have significant impact on external stakeholders, it's recommended that additional details be added to these sections. Graphic images used during stakeholder consultation could be added to the draft Plan to enhance how these recommendations could work. Additional details on how a private sector mixed waste MRF will be pursued could also be added to the draft Plan.
3. **Include a process for adequate public review (and minister's approval) of the implementing bylaws, licences and other authorizing provisions:** The current version of the draft Plan lacks detail on the process to implement some of the more ambitious elements of the Plan, including those new regulatory authorities noted above. It's recommended that the draft Plan include details on the RDN's intended implementation steps, including stakeholder consultation.

I congratulate the RDN on their impressive consultation efforts to date. On-going engagement with the public and stakeholders at this level will ensure an updated Solid Waste Management Plan that is both comprehensive and supportable.

Sincerely,



Maura Walker
President