



MORRISON HERSHFIELD

Final Regional Solid Waste Management Plan for the Peace River Regional District *For Board Approval*



PEACE RIVER
REGIONAL DISTRICT

June 24, 2021

Outline and Purpose



PEACE RIVER
REGIONAL DISTRICT

- Summary of public consultation activities
- Proposed revisions to RSWMP strategies
- Board to review and approve proposed revisions to RSWMP
- Next step - Ministry submission



Public Consultation Activities

- Survey
 - Online
 - Mail
- Virtual open houses
- Promotion of consultation opportunity and Draft Plan



Draft Plan Survey

- Online survey
 - Open Feb 1 - May 7, 2021, via the Haveyoursay platform
 - Available in hard copy at the solid waste facilities
- Mail survey
 - 1,200 surveys mailed out to a random sample of residents
- Responses
 - Online survey = 216
 - Mail survey = 168



Virtual Open Houses

- Pre-recorded presentations were available online
- 16 virtual open houses with Q&A
 - Public at large (11)
 - First Nation communities (5)
- Relatively low participation with about half attended



RSWMP Structure

A total of 16 proposed strategies:

- Waste diversion
 - Reduce, reuse and recycle (6 strategies)
 - Organics diversion (2 strategies)
- Energy recovery (2 strategies)
- Residual waste management (4 strategies)
- Sustainable solid waste funding (2 strategies)



Consultation Feedback

For each strategy:

- Level of support (% agreed / % disagreed)
- Comments from the public
- How comments are addressed by the Plan
- Proposed revisions to the RSWMP



Proposed Revisions



1: Lobby for improved EPR programs in the PRRD

Level of support	NA – no survey question was specific to this question
Comments	One respondent asked for EPR for C&D waste
How addressed by the Plan	C&D materials could be included in list of materials the PRRD wish to see covered by the Recycling Regulation
Proposed revisions	No changes to strategy wording Include C&D materials in the list of new materials under the Recycling Regulation in strategy context (p.27)



Proposed Revisions (p.27 of RSWMP)



Specific issues the PRRD proposes raising with the MOE include:

- Need to improve accessibility to EPR materials collection options for rural residents. Only two of the seven member municipalities were eligible for Recycle BC funding for curbside collection of residential packaging and printed paper (PPP).
- Need to expand Recycling Regulation to also cover:
 - packaging and printed paper from the ICI sector,
 - agricultural plastics (bale wrap, baler twine, etc.),
 - agricultural hazardous waste (e.g. pesticides and animal medications),
 - other hazardous materials, such as mercury, diesel fuel, acid, household cleaners, garden products, and some pesticides, which are currently not included as regulated materials,
 - mattresses,
 - single-use plastics¹⁹,
 - construction and demolition materials.



Proposed Revisions



2: Promote and educate on the pollution prevention hierarchy

Level of support	<p>Majority support (Online: 63%, mail: 86%)</p> <p>Specific initiatives ranked in terms of importance. The top four initiatives favoured by residents in the survey include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing more information on recycling options• Placing a “share board” at each share shed• Adopting successful waste reduction campaigns used in other regions• Encouraging material and product repair activities and providing more information on recycling options
Comments	<p>Interest in reuse opportunities, education and zerowaste strategies</p>



Proposed Revisions



2: Promote and educate on the pollution prevention hierarchy

How addressed by the Plan	Supported strategies and initiatives already outlined. The Plan can identify that the PRRD will prioritize the initiatives favoured by survey respondents
Proposed revisions	<p>No changes to strategy wording</p> <p>Identify that the PRRD will prioritize the initiatives favoured by survey respondents in strategy context (p. 29)</p>



Proposed Revisions (p.29 of RSWMP)



[The PRRD will prioritize the initiatives that had strong support during the public consultation.](#)

This strategy can include but is not limited to:

- 2A. Adopt successful waste reduction campaigns used in other regions to target residents.
 - 2B. Equip each share shed with a "share board" to encourage the reuse of bulky items.
 - 2C. Host, organize, and/or support repair activities through such as repair cafés, "maker spaces", or similar in targeted communities.
 - 2D. Provide clear information on recycling options, including how to segregate materials, what happens to them, and the benefits of recycling.
 - 2E. Educate on the cost of recycling in the Region and ways costs can be reduced.
 - 2F. Adopt a procurement policy that supports the waste hierarchy
- Implement programs, where feasible. Promote and educate on the programs offered.



Year 1-10



CapEx: \$n/a
OpEx: \$10,000*

Responsibility: PRRD with support from member municipalities.

* Annual costs of \$10,000 (advertising, printing costs, supply costs, etc.)



Proposed Revisions



3: Research agricultural plastics recycling options

Level of support	Majority support (Online: 83% agree and 4% disagree, Mail: 87% agree and 3% disagree)
Comments	Many comments in support. Few with concerns that agricultural plastics recycling is too time consuming
How addressed by the Plan	Supported strategies and initiatives already outlined. The PRRD will lobby for EPR (relates to Strategy 1) and can review option to accept agricultural chemical containers as part of the household hazardous waste collection (strategy 5)
Proposed revisions	No changes to strategy wording



Proposed Revisions



4: Increase waste diversion in the ICI sector through promoting the waste hierarchy

Level of support	Slight majority support (Online: 58% agree and 27% disagree, Mail: 62% agree and 18% disagree)
Comments	Some asked for more focus on educating and promoting the principles of reducing and reusing
How addressed by the Plan	Supported strategies and initiatives already outlined. The Plan emphasizes the importance of waste diversion education, which includes the 3Rs
Proposed revisions	No changes to strategy wording.



Proposed Revisions



5: Improve collection of hazardous waste and targeted EPR materials

Level of support	Majority support (Online: 81% agree and 8% disagree, Mail: 78% agree and 8% disagree)
Comments	Comments with concerns that collection events every 3 years is not enough
How addressed by the Plan	The Plan can note that the frequency will be determined based on the pilot of permanent drop-off option and success of round-up events.
Proposed revisions	<p>No changes to strategy wording.</p> <p>To expand on the statement after the infographic for Strategy 5 on page 33: “Cost of round-up event every three years”, to also include:</p> <p><i>“The frequency will be determined based on the pilot results of permanent drop-off option and success of round-up events.”</i></p>



Proposed Revisions (p.33 of RSWMP)



This strategy can include but is not limited to:

- 5A. Identify cost-effective ways of offering mobile or periodic collection of hazardous wastes and targeted EPR materials at locations where service gaps exist. This may include partnering with stewardship or private organizations to support round-up events. PRRD will implement the temporary collection if deemed feasible.
- 5B. Investigate potential partnerships with stewardship organizations to offer permanent drop-off of hazardous wastes and targeted EPR materials at locations where service gaps exist. PRRD will pilot a permanent collection option and establish more permanent drop-off locations if it is deemed viable.

Implement programs at PRRD facilities where feasible.

Responsibility: PRRD



Year 1-10



CapEx: \$tbd*
OpEx: \$100,000**

* The investigation will determine capital costs for a permanent collection and the financial support available from stewardship organizations.

** Cost of round-up event every three years. [The frequency will be determined based on the pilot results of permanent drop-off option and success of round-up events.](#)



Proposed Revisions



6: Increase diversion of construction and demolition waste through promoting the waste hierarchy

Level of support	Majority support (Online: 84% agree and 4% disagree, Mail: 86% agree and 2% disagree)
Comments	Asked for more reuse opportunities and to implement source separation requirements and deconstruction bylaws
How addressed by the Plan	Source separation requirements was explored as an option. The need for regulatory tools can be revisited during the 5-Year effectiveness review. Initiative 6B can be revised to enable the PRRD to pilot reuse and recycling of C&D materials.
Proposed revisions	No changes to strategy wording. Revise wording of proposed action on page 34: <i>6B Investigate feasibility of reusing or recycling additional C&D materials and implement pilot when deemed feasible.</i>



Proposed Revisions (p. 34 of RSWMP)



This strategy can include but is not limited to:

- 6A. Encourage reduction and reuse of C&D materials.
- 6B. Investigate feasibility of [reusing or](#) recycling additional C&D materials, ~~such as drywall and carpets~~, and implement pilot when deemed feasible.
- 6C. Increase differential tipping fees and incentives to encourage source separate and diversion of C&D Waste.
- 6D. Provide education on the importance of source separation and diversion of C&D waste.

Implement programs at PRRD facilities, where feasible.



Year 1-10



CapEx: \$tbd*
OpEx: \$n/a

Responsibility: PRRD

**Capital costs relating to the recycling of C&D materials will be determined part of the feasibility assessment.*



Proposed Revisions



7: Establish organics processing capacity in the Region

Level of support	Majority support (Online: 79% and 7% disagree, Mail: 81% agree and 4% disagree)
Comments	Many comments in support. Suggestion to sell the compost product to help offset costs
How addressed by the Plan	In reviewing organics processing solutions, the PRRD will consider the benefits from local uses of the final compost
Proposed revisions	No changes to strategy wording



Proposed Revisions



8: Support curbside collection of compostable organics in member municipalities

Level of support	Majority support (Online: 79% and 7% disagree, Mail: 81% agree and 4% disagree)
Comments	Many comments in support.
How addressed by the Plan	Supported strategies and initiatives already outlined. The Plan states that the PRRD can work to investigate organics collection options once suitable composting solutions have been identified
Proposed revisions	No changes to strategy wording



Proposed Revisions



9: Assess suitability of technologies for energy recovery for organics in the Region

Level of support	Majority support of assessing energy from organics (Online: 67% agree and 11% disagree, Mail: 70% agree and 9% disagree) Less than a majority support cost increases (Online: 44% agree and 29% disagree, Mail: 43% agree and 27% disagree)
Comments	Concerns on costs, feedstock requirements, environmental and community impacts
How addressed by the Plan	These aspects will be considered in the feasibility assessment
Proposed revisions	No changes to strategy wording



Proposed Revisions



10: Assess suitability of technologies for energy recovery for residual waste

Level of support	Slight majority support of assessing energy from garbage (Online: 66% agree and 13% disagree, Mail: 53% agree and 13% disagree) Less than a majority support cost increases (same as for strategy 9)
Comments	Concerns on costs, feedstock requirements, environmental and community impacts
How addressed by the Plan	These aspects will be considered in the feasibility assessment
Proposed revisions	No changes to strategy wording



Proposed Residual Waste Strategies



11: Improve accessibility and efficiency of the solid waste network

Level of support	Majority support (Online: 69% agree and 12% disagree, Mail: 70% agree and 14% disagree) Many like the current level of service (Online: 48%, mail 38%) Many want better waste diversion services (Online: 42% and mail: 49%) Low support to increase costs by more than 50% (Online: 13% and mail 11%)
Comments	Concerns that tax increases would need to be justified by visibly better services Concerns and support for piloting 24 hr access to free garbage disposal
How addressed by the Plan	These concerns will be considered when reviewing accessibility and service levels
Proposed revisions	No changes to strategy wording



Proposed Residual Waste Strategies



12: Monitor the PRRD's three active landfills to continually assess long-term disposal options

Level of support	NA – no survey question was specific to this question
Comments	-
How addressed by the Plan	-
Proposed revisions	-



Proposed Residual Waste Strategies



13: Develop an illegal dumping strategy

Level of support	Majority support (Online: 88% agree and 2% disagree, Mail: 84% agree and 5% disagree)
Comments	Implement disposal bins along remote highways, offer more free disposal, enforcement and surveillance, and maintain affordable tipping fees
How addressed by the Plan	Supported strategies and initiatives already outlined. Accessibility is also addressed by strategy 11. These aspects will be considered when developing an illegal dumping strategy
Proposed revisions	No changes to strategy wording



Proposed Residual Waste Strategies



14: Develop an emergency debris management plan

Level of support	NA – no survey question was specific to this question
Comments	-
How addressed by the Plan	-
Proposed revisions	-



Proposed Solid Waste Funding Strategies



15: Set limit on recycling cost and implement other management methods as necessary

Level of support	Slight majority support (Online: 66% agree and 12% disagree, Mail: 56% agree and 14% disagree)
Comments	Concerns about environmental and costs Suggestion for local solutions for reuse and processing of recyclables
How addressed by the Plan	These concerns will be considered. A regional processing facility for recycling could be investigated during the Plan implementation or 5-Year effectiveness review
Proposed revisions	No changes to strategy wording. To include an additional sentence (p. 46): <i>"This is also the time when the PRRD can consider the need to establish a regional processing facility for recycling."</i>



Proposed Revisions (p.46 – p.47 of RSWMP)



It will be suitable to review establishing cost thresholds when the PRRD undertakes an effectiveness review after five years of Plan implementation. [This is also the time when the PRRD can consider the need to establish a regional processing facility for recycling.](#)

This strategy can include but is not limited to:

- 15A. Establish cost thresholds when alternative lower cost options ([e.g. landfilling](#)) are pursued until recycling is no longer cost prohibitive.
- 15B. Lobby for the Province to subsidize the cost of recycling when upper limits are exceeded.
- 15C. Educate on the cost of recycling in the Region and on ways costs can be reduced.

Implement cost threshold if deemed feasible.

Responsibility: PRRD



Year 6-10



CapEx: \$n/a
OpEx: \$n/a



Proposed Solid Waste Funding Strategies



16: Continually assess financial model used to fund the solid waste system

Level of support	Majority support (Online: 79% agree and 6% disagree, Mail: 82% agree and 2% disagree)
Comments	Support reviews to ensure efficient system Concerns with the cost of reviews and further increases to tipping fees
How addressed by the Plan	Having regular reviews is an important part of providing a fair and financially sustainable waste management system
Proposed revisions	No changes to strategy wording



Next Steps – Public Consultation

- Upon approval for proposed revisions, the RSWMP will be finalized
- PRRD to submit Final RSWMP for provincial government review and approval
- Upon Ministry approval, the RSWMP will require formal adoption by the Board



Questions? Comments?

Thanks for your time and input!



MORRISON HERSHFIELD

People • Culture • Capabilities

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