



REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Date: March 13, 2020

From: Paulo Eichelberger, GM Environmental Services

Subject: Solid Waste Committee Recommendations – March 5, 2020 Meeting

The following recommendations from the March 5, 2020 Solid Waste Committee meeting are presented to the Regional Board for its consideration:

RECOMMENDATION #1: *[Corporate Unweighted]*

That the Regional Board, in an effort to reduce the amount of single-use plastics coming into the waste stream, seek partners from within the region, through a Request for Interest (RFI), to contribute to 100% of the purchase costs of multi-use bags or totes to be split evenly amongst the partners, in exchange for their branding/logo to be printed on the bags or totes.

RECOMMENDATION #2: *[Corporate Weighted]*

That the Regional Board increase Industrial-Commercial-Institutional disposal fees by 1%, plus Consumer Price Index to a total of 3.3%; further, that disposal fees for clean fill soils be charged at \$5.00 per tonne for 2020.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

Recommendation 1 – Single Use Plastics

Single-use plastics constitute more than 40% of the plastic stream from the market in British Columbia. As a means to reduce these materials from entering the landfill, an offset strategy has been developed. The intention of the strategy is to tie plastics recycled in the PRRD to a multi-use product used by its residents within the region, as a means of reducing single-use items. The current scope is to use multi-use bags or totes that are made from 100% recycled plastics to show a circular economy, and help prevent further single-use plastics from entering the landfills - reducing the overall impact to the environment.

The strategy involves having the PRRD work with local businesses to partner for the purchase of the multi-use bags or totes. The benefit to the partners is that they will receive affordable advertisement and a portion of the bags purchased for their customers.

Recommendation 2 – Changes to Disposal Fees for Industrial-Commercial-Institutional (ICI) Customers

ICI waste received at the Bessborough, Chetwynd, and North Peace Regional Landfills makes up approximately 75% of the total waste received. In 2018, a Waste Composition Study (WCS) was conducted that provided an analysis of what is being taken to the landfills. Waste generated from the ICI sectors comes from a variety of sources which include, but are not limited to, commercial haulers, restaurants, hotels, businesses, schools, work camp waste, light industrial facilities, hospitals, etc.

Soils are currently accepted free of charge. There is potential to generate revenue by charging a disposal fee for soils brought into the landfills. Potential revenue, if charged at \$5.00 per tonne, would be approximately \$137,890 per year.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- ☒ Responsive Service Delivery

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

Recommendation 1: Previously, the PRRD had sourced a bag made from 100% recycled materials; however, the supplier no longer has access to that product. Staff have located a Canadian supplier for a similar product; pricing from this supplier will need to be confirmed. At this time no funding has been allocated. If, through the RFI process, it is found that there is enough interest from local partners then there would be no cost to the PRRD. If there are no interested partners, then the PRRD could choose not to proceed or fund the initiative 100% at that time.

Recommendation 2: Currently in the Solid Waste Regulation and Fee Bylaw No. 2342, 2018 (SW Fee bylaw), there is not a different fee schedule for ICI customers and their waste. At 3.3% increase to ICI rates, the Regional District could recover approximately \$128,080. Coupled with the estimate for soil, this represents an approximate total added revenue of \$265,970.

Disposal fee for soils would be included into the bylaw.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None.