



REPORT

To: Solid Waste Committee

Report Number: ENV-SWC-035

From: Paulo Eichelberger, GM of Environmental Services

Date: March 4, 2021

Subject: Draft Regional Solid Waste Management Plan – Consultation Update

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Solid Waste Committee receive the report titled “Draft Regional Solid Waste Management Plan – Consultation Update – ENV-SWC-035”, which updates members on the progress of the Public Consultation phase of the Draft Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Renewal project, for information.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The Draft Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP) was approved on Dec 11, 2020, by the Regional Board to move to the Public Consultation phase. This report is intended to provide an update on the progress of the Public Consultation phase:

1. Combination of online and hard copy surveys to be used as an alternative public consultation technique, with survey links forwarded to member municipalities to increase the level of reach to the public.
 - a. Survey was finalized and issued on the new PRRD website communications platform, <https://haveyoursay.prrd.bc.ca/> on February 2, 2021 – scheduled to run for 6 weeks.
 - b. Links were forwarded to all member municipalities and all in-region First Nations that utilize the PRRD’s solid waste sites.
2. A combination of virtual open houses and town hall meetings.
 - a. Currently virtual open houses are scheduled between April 12, 2021 and April 29, 2021. These open houses will be broken into 16 sessions for the public (see table under Communications Considerations).
 - b. These open houses will be held via Zoom. It should be noted that these open houses are unrestricted, meaning that the sessions provide the opportunity for anyone to attend one or more of these events, regardless of the location.
3. A targeted mail-out survey – will be sent out in April 2021.

Once the public consultation phase is completed:

1. All comments will be reviewed and compiled into a public consultation report; then,
2. Key themes from the consultation will be incorporated into the renewed Plan; and finally,
3. Both documents will be presented to the Solid Waste Committee and Regional Board for consideration, prior to submission to the B.C. Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Solid Waste Committee provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- ☒ Responsive Service Delivery
- ☒ Review and Amend Solid Waste Management Plan

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time. Funds already captured in the 2021 Draft Financial Plan

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

All open houses will be virtual, due to the public health restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The open house schedule is listed below, subject to change.

Target Communities	Date	Time
Dawson Creek	Thursday, April 8, 2021	1:00 PM
Fort St. John	Saturday, April 10, 2021	2:00 PM
Chetwynd	Monday, April 12, 2021	11:00 AM
Hudson's Hope	Wednesday, April 14, 2021	9:30 AM
Tumbler Ridge	Wednesday, April 14, 2021	3:30 PM
Pouce Coupe	Thursday, April 15, 2021	7:30 PM
Taylor	Monday, April 19, 2021	12:00 PM
Electoral Area B	Tuesday, April 20, 2021	7:30 PM
Electoral Area C	Wednesday, April 21, 2021	9:30 AM
Electoral Area D	Thursday, April 22, 2021	12:00 PM
Electoral Area E	Friday, April 23, 2021	9:30 AM
Doig River First Nations	Monday, April 26, 2021	11:00 AM
Halfway River First Nations	Tuesday, April 27, 2021	1:00 PM
Blueberry River First Nations	Wednesday, April 28, 2021	9:30 AM
West Moberly First Nations	Wednesday, April 28, 2021	3:00 PM
Saulteau First Nations	Thursday, April 29, 2021	11:00 AM

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

Staff entertained the idea of adding in an informational video providing an overview of the Plan, which would be posted on "Have Your Say," however, this would result in an additional cost of \$8,500 to the project. Should the Committee consider this option, the monies can be applied to the COVID relief fund, in the same manner as additional cost of \$5,000 for the solid waste surveys that was approved in December 2020.