

COMOX STRATHCONA WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes from the meeting held on March 26, 2020 by teleconference, 1-877-385-4099
Courtenay, BC, commencing at 1:30 pm

PRESENT:

C. Postings, CAO	Village of Cumberland
S. Ashfield, Municipal Engineer	Town of Comox
R. Crisfield, Manager of Operations	Village of Cumberland
J. Humphreys, Environmental Services Coordinator	SRD
M. Rutten, General Manager of Engineering Services	CVRD
C. Wile, Manager of External Relations	CVRD
J. Lee, Manager of CSWM Operations	CVRD
S. Valdal, Services Coordinator	CVRD
J. Wallis, Branch Assistant	CVRD

ITEMS:

Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes of the February 27, 2020 Comox Strathcona Waste Management Advisory Committee meeting and no errors or omissions were noted.

Draft staff report: Closing on Statutory Holidays Update

J. Lee provided an overview of the above noted report, including the extension of the statutory holiday landfills closure date from June 30, 2020 to January 1, 2021, to allow municipalities and haulers more time to revise their residential garbage and recycling collection schedules and provide this information to the public.

Advisory Comments: In response to a question regarding the impact of the statutory closure on staff, it was clarified that statutory landfill closures meant a full closure of both the Comox Valley and Campbell River landfills to public and commercial traffic. Critical components would continue to operate remotely.

Draft Staff report: Tipping Fee Waiver Policy

S. Valdal provided an overview of the above noted report, including a summary of the previous and proposed Non-Profit Reuse Tipping Fee Subsidy policy that supports eligible organizations with waste diversion efforts. This report will go forward to the April 16, 2020 CSWM Board meeting with a recommendation to approve the report's Appendix A revised Non-Profit Reuse Tipping Fee Subsidy policy and to allocate an annual tipping fee subsidy budget of \$25,000.

Verbal Update on COVID-19 Response

M. Rutten provided an overview of the measures being taken and the challenges experienced by the solid waste service, in order to protect landfill staff and public during the COVID-19 outbreak.

- The service is struggling with high traffic at both the Campbell River and Comox Valley landfills. Although operations at these facilities remain the same, some of the smaller facilities and transfer station hours of operation have been modified to support local areas.
- Implemented for the safety of all persons, is the limited use of cash handling, personal distancing, and cleaning of equipment.
- Messaging to the public includes website, social media, press releases and radio communications. The main message is for people to only bring materials to the landfill that are essential for disposal.

Advisory Comments: In response to a question regarding services provided by Recycle BC, CVRD staff confirmed that they had not heard of any plans by Recycle BC to suspend services. Solid waste will continue to monitor their ability to accept program material.

M. Rutten updated that staff would be reaching out to another region who had temporarily lost their recycling services to learn how they subsequently dealt with their recycle material.

In response to a question whether the Sayward ‘clean-up’ will proceed, CVRD staff advised that, although the Sayward ‘clean-up’ event in April is currently going forward, this decision would be revisited at the end of this week. (Subsequent to the advisory meeting the event was cancelled)

Municipal Service/Project Updates:

No municipal updates were provided.

GENERAL:

The next Comox Strathcona Waste Management Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for June 4, 2020, at 1:30 pm.

TERMINATION:

The meeting terminated at 1:51 pm.

Recorded by:

Certified correct:

J. Wallis
Engineering Services Branch Assistant

Marc Rutten, P.Eng.
General Manager of Engineering Services