

# **BOARD REPORT**

**Chair and Directors** TO: File No: 5360 01 **SUBJECT:** Inclusion of Commercial Recycling in the Recycle BC program Report from Ben Van Nostrand, Team Leader, Environmental Health **DESCRIPTION:** Services dated December 19, 2018. Commercial Recycling Programs in the CSRD. **RECOMMENDATION #1:** THAT: the Board authorize staff to send a letter to the Minister of Environment requesting the Recycle BC Stewardship program be amended to include commercially generated recycling. **SHORT SUMMARY:** At the CSRD's Solid Waste Management Plan Monitoring Advisory Committee (PMAC) meeting held on November 19, 2018, the PMAC recommended that the CSRD Board write a letter to the Minister of Environment requesting that commercial recycling be included in the Recycle BC program.  $\boxtimes$ LGA Part 14 Stakeholder Unweighted Weighted **VOTING:** Corporate (Unweighted) Corporate (Weighted)

#### **BACKGROUND:**

In October of 2018, Recycle BC, the stewardship group responsible for the management of printed paper and packaging (PPP), submitted a revised stewardship plan to the Ministry for approval. The CSRD recently renewed its agreement with Recycle BC for the operations of the CSRD recycling depot network. One of the challenges in administering the program is the requirement to ensure the depot operators and staff are not accepting commercially generated materials for recycling. This in turn causes challenges for businesses to recycle their materials. These materials are the same products accepted from residents at depots.

CSRD staff has worked to implement options at the local level to collect and manage commercial PPP at CSRD landfills. However, given the recent changes in worldwide recycling markets, the cost to manage PPP has increased and the availability of local receiving facilities for PPP has decreased. CSRD staff continue to work with the receiving facility in Kelowna, Cascades Recovery, which is the only receiving facility for PPP that currently accepts commercially generated PPP. The confusion and challenges created by the Ministry of Environment's policies, which do not provide options for including commercially generated PPP into the Recycle BC stewardship program, are resulting in increased costs for local governments and decreased recycling options for commercial businesses in BC.

## CSRD Recycling Depot Network Update

In 2015, the CSRD's recycling depot network transferred over to the Recycle BC (formerly known as Multi-Materials BC). With this transition, unstaffed single stream collection at depots were replaced with staffed depot sites with hours of operation, and the requirement to separate recycling into multiple streams. Recycling depots located at the Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band (LSLIB) and the Kicking Horse Mountain Resort did not move to the Recycle BC system. The materials being collected at these

two sites are essentially considered commercial and as previously stated, the challenges associated with managing commercial materials is problematic. As such, staff has recently engaged in discussions with Recycle BC and the LSLIB to create, as per Recycle BC's stated policy goals, a recycling depot that conforms to Recycle BC depot criteria. Based on feedback from both LSLIB and Recycle BC, CSRD staff is optimistic that a Recycle BC depot will be established at the LSLIB in 2019.

CSRD staff is currently working with the Kicking Horse Mountain Resort to better understand how recycling is collected and managed there. A cursory review indicates that the existing system is primarily serving commercial businesses at the resort. CSRD staff will continue to work with the resort to develop and deliver enhanced recycling operations and bring forward recommendations for changes in 2019.

# <u>Changes to Recycle BC's Stewardship Plan – Update from the May Board Meeting</u>

At the May 2018 Board meeting, the Board authorized staff to send a letter to Recycle BC, outlining concerns regarding its updated stewardship plan criteria limiting the inclusion of new curbside programs, which would impact options for Area C and the District of Sicamous. In October 2018, staff was encouraged to see the Recycle BC plan update submission to the Ministry of Environment highlighted the following:

"To address local governments' concerns regarding eligibility criteria for receiving recycling services the program plan now states that local communities that have had a curbside garbage collection program in place for at least two years prior to the proposed introduction of curbside recycling be eligible to join the Recycle BC program, provided other applicable criteria is met. The program plan also contains a new commitment to develop an equivalency definition for communities with 5,000 residents that does not require incorporation as a criteria for eligibility and commits that upon completion of its current expansion phase, to conduct a province-wide depot accessibility assessment to determine the adequacy of depot coverage."

Should the residents of Area C choose to advance a curbside collection program in the future, it appears that the recycling services may be funded by Recycle BC at some point in the future.

## **POLICY:**

The proposed changes are consistent with solid waste management policies, plans and practices.

## **FINANCIAL:**

A letter from the Board will request that the Minister require the inclusion of commercially generated PPP in Recycle BC's stewardship plan.

# **KEY ISSUES/CONCEPTS:**

Changes to global recycling markets have impacted many local governments in BC and across North America. The prohibiting of commercially generated PPP places undue burden on local governments and private businesses in BC.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION:**

The CSRD will continue to work with Recycle BC to ensure the depot program continues to be successfully implemented.

## **DESIRED OUTCOMES:**

The Board endorse the recommendation to send a letter to the Minister of Environment requesting commercially generated recycling be included into the Recycle BC stewardship plan.

# **BOARD'S OPTIONS:**

- 1. Endorse the Recommendation.
- 2. Deny the Recommendation.
- 3. Defer.
- 4. Any other action deemed appropriate by the Board.

# LIST NAME OF REPORT(S) / DOCUMENT(S) AVAILABLE FROM STAFF:

# **Report Approval Details**

Document Title:	Commercial PPP Recycling.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Dec 20, 2018

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Darcy Mooney - Dec 20, 2018 - 12:49 PM

Lynda Shykora - Dec 20, 2018 - 2:06 PM

No Signature - Task assigned to Charles Hamilton was completed by assistant Lynda Shykora

Charles Hamilton - Dec 20, 2018 - 2:12 PM