



July 3, 2018

Honorable George Heyman
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
PO Box 9047
STN PROV GOV
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Heyman:

Re: Regional District of Nanaimo, Solid Waste Management Plan

On behalf of the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) Board of Directors, I am pleased to submit the Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment (Plan) for your consideration. The RDN has prepared the Plan as required by the Environmental Management Act. The Plan sets out a ten year vision on how the RDN proposes to manage municipal solid waste and recyclable materials with a goal of diverting waste. This submission is an amendment to the RDN's current Solid Waste Management Plan approved in 1988.

The vision supported by the Board and the Minister in 2004 set the RDN to be a world leader on the path to Zero Waste, achieving 68% waste diversion with an annual per capita disposal rate of 347 kg. This amendment will continue the legacy with a 90% waste diversion target and an annual per capita disposal rate of 109 kg.

What sets this Plan apart, is the detailed roadmap to achieve the unprecedented 90% diversion rate. Strategies include the continuation and enhancement of existing programs, and the introduction of new innovative programs which are mandatory waste source separation regulation and Waste Hauler Licensing.

Extensive consultation throughout the three stages of plan development have shown a great deal of support for the diversion target, proposed strategies and finances of the Plan. The consultation reports for Stage 2 and Stage 3 can be found in Appendix G and H of the Plan, respectively.

Of the proposed programs included in the Plan, the largest increase in diversion, estimated at 10%, is expected to come from the synergy of mandatory waste source separation and waste hauler licensing program. Both of these programs require additional authority to be granted to the RDN from the Province. Following approval of these authorities under the Plan, the RDN recognizes that there is a requirement for additional consultation on the development of bylaws and subsequent Provincial approval.

As recyclables and compostables represent almost 80% of the commercial waste stream, waste source separation regulation will help ensure these materials are not landfilled. This proposed regulation would require businesses, institutions, and multi-family residences to have provisions for separated refuse, recyclables and organic waste.

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The intent of the Waste Hauler Licensing is to promote the “business of diversion” and foster industry innovation to achieve the lowest system cost with the highest waste diversion, and will apply to any business transporting another parties’ waste for profit.

As per *A Guide to Solid Waste Management Planning* you will find attached a completed *Checklist for Plan Review and Approval*, the Board resolution approving the Plan, a consultation summary in Appendix H of the Plan and an endorsement letter from a neighboring regional district included in the consultation summary.

If you or your staff should have any questions about the attached Plan, please contact Larry Gardner, Solid Waste Manager, Solid Waste Services by telephone at 250-390-6539 or email at lgardner@rdn.bc.ca.

Sincerely,



William Veenhof
Chair

cc:

Phyllis Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer, RDN

Randy Alexander, General Manager, Regional and Community Utilities, RDN

Larry Gardner, Manager, Solid Waste Service , RDN