



**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PUBLIC & TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, November 21, 2023
1975 Field Road, Sechelt, B.C.**

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER 3:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Adoption of Agenda

MINUTES

2. Adoption of the Meeting Minutes from October 24, 2023

Annex A
pages 2-3

PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS

3. Memo 2: CDR and Non-sector Specific Issues
Morrison Hershfield

Annex B
Pages 4-
25

COMMUNICATIONS

4. PTAC Feedback from October Meeting
Manager Solid Waste Services

Annex C
Pages 26-
29

5. Bylaw discussion
Chair John Sutherland

Verbal

6. Tourism Waste
Michael Ernst and Chair John Sutherland

Annex D
Pages 30-
33

NEXT MEETING: January 2024

ADJOURNMENT:

**SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PUBLIC AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN PUBLIC AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE CEDAR ROOM, 1975 FIELD ROAD, SECHELT, BC

PRESENT:

(Voting Members)

Chair
Vice Chair
Members

J. Sutherland
D. Reeve
J. Walton
M. Ernst
N. Brenchley
P. Robson
S. Selzer
S. Van Poppelen

ALSO PRESENT:

(Non-Voting)

Manager, Solid Waste Services
Solid Waste Operations Coordinator
Recorder

M. Sole
A. Patrao
R. Newland

REGRETS:

Director, Electoral Area E
Members

D. McMahon
A. Joe
E. Machado

CALL TO ORDER

3:38 p.m.

AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as presented.

MINUTES

The minutes of the June 6, 2023, Solid Waste Management Plan Public and Technical Advisory Committee meeting were accepted as circulated.

PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**Potential Waste Prevention and Diversion Strategies for Residential and ICI Sectors**

Veronica Bartlett, representative of Morrison Hershfield, provided a presentation on the Potential Waste Prevention and Diversion Strategies for Residential and ICI Sectors, which included the following:

- Six potential waste prevention and diversion strategies.
 - Discussion included:
 - Importance of feedback and discussion.
 - Clarification around hauler vs business licenses.
 - Variable tipping fees vs material bans.

- Three stream collection system (Recycling, Organics and Waste to be mandatorily sorted and separated.
 - Implementation of enforcement for solid waste diversion regulations.
 - Opportunities for education events and outreach for residential and commercial.
- Potential impacts from strategies.
 - Discussion included, the potential cost, staffing, diversion, GHG impacts and local employment opportunities.
- Next Steps.
 - Discussion included, future meeting topics such as, construction and demolition waste and non-sector specific issues, disposal options and system financing.

REPORTS

What We Heard Memo from Morrison Hershfield

Veronica Bartlett, representative of Morrison Hershfield, provided a memo as preparation work for this meeting for members to be informed and up to date.

Waste Prevention and Diversion Strategies Memo from Morrison Hershfield

Veronica Bartlett, representative of Morrison Hershfield, provided a memo as a supporting document for the presentation given on the topic.

COMMUNICATIONS

Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) motion for ICI Packaging and Paper Products Recycling Regulation Updates

PTAC was notified of the UBCM motion.

Landfill Composition Study based on 2022 audits.

As per John Sutherland, Committee Chair, PTAC was presented with a summary of the Study.

Landfill Site Tour Options

As per John Sutherland, Committee Chair, PTAC was presented with the option to attend a Landfill site tour, providing proper PPE is worn and site precautions are taken.

This topic will be discussed again in upcoming meetings as scheduling options become available.

NEXT MEETING

November 21, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

5:35 p.m.

MEMORANDUM



TO: Marc Sole

FROM: Veronica Bartlett,
Morrison Hershfield

Sunshine Coast Regional District

PROJECT No.: 220277800

RE: Memo 2 Potential Waste Prevention and Diversion
Strategies to Address CDR sector waste and other
issues

DATE: November 15, 2023

X:\PROJ\2022\220277800-SCRD SWMP REVIEW AND UPDATE\08. WORKING\CDR AND NON-SECTOR SPECIFIC ISSUES MEMO\2023-NOV-15 SCRD DRAFT OPTIONS_CDR AND NON-SECTOR-SPECIFIC ISSUES MEMO_FINAL.DOCX

This Memorandum (Memo) discusses waste prevention and diversion strategies in the construction, demolition, and renovation (CDR) sector and strategies that are not specific to any sector. This Memo summarizes initiatives already undertaken by the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD), and potential strategies and options the SCRD may want to take to prevent waste and improve diversion. This memo includes background information (Section 1), potential waste prevention and diversion strategies (Section 2), potential impacts from strategies (Section 3), and next steps (Section 4).

1 BACKGROUND

Under the *BC Environmental Management Act*, regional districts are required to have a solid waste management plan (SWMP), which must be developed following the solid waste management planning guidelines provided by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (the MOE) for content and process.

The SCRD is updating the region's SWMP and commissioned Morrison Hershfield (MH) to support the planning process. To seek feedback from the Public and Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC), MH is developing a series of technical memos.

MH presented the first Memo titled, "Current System Review" to the PTAC at their April 25, 2023 meeting. Many emerging issues and opportunities were identified in the Memo and by PTAC members. The SCRD has also gathered feedback from the public and interested parties via an online feedback form on key priorities and topics to cover in the SWMP update during Engagement Period 1.

A combined list of issues and opportunities is summarized in the Memo titled, "What we heard on Guiding Principles and emerging issues and opportunities during Engagement Period 1 of the SWMP update", dated August 25, 2023, that will be considered as part of the SWMP update.

The series of technical memos focus on the following solid waste topics:

- "Potential Waste Prevention and Diversion Strategies to consider for the Residential and Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) sectors" which was finalized on October 18, 2023, and presented to the PTAC at their October 24, 2023 meeting.
- Construction, Demolition & Renovation Sectors and non-sector-specific issues, covered by this memo.
- Disposal options and system financing.

Feedback on all Memos will be considered as MH develops a final Memo outlining "Preferred Strategies" that will support the SWMP update which will be brought back to the public for engagement.

2 POTENTIAL WASTE PREVENTION AND DIVERSION STRATEGIES AND INITIATIVES

Many emerging issues and opportunities were identified in the Current System Review undertaken by MH, and by the PTAC and the public. The first six potential strategies for waste prevention and diversion were discussed at the PTAC meeting on October 24, 2023, and a follow up survey helped understand how PTAC members prioritised these strategies. The results will be presented at the November 21 PTAC meeting before discussing potential strategies in this second Memo about waste prevention and diversion strategies.

Figure 1 presents the next six potential strategies that are discussed in this memo (Strategies 7 -12). The strategy numbering builds on numbering in the last memo.

Each potential strategy is discussed in terms of the following questions. Why is this issue important? Are there relevant examples of successful strategies/ actions from elsewhere? What would the strategy involve?

The potential impacts of each strategy are identified at a high-level in Section 4. The impacts are ranked as low, medium and high, and a more detailed impact evaluation will take place if there is an interest from the PTAC to discuss a strategy further as part of short-listed (preferred) strategies.



Figure 1: Overview of Potential Waste Prevention and Diversion Strategies Discussed in this Memo (CDR sector and non-sector specific)

Strategy 7: Improve CDR Waste Prevention and Diversion

The *BC Local Government Act* gives authority to local governments to regulate construction, alteration, repair, and demolition of buildings. The SCRD's 2011 SWMP identified strategies and financial incentives to encourage deconstruction and CDR material salvaging. No progress further than prohibiting specific materials from disposal has been made to date on this strategy (SWMP 2011 Initiative no. 13).

The SCRD promotes deconstruction and recycling of valuable material through a dedicated website¹ that shares information on the Sunshine Coast Builder's Association, Metro Vancouver's Deconstruction and Demolition Toolkit, the Salvage Market, and Living Building Challenge Red List for construction industry.

Instead of deconstruction and demolishing a building, homes can also be relocated to a new location where the structure is reused and upgraded. The SCRD building bylaw No. 687 does allow for home relocation if the buildings meet the minimum structural requirements of the code when complete.

Renewal Home Development has worked with Lighthouse and Nickel Brothers to relocate homes and they estimate that 20% of the 3,800 single family homes slated for demolition each year across coastal BC are viable for relocation^{2,3}.

The project described on the next page provides an excellent example how home relocation can assist developers and builders to save time and optimize density, enable responsible building removal, divert landfill waste and provide affordable buildings. There is opportunity for the SCRD and member municipalities to partner look at if building relocation can be further encouraged in the region, either within or between coastal communities.

¹ <https://www.scrd.ca/construction-and-recycling>

² [Home Waste Prevention Strategy: Municipal Action Plan, Renewal Home Development has worked with Lighthouse and Nickel Bros.](#)

³ <https://www.renewaldevelopment.ca/opportunities>

Building Relocation Example

Built in 1912, the 1,900 sq. ft Little Yellow School House auxiliary building was slated for demolition by the Vancouver School Board to make space for a new Henry Hudson Elementary.

Instead of being demolished, the Squamish Nation (Sk̓wxwú7mesh Úxwumixw) in partnership with Renewal Development and Nickel Bros worked to save, relocate, modernize and repurpose the building as an early childhood language immersion Learning Nest on the Xwméłch'tstn Reserve in North Vancouver.

The Squamish Nation, led by principles of low carb on development, circularity and being responsible stewards of our natural resources stepped forward to request to rescue, relocate and repurpose the Little Yellow School House.

The Vancouver School Board re-allocated their \$80,000 demolition and abatement budget to the Nation. The Squamish Nation, in essence, provided a sustainable building removal service¹.

The SCRD currently diverts the following CDR materials from landfilling:

- Gypsum (not containing asbestos)
- Clean wood
- Contaminated wood waste (not included as landfill diversion).

Gypsum (not containing asbestos) is accepted at the Pender Harbour Transfer Station and the Sechelt Landfill. A contractor transports the materials to the Vancouver area for recycling.

Clean wood waste is accepted at Salish Soils in Sechelt and at the Pender Harbor Transfer Station. The wood is chipped and sent to the cogeneration facility at Howe Sound Pulp and Paper.

Contaminated wood waste (treated/dirty wood) is chipped and used at the landfill for road base and cover material. The quantities of woodchips used on site at the landfill are not included when the SCRD reports on diverted tonnages.

Land clearing debris is not accepted at SCRD facilities and may remain on the property of origin where it may be processed or stored, or it can be burned outside with permit during specific times of year. As per *SCRD Zoning Bylaw No. 722, 2022*, facilities within Industrial Six (I6) can store and process land clearing waste for resource recovery like pulp mill fuel products, mulch, and other uses.

Table 1 shows the CDR waste materials accepted at SCRD facilities and the current tipping fees applied. Many materials are prohibited from disposal, as per *SCRD Sanitary Landfill Site Bylaw 405, 1994*.

Table 1: CDR Waste Materials Accepted SCRD Facilities

Controlled Waste ⁴	Facility	Tipping Fee	Tonnages disposed (2022)
Gypsum (clean, unused or asbestos free gypsum/drywall)	Sechelt Landfill Pender Harbour Transfer Station	\$1,000 per tonne	0
Asphalt	Sechelt Landfill Pender Harbour Transfer Station	\$275 per tonne	0
Concrete	Sechelt Landfill Pender Harbour Transfer Station	\$275 per tonne	13
Asbestos, asbestos cement	Sechelt Landfill	\$275 per tonne	0
Treated/dirty wood waste (excl. creosote wood)	Sechelt Salish Soils Depot Pender Harbour Transfer Station	\$265 per tonne	0
Roofing	Sechelt Landfill Pender Harbour Transfer Station	\$190 per tonne	671
Clean wood	Sechelt Salish Soils Depot Pender Harbour Transfer Station	\$170 per tonne	0
Dirt & rocks	Sechelt Landfill Pender Harbour Transfer Station	\$105 per tonne	45
Total disposed CDR waste			729

CDR waste makes up 6% (729 tonnes) of the SCR D's total tonnes of landfilled waste annually (12,239 tonnes were disposed at the Sechelt Landfill in 2022). There are CDR materials that are disposed as part of ICI materials and this portion is estimated to be higher.

The 2022 two-part waste composition study conducted by XCG Consulting Limited (XCG) in May and October 2022, showed that in terms of wood and metal building materials, the overall waste composition of residential self-haul and commercial waste was 4% for these materials, whereas the residential curbside waste stream contained 7% building materials. The largest portion of building materials in curbside waste stream was 12% from Areas D, E, F (D & E north of Highway 101), which is likely a reflection of the distance to the Sechelt Landfill and Pender Harbour Transfer Station.

For other sources from self-haul customers and commercial sources, building materials (e.g., wood, gypsum, textiles and other materials, such as bricks, tarps, paper and plastic sheeting) made up a total of 12% of the overall waste⁵.

CDR Waste Materials Prohibited from Disposal (as per SCR D Bylaw 405):

- Gypsum board potentially contaminated with asbestos
- Stumps
- Land clearing debris
- Lumber, timber, logs, etc. (>3.5 m)
- Lumber, demolition materials, and timber (> 0.25 m²)

⁴ Controlled waste - municipal solid waste requiring special handling at the landfill site.

⁵ [2023-JAN-31 Solid Waste Composition Study.pdf](#)

Regulatory Options to Improve CDR Waste Prevention and Diversion

The SCRCD could work with its member municipalities to develop new programs and policies to help improve CDR waste prevention (e.g., building relocation) and CDR separation and recycling.

A CDR waste prevention and diversion program can be developed and implemented as a combined effort led and supported by the regional district but implemented and enforced by member municipalities. The examples below present a mix of both bylaws and programs at the regional level, and resources (templates) for municipalities to 'adopt and adapt' for their own bylaws and programs:

- **Materials segregation requirements for construction and demolition permits and material bans:** Although discussed in the previous memo, clear landfill disposal bans can be important to support bylaws that encourage deconstruction and salvage.
- **Salvage, recycling, and deconstruction bylaw:** The SCRCD can partner with member municipalities to develop a bylaw, such as a CDR waste diversion bylaw, aimed to encourage reuse and recycling of building materials or deconstruction of buildings.

The municipal permitting process can encourage home relocation and deconstruction. For example, a pre-demolition assessment form can be required, which makes the applicants assess a home slated for removal for relocation and deconstruction. However, according to SCRCD, only between 7 – 10 buildings have been demolished with SCRCD demolition permits each year between 2021 and 2023. The majority of these were older poorly built, fire damaged homes or for the removal and replacement of mobile homes. Relocation opportunities within the SCRCD may be limited. The SCRCD estimates that only two permits are issued every year for moved-in (relocated) houses into the region.

Resources required to maintain programs may be a concern to member municipalities. There are opportunities to overcome this such as the fees associated with the demolition permit application process can help fund bylaw enforcement. For example, the City of Richmond appointed one position and the salary is covered by fees raised through permit applications. More analysis would be required to understand costing and staffing impacts, recognizing SCRCD is a smaller jurisdiction.

Municipalities can require a demolition deposit for all single-family homes (often \$15,000 - \$20,000). This deposit is returned if the applicant proves the home was relocated or deconstructed and salvaged. The deposit is returned if the applicant demonstrates the home was not suitable for either relocation or deconstruction through an assessment. The deposit should only be kept if the applicant confirms the home was suitable for relocation or deconstruction and they chose to proceed with machine demolition regardless⁶.

The District of Squamish has a demolition waste diversion bylaw where \$20 per square metre of the building refundable fee is charged. This fee is refunded when 80% or more of the waste is diverted. When the material is sold or donated for reuse, 2 times the diversion credit is applied⁷.

There is also an opportunity to write into a bylaw that any fines for non-compliance go towards program development or staffing. For example, this could come from materials segregation requirements or material bans.

⁶ [Home Waste Prevention Strategy: Municipal Action Plan, Renewal Home Development has worked with Lighthouse and Nickel Bros.](#)

⁷ [Construction and Demolition Waste - District of Squamish](#)

Potential Action
7A: Develop a salvage, recycling, and/or deconstruction bylaw in partnership with municipalities '.
7B: Collaborate with member municipalities to ensure regulations support home relocation.

Options to Improve CDR Waste Prevention and Diversion Through Education

Further support may be provided to the member municipalities through technical assistance with adapting and adopting the policies, educational information and training (i.e., for salvage assessments, contractor training). Education and training can be crucial for understanding of and uptake of new program or policies. Some opportunities for the SCRD include:

- **CDR working group:** The SCRD may want to develop a CDR working group with representatives from local municipalities, contractors, and other CDR industry parties. This group can be beneficial for dispersing resources, providing education, and developing new resources for municipalities. There is an opportunity to develop educational materials to inform residents and businesses on the impact of CDR materials in the area and on the environment. This initiative can help to reduce CDR materials going to landfill and increase the number of materials that can re-enter the economy.
- **Research and education:** The SCRD may want to consider researching options for CDR materials that currently cannot be recycled or diverted through energy recovery. The SCRD may want to research options to enable sorting of mixed loads at a suitable waste management facility. A mixed load would still need to be accepted at a higher tipping fee than segregated materials (yet lower than landfill disposal).

Potential Action
7C: Develop a CDR working group for developing and dispersing resource, education, and develop new resources as a group.
7D: Investigate feasibility of recycling additional C&D materials, such as carpets, and implement pilot when deemed feasible.

Strategy 8: Improve Circular Economy Opportunities for Local Businesses

Currently there is a large regional reliance on recycling markets outside the Sunshine Coast for determining if something is recyclable or not. This strategy provides examples of how the SCRD can provide funds that help support local recyclers, provide training resources to start-ups interested in the local circular economy, or support by providing a space where local recyclers can test their concepts and create a circular economy hub. These examples demonstrate collaboration between different levels of governments and the local private waste and recycling industry.

The “Waste Reduction Initiative Program” (WRIP) is offered by the SCRD to fund community groups, non-profit societies, registered charitable organizations and school groups for projects that contribute to waste reduction or that divert materials from the landfill.⁸ The goal of WRIP is to fund reduce and reuse initiatives, not to specifically support local recyclers.

Business organizations such as the Sunshine Coast Regional Economic Development Organization (SCREDO), the local Chamber of Commerce, may be suitable partners to reach out to the business community. The education can cover other important waste management topics too, including new bylaws and funding opportunities, etc.

Options to Improve Opportunities for Local Businesses

Recycling Funding

There is an opportunity for the SCRD to expand its funding program using a circular economy lens. The SCRD may want to create a new fund or expand the WRIP to also include support for local recyclers. Supporting a local circular economy helps to create jobs, divert waste from landfilling, and circulate products / materials that currently are landfilled. It is important not to remove funds from community groups and non-profits who are eligible for the current funding program.

There are some other examples in BC of specific funding created by a regional district to support local recycling initiatives.

The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) identified \$300,000 in grant funding in 2021 as part of the recent SWMP update, by means of a ‘Zero Waste Recycling Funding’ program aimed to foster ingenuity and growth in the waste industry.⁹ This was renewed in 2022 and 2023, each year with an allocated \$300,000. Some of the organizations that received RDN’s grant funding included:

- Gabriola Island Recycling Organization (\$92,000) for textile recovery and clothing recycling program.
- Habitat for Humanity Mid-Vancouver Island (\$68,000) to initiate a workspace mentorship program and continue their ReVive program that repurposes, and fixes donated items, both of which will generate revenue and divert material from the landfill.
- Island Futures Society (\$2,500) to carry out research and market analysis for repurposing vegetable oil on Gabriola Island as part of their Waste Vegetable Oil Initiative¹⁰.

Support Local Circular Innovation

The SCRD and the member municipalities may want to explore ways to support circular innovation. This can be through developing skills programs to drive innovation and start-ups as well as circular innovation hubs. There are several ways that the SCRD and member municipalities can do this, for example by replicating one or several of the following initiatives:

- **Circular Opportunity Innovation Launchpad (COIL) Activate Accelerator program:** Guelph-Wellington (Ontario) designed a program to help innovative companies grow and scale their

⁸ [WRIP | Let's Talk SCRD](#)

⁹ [News Release Template \(rdn.bc.ca\)](#)

¹⁰ [News Release Template \(rdn.bc.ca\)](#)

circular economy businesses, products and solutions through funding, mentorship, education. It also provided links into a national and global circular economy network¹¹.

- The **Synergy Foundation** is a non-profit on the West Coast of BC that guides new innovators through the start-up phases of projects¹². They focus on projects in the areas of green business, food security, and circular economy¹³. Synergy run programs such as the BC Green Business certification program, which helps businesses to enhance sustainability, or the Project Zero, which focuses on circular economy concepts.
- The **Zero Waste Demonstration Site** is a joint initiative between the City of Vancouver and the Vancouver Economic Commission (VEC). The initiative involves the development of a demonstration and incubation site for innovative technologies focused on Zero Waste at a 1-acre brownfield site located on industrial lands. There are various circular economy-focused businesses that are partnering for this project:
 - Perk Eco Inc. partners with coffee shop owners to recycle coffee cups, which often cannot be recycled due to being a multi-material item (paper and a plastic liner)¹⁴.
 - Can-Do! upcycles wood waste through a re-materialization process¹⁵. There may be opportunities to work with them to divert more wood waste from the landfill.
 - Circularity B.V. collects old textiles and repurposes them into new products so that they avoid ending up in the landfill¹⁶. They work with many businesses to create uniforms or other team clothing items.
 - Mosa Technologies recycles glass from local businesses in Vancouver and creates new products, such as candles¹⁷.
- The Regional District received \$6 million in federal funding to help construct a state-of-the-art **Resource Recovery Centre in Powell River**. This new facility will divert numerous waste products from the solid waste stream and help the Regional District move closer to achieving its goal of “zero waste”. This project will greatly contribute to the region’s sustainability by up-cycling, re-cycling and re-purposing expended materials as well as reducing greenhouse gases created through the current transportation of waste abroad. As part of the site development, the regional district is calling on individuals, groups, organizations, or companies interested in sharing their ideas for diverting waste materials through the Resource Recovery Centre site (wood waste, glass, rubble, fabrics, furniture, etc.)¹⁸.

Encourage Circular Economy Through Procurement

The SCRDC and its member municipalities purchase significant volumes of products every year and may want to use their procurement policies to encourage local circular economy opportunities. There are several guidebooks aimed to help direct sustainable purchasing decisions by local governments, for

¹¹ [Activate Accelerator - COIL](#)

¹² [About Us | Synergy Foundation](#)

¹³ [A Business' Guide to the Circular Economy \(synergyfoundation.ca\)](#)

¹⁴ [Get Started – Perk Eco](#)

¹⁵ [Can-do! - Enabling circular economies \(cando.earth\)](#)

¹⁶ [Process – Circularity \(circularity-works.com\)](#)

¹⁷ [Our Process and Materials – Mosa \(wearemosa.com\)](#)

¹⁸ [Resource Recovery Centre – Let's Talk Trash \(letstalktrash.ca\)](#)

example via the member-based network 'Canadian Collaboration for Sustainable Procurement'. The Circular Innovation Council also provides best practice guides to enable circular procurement¹⁹.

Many local governments in Canada use their purchasing powers to promote reduction and reuse of waste materials and encourage circular economy principles, with increased use of recycled materials required in purchased products. The Federal Government released a Greening Government Strategy in 2019 that included waste management elements. Collectively, the Canadian government spend is valued at 200 billion dollars annually and represents more than 15% of the nation's GDP²⁰.

The SCRD and member municipalities may want to revisit procurement policies to better include aspects such as:

- Highlighting an organizational commitment to reducing waste, such as finding alternatives to single-use plastics in its operations.
- Requiring a minimum amount of recycled content in material purchases where the quality required will not be compromised. Examples of common recycled-content products include office paper products (copy paper, file folders, envelopes), washroom tissue, paper towels, concrete and plastic benches, and curbside collection carts.
- Using locally generated compost in internal operations and contracts, wherever applicable (parks, roadworks, etc.). This can encourage the use of compost from local compost facilities.
- Updating demolition procurement criteria for public projects so that whenever a building owned by the local government is slated for demolition, the building removal tender criteria should prioritize relocation and then deconstruction.

Potential Action
8A: Develop grant funding to support local recyclers.
8B: Support local circular innovation by funding a training program for start-ups.
8C: Partner with suitable member municipalities to provide space at a site for local recyclers.
8D: Revisit procurement policies to better include circular economy aspects, and encourage member municipalities to follow its example.

Strategy 9: Reduce Tourist and Event Waste and Increase Waste Diversion

Regional population growth and seasonal population changes (i.e., influx of tourists during the summer months) influence the amount of waste and recyclables managed and disposed of in the region. The PTAC has brought up concerns about the amount of waste resulting from tourists and seasonal residents. Sunshine Coast Tourism also reports on concerns from local residents who express

¹⁹ [Guidance & Best Practice - Buying the Future You Want \(circularprocurement.ca\)](https://circularprocurement.ca)

²⁰ Newsletter dated Sept 20, 2022, by Circular Innovation Council. Jo-Anne St. Godard, Executive Director.

concerns about too many people coming in the summer and not enough in the rest of the year, too little investment in infrastructure, water usage, garbage²¹, etc.

Tourist waste is also captured in streetscape waste and recycling bins²². This infrastructure is managed by member municipalities. Recycle BC is currently developing a streetscape recycling program which will be available to eligible municipalities based on total population and population density. This is a new program that will be offered in 2024. None of the municipalities in the SCRD are currently eligible for this program²³. However, it will be important for member municipalities to indicate their interest if the program is expanded in the future. The member municipalities can focus on high tourist areas and improve educational signage around streetscape bins to reduce waste being misplaced. The location and signage of streetscape bins can also be considered when discussing efforts to prevent illegal dumping (refer to Strategy 10).

There is currently limited data to inform how much the population fluctuates due to tourism and how much waste is generated by tourists. The waste would typically be managed as part of ICI waste when visitors use hotels, or as residential waste when visitors stay at short-term rentals and use curbside collection services or when they bring waste to the depots, landfill, or transfer station.

The PTAC has brought up concerns about BC Ferries bringing residual waste from their ferries to the Sechelt Landfill. Due to the limited landfill space, it may be suitable for the SCRD and its member municipalities to explore other disposal options with BC Ferries and reduce waste coming to the Sunshine Coast.

More waste is generated during large events. The qathet Regional District offers free resources to help events minimize waste. They provide a zero waste guide and lend out Zero Waste stations to public or private events to sort materials into compostable, refundable and container streams. They also provide reusable dishware (plates, bowls, mugs and silverware) and a mobile dish washing trailer available for events. Deposits apply for the use of these resources²⁴.

Potential Action

9A: Develop educational materials for high-tourist areas to inform tourists of regional district practices.

9B: Encourage organizations, such as BC Ferries, to avoid sending waste for landfilling to the Sunshine Coast, where other disposal locations are available.

9C: Provide resources (e.g., education and equipment) that can help event organizers prevent waste and enhance diversion.

²¹ [Residents | Sunshine Coast Tourism \(sunshinecoastcanada.com\)](https://www.sunshinecoastcanada.com/)

²² Streetscape bins meaning municipal property on sidewalks, plazas/town squares and in parks.

²³ Personal communication with Timothy Ames, Special Project, Recycle BC, November 1, 2023.

²⁴ [Zero Waste Event Information & Zero Waste Station Booking \(qathet.ca\)](https://www.qathet.ca/zero-waste/)

Strategy 10: Prevent and Address Illegal Dumping

Environmental protection has been a key priority for the SCRD's Plan Monitoring Advisory Committee (PMAC) tasked to oversee the implementation of the SWMP. In recent years members have often discussed the issue of illegal dumping in the region, highlighted the need to gather better illegal dumping data (i.e., type of material, tonnage, locations of dumping, etc.) and considered options to prevent and monitor illegal dumping. PMAC has highlighted problems surrounding gypsum/drywall containing asbestos and the high costs to properly manage these materials. The high cost (e.g., Asbestos-free Gypsum costing \$1,000 per tonne at Sechelt Landfill) may lead to illegal dumping and places local businesses at risk if their property becomes a dumping site.

Close to 7% of the comments received in response to the online questionnaire during Engagement Period 1 related to the long distance to disposal facilities, which is thought to increase the region's illegal dumping. Feedback indicated a desire for yearly curbside pickup of large items (e.g., furniture) or free dump days to encourage property clean-ups, although programs like this would be at the expense of taxpayers.

The SCRD has several initiatives to discourage illegal dumping. The public is encouraged to report illegal dumping to the BC Conservation Services via the Report All Poachers and Polluters (RAPP) hotline. BC Conservation Services can issue fines as well as the member municipalities with bylaw provisions. Town of Gibsons and District of Sechelt can issue bylaw infractions for offences such as unsightly properties and illegal dumping. The SCRD has no ability to issue fines to residents for illegal dumping. SCRD collaborates with local agencies and Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) to implement initiatives and raise awareness about illegal dumping.

Several supporting community initiatives are in place to address illegal dumping including:

- The **Good Samaritan Program** pays the landfill tipping fees for materials collected from illegal dump sites cleaned up by volunteers. Pre-approval is required to have the disposal fees of a clean-up funded by Good Samaritan.
- The **Backroad Trash Bash** is a volunteering initiative rotated through three sections of the coast. In 2023, the initiative was held along the roadside of Pender Harbour with 23 sites cleaned up. A total of 4.8 tonnes of illegally dumped waste were collected from sites between Middel Point to Egmont. In 2022, there were 5.3 tonnes collected alongside the coasts of Elphinstone to West Howe Sound. There were no collections in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- The **Islands Clean Up program** aims to provide waste management services to islands off the SCRD coast. This is a popular program, but it comes at a significant cost to all taxpayers. The program is not funded on a user-pay basis.

Options to Prevent Illegal Dumping

There are opportunities for the SCRD to increase their current efforts to prevent illegal dumping. Some opportunities include:

- **Establishing an Illegal Dumping Task Force** with potential members from the public, member municipalities and electoral areas, the local Conservation Office, and the RCMP with the SCRD as the lead. The task force can be involved in identifying problem areas and identify mitigation strategies for illegal dumping. An Illegal Dumping Strategy can set out the responsibilities of all parties, actions to take and data reporting requirements to improve tracking, outreach, and staffing.
- **Developing an education and awareness campaign** around illegal dumping can be an effective way to reduce the amount of illegal dumping occurring in the SCRD. Work to support this initiative can involve conducting a survey to determine the most common materials illegally discarded and the most frequent problem areas. This will provide a basis for types of materials and “hot spots” on which to build an education campaign and clean-up and enforcement programs. It is important to educate on the impact that illegal dumping has on the environment and public health and safety. This should also include proper disposal of common problem materials.

Potential Action

10A: Establish an Illegal Dumping Task Force and develop an illegal dumping strategy aimed to improve tracking and reduce the number of illegal dumping incidents.

10B: Develop an education and awareness campaign around illegal dumping.

Strategy 11: Prevent and Address Marine Debris

Ocean plastic is an important and emerging focus for environmental protection in the province. The issues of abandoned vessels, marine debris, and marine-sourced plastics are complex. Common debris found on BC’s shorelines include cigarette filters, broken-down plastics, food wrappers, and single-use plastics. The issue of marine debris has also been frequently discussed by the SCRD’s Plan Monitoring Advisory Committee (PMAC) with focus on derelict vessels on the region’s shores and the need for a disposal program for boats (and residential vehicles) at the Sechelt Landfill to deter people from abandoning end-of-life boats.

The MOE is responsible for protection, management and conservation of BC’s water, among other responsibilities²⁵. The BC Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship also has responsibilities for marine management, specifically objective setting for marine environments and managing environmental effects, among other responsibilities²⁶. Both provincial ministries have created policies and initiatives relating to marine debris and derelict vessels.

²⁵ [Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/ministry-environment-climate-change-strategy-province-british-columbia)

²⁶ [Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/ministry-water-land-resource-stewardship-province-british-columbia)

The MOE's Clean Coast, Clean Waters Initiative, which is part of the CleanBC Plastics Action Plan, has funded the removal of over 100 derelict vessels and over 1,000 tonnes of marine debris and plastics from the BC coastline since 2020. Eligible funding applicants for the merit-based process include coastal First Nations and local governments, as well as non-profits and others with expertise in shoreline debris cleanup or removal of derelict vessels. The second round of funding will be distributed in early 2024²⁷.

The Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship is developing BC's first Coastal Marine Strategy to guide improved stewardship of coastal marine environments, advance reconciliation with First Nations and foster coastal community resilience. Since 2020 the province has worked on developing a Provincial Coastal Marine Strategy in close collaboration with coastal First Nation communities. An intentions paper was published in December 2022 (Figure 2) for engagement with the public, local governments and others, and the strategy is slated to be finalized in 2024 based on feedback. 8% of total respondents were from the 'Sea-to-Sky/Sunshine Coast/Powell River' area²⁸. The Report does not outline specific comments from respondents in this area.

In the Coastal Marine Strategy, the province makes a commitment to continue to collaborate with First Nations, local government, the federal government, industry, non-governmental organizations, and scientists to prevent and clean up marine pollution, coastal cleanups of plastics and other debris, as well as further action to address derelict and abandoned boats in the intertidal zone. The Ministry will explore the need for better infrastructure along the coast to provide a place for boats to take marine debris for safe disposal and recycling on land²⁹.

Although the responsibility for marine debris does not fall under the regional government, there are provincial initiatives that SCRD and member municipalities could participate in or support. The SCRD and member municipalities could advocate for more provincial marine debris management and help educate on available organizations on funding opportunities to not-for profit organizations involved in cleanups.

The SCRD received a grant that enabled the Ocean Plastic Depot Pilot Program initiative. This is a program for managing foam and other ocean plastics originating from docks and beach cleanups, for which there have been no recycling options in the region. The SCRD is currently partnering with The Ocean Legacy Foundation, a registered non-profit organization and the only organization recycling ocean plastics in BC. In 2023, the SCRD established infrastructure to accept ocean plastics at the

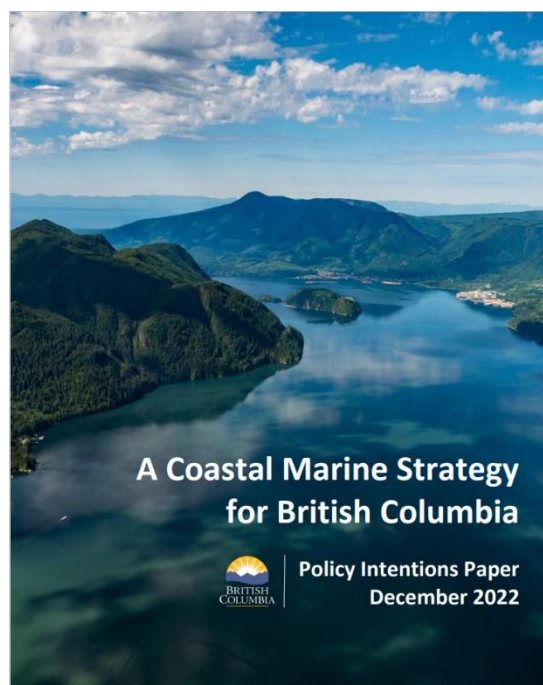


Figure 2: BC's Policy Intentions Paper for the Coastal Marine Strategy (2022)

²⁷ [BC's largest coastline cleanup gets major funding boost | BC Gov News](#)

²⁸ [CMS-What-We-Heard-Report_2023-08-10.pdf \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)

²⁹ [Coastal Marine Strategy - govTogetherBC](#)

Sechelt Landfill. Items like beach foam, netting and ocean plastics are transported for recycling by Ocean Legacy. The depot is only available to small scale shoreline clean ups by residents or community groups. Larger scale residential, commercial or industrial dock renovations and end of life materials are directed to contact Ocean Legacy directly.

Options to Address Marine Debris and Abandoned Boats

The SCRD and member municipalities may want to consider its role in marine debris management. Many aspects of marine debris management are not directly related to solid waste management and it is important that any additional SCRD support does not burden tax payers.

There is an opportunity for the SCRD to work towards waste reduction and diversion of marine debris, and removal of abandoned vessels on the coastline. Some opportunities relating to advocacy and supporting existing programs are summarized below.

Funding to Address Marine Debris and Abandoned Boats

The SCRD may want to partner with member municipalities to seek funding from the Clean Coast, Clean Waters Initiative Fund or the Abandoned Boats Program (ABP), which is a federal program that provides grants and funding to assist with removal of abandoned or wrecked small boats³⁰.

There are two components of ABP, including funds for assessment and removal of abandoned boats, and a fund for education for small boat owners and responsible management including end-of-life management. Projects are eligible for a maximum of \$250,000 in funding for an entire project, or funding to assess, remove and dispose of individual boats (\$5,000 per assessed boat, and \$50,000 for the removal and disposal of a boat).

Education and Awareness Campaigns

The SCRD can adopt an awareness campaign specific to marine litter to inform residents and tourists about the environmental, economic, social and health impacts that marine litter has³¹. Some of the main marine litter materials are plastic, packaging materials, smoking related materials, and fishing materials. There is opportunity for the SCRD to teach residents about marine litter, promote community-led clean-up events, and improve infrastructure in high-population areas along the shoreline, if external funding is available. This can be done in collaboration with cleanup organizations such as Surfrider Foundation or Ocean Wise.

Marine Debris Collection at Marinas

Providing source separated waste collection at marinas alongside information on waste management and impacts of marine litter could help with sorting and disposing of waste on land³². This may require more waste bins at marinas as well as the cost of collection. For example, qathet Regional District has installed fishing line recycling receptacles at some docks to prevent marine plastics pollution and protect marine life from being entangled.

³⁰ [Abandoned Boats Program \(canada.ca\)](https://canada.ca/abandoned-boats-program)

³¹ [Urban Strategies for Waste Management in Tourist Cities, Urban Waste](#)

³² [Urban Strategies for Waste Management in Tourist Cities, Urban Waste](#)

Potential Action
11A: Seek funding to help initiatives that address marine debris and the removal of abandoned boats.
11B: Collaborate with member municipalities and other organizations to promote cleanups and educate residents and businesses on the issue of marine debris and abandoned vessels.
11C: Assess opportunities to improve marine debris collection abilities at marinas and implement if deemed feasible.

Strategy 12: Improve Wildlife Management related to Waste Management

Odorous waste can be a significant attractant for wildlife on the Sunshine Coast. Interactions can range from pests, birds, dogs, and raccoons tipping over containers and creating an annoying mess, to bears accessing improperly stored or set-out containers and becoming habituated to garbage or organics. This can be dangerous for both residents and wildlife.

The overall management of our bears and other wildlife is the responsibility of the province and the Conservation Officer Service (COS) can serve fines for the intentional or unintentional feeding of our bears or any wildlife.

In the SCRD, there were 345 wildlife reports made to the COS and WildSafeBC's Wildlife Alert Reporting Program (WARP) between January 1, 2021 and October 31, 2021³³. Of all the reports, there were 201 black bear, 80 deer, 19 cougar, 21 coyote, and 25 other reports. From 2016 to 2021, there were significantly more black bear reports than any other animal, with a total of 1,639. The most common attractant reported on for black bears is garbage, followed by "other" and residential-fruit trees/berries (see Figure 3). The highest activity was reported between April and November, with a lower activity during August. This is consistent with seasonal changes for natural food sources, attracting animals onto properties and public areas in the spring months to search for other food sources and again in the fall while they increase food intake in preparation for winter months.

³³ [WildSafeBC Sunshine Coast Annual Report](#)

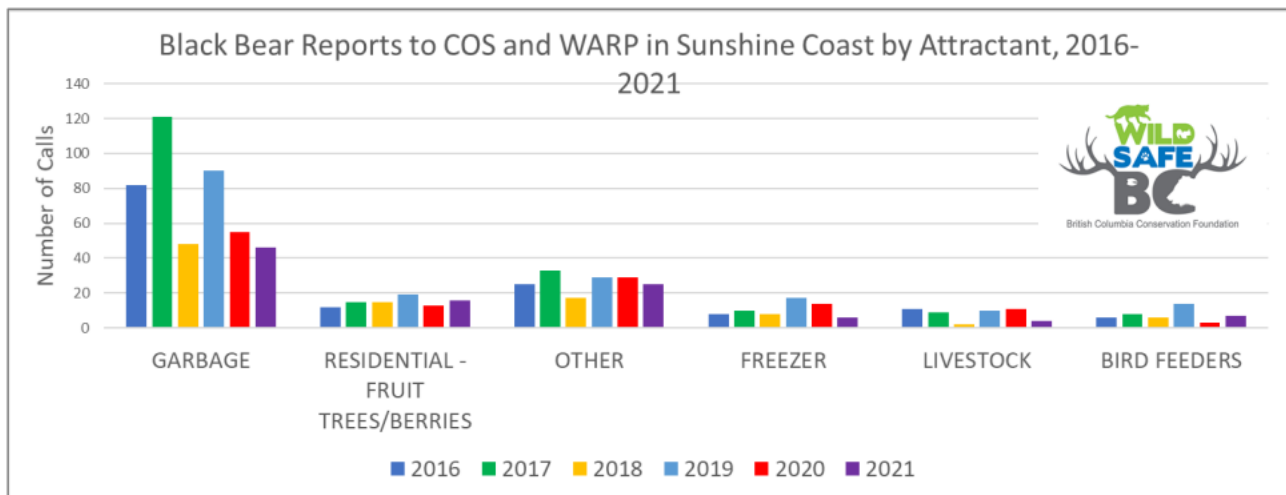


Figure 3: Black bear reports to COS and WARP in SCRD by attractant (Jan 2016 to Oct 2021)

There is a WildSafeBC Community Coordinator (WCC) in the SCRD, who is responsible for outreach and education with the local communities. The WCC conducted the following programs in 2021:

- “13 WildSafeBC Rangers Program (WRP) presentations to 11 classes reaching 441 youth,
- 916 door hangers were placed at homes and the WCC spoke with 153 people,
- 5 farmers’ market/trailhead/event display booths interacting with 810 people,
- 39 Facebook posts were made, and 189 new Facebook followers were gained for a total of 1,431 followers, and
- 5 new businesses signed on to the WildSafeBC Business Pledge”³⁴.

Options to Improve Wildlife Management

There are some options for the SCRD to enhance its current wildlife management efforts. The SCRD encourages residents to be wildlife aware through messaging on its website. The *SCRD Waste Collection Bylaw No. 431* specifies that it is the responsibility of every owner/occupier of a serviced residential premise to secure the garbage and food waste cans as necessary to prevent entry of water and accidental spillage or disturbance by wildlife.

The District of Sechelt updated its *Solid Waste Control and Collection Bylaw 47* on in 2021 with important wildlife attractants clauses. The Town of Gibsons adopted a new *Wildlife Bylaw No. 1294* in 2021 to help limit conflicts between bears and humans in the community.

The SCRD may want to review its bylaw to be more specific about wildlife attractants. The bylaw can set strict regulations around storage and collection-day practices and enable the SCRD to enforce requirements if wildlife interaction escalates.

SCRD’s Be Wildlife Aware Advice:

“There are several simple steps you can take to secure your bins:

- Keep your garbage in your residence or in a secure enclosed area.
- Only put out your bin by 8:00 a.m. on your collection day (never put it out overnight).
- Bring your bin inside after collection.
- Keep your bins clean.”

³⁴ [WildSafeBC Sunshine Coast Annual Report](#)

There is an opportunity to write into this bylaw that the fines go back into initiatives to continuing improving wildlife management within the SCRD.

The SCRD may also want to collaborate with member municipalities, WildSafeBC and the BC Conservation Officer Service to increase community awareness around wildlife attractants and waste by:

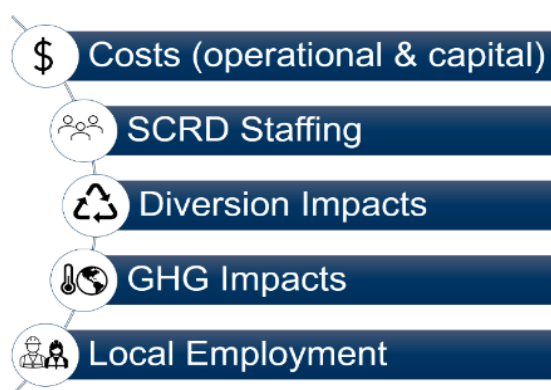
- Developing an education campaign and provide outreach to local communities.
- Providing info sessions, such as the 'Wildlife and waste' info session that Chilliwack, WildsafeBC, and BC Conservation Officer Service is putting on for community members, who live in wildlife-rich areas³⁵.

Potential Action
12A: Revise the SCRD Waste Collection Bylaw No. 431 to integrate requirements around wildlife attractants.
12B: Develop an education campaign, including info sessions for residents, around improving wildlife management.

3 POTENTIAL IMPACTS FROM STRATEGIES

Evaluation criteria were agreed upon with PTAC members on June 8, 2023. The following criteria will be used to better compare how the strategies perform (financially, environmentally and in relation to their community impact). GHG impacts relate to emission reductions with focus on organics diversion from landfilling.

A PTAC member commented that it would be beneficial to identify how a specific strategy fits into the 5 R waste hierarchy. MH has included this consideration in Table 2.



At this preliminary stage, the relative performance of each strategy is simply highlighted in the table with the anticipated impacts if the strategies are implemented in the region. Impacts have not been quantified and are simply rated as low, medium and high impacts.

A more detailed analysis of the impacts will be presented to PTAC later when preferred strategies and actions are determined.

³⁵ ['Wildlife and waste' info session coming to Chilliwack city hall - The Chilliwack Progress \(theprogress.com\)](https://theprogress.com/news/wildlife-and-waste-info-session-coming-to-chilliwack-city-hall)

MEMORANDUM

Table 2: Anticipated Impact Related to the Identified Strategies

#	Strategy	Potential Actions	Costs	Staffing	Diversion Potential	Waste Hierarchy	GHG reduction	Local Employment
7	Improve CDR waste prevention and diversion	<p>7A: Develop a salvage, recycling, and/or deconstruction bylaw in partnership with municipalities.</p> <p>7B: Collaborate with member municipalities to ensure regulations support home relocation.</p> <p>7C: Develop a CDR working group for developing and dispersing resource, education, and develop new resources as a group.</p> <p>7D: Investigate feasibility of recycling additional C&D materials, such as carpets, and implement pilot when deemed feasible.</p>	Low-Medium	Medium	Medium-High	Reuse & recycling	Medium-High	Medium - High
8	Improve circular economy opportunities for local businesses	<p>8A: Develop grant funding to support local recyclers.</p> <p>8B: Support local circular innovation by funding a training program for start-ups.</p> <p>8C: Partner with suitable member municipalities to provide space at a site for local recyclers.</p> <p>8D: Revisit procurement policies to better include circular economy aspects, and encourage member municipalities to follow its example.</p>	Low-Medium	Low-Medium	Low-Medium	Reduce, reuse & recycling	Low	Medium - High
9	Reduce tourist & event waste and increase waste diversion	<p>9A: Develop educational materials for high-tourist areas to inform tourists of regional district practices.</p> <p>9B: Encourage organizations, such as BC Ferries, to avoid sending waste for landfilling to the Sunshine Coast, where other disposal locations are available.</p> <p>9C: Provide resources (e.g., education and equipment) that can help event organizers prevent waste and enhance diversion.</p>	Low-Medium	Low-Medium	Low	Reduce, reuse & recycling	Low	Low

#	Strategy	Potential Actions	Costs	Staffing	Diversion Potential	Waste Hierarchy	GHG reduction	Local Employment
10	Prevent and address illegal dumping	10A: Establish an Illegal Dumping Task Force and develop an illegal dumping strategy aimed to improve tracking and reduce the number of illegal dumping incidents. 10B: Develop an education and awareness campaign around illegal dumping.	Low-Medium	Low-Medium	Low	Recycling & residual management	Low	Low
11	Prevent and address marine debris	11A: Seek funding to help initiatives that address marine debris and the removal of abandoned boats. 11B: Collaborate with member municipalities and other organizations to promote cleanups and educate residents and businesses on the issue of marine debris and abandoned vessels. 11C: Assess opportunities to improve marine debris collection abilities at marinas and implement if deemed feasible.	Low-Medium	Low-Medium	Low	Recycling & residual management	Low	Low
12	Improve wildlife management related to waste management	12A: Revise the SCRD Waste Collection Bylaw No. 431 to integrate requirements around wildlife attractants. 12B: Develop an education campaign, including info sessions for residents, around improving wildlife management.	Low-Medium	Low-Medium	Low	Recycling & residual management	Low - Medium	Low

4 NEXT STEPS

At the PTAC meeting on November 21, MH will present on the potential strategies that are highlighted in this Memo. We will discuss the suitability of these potential strategies with PTAC members and provide the opportunity to give feedback to ensure that all feasible options have been explored. Committee members will also be asked to identify if there are any options that are not in the interest of the region to pursue.

This Memo has only addressed some of the issues and opportunities that were identified by the Current System report, PTAC and through Engagement Period 1. The following are the remaining issues and opportunities which PTAC will have time to discuss in the upcoming meeting in late January, 2023:

- Invasive species management and disposal
- Recovery of energy/heat from waste for useful purposes
- Emergency debris management
- System efficiency and harmonizing services
- Disposal options
- System funding

Upcoming Meetings

- Disposal options and system financing (January 2024)
- Preferred Strategies in a Draft SWMP (Spring 2024)

The strategies that are favoured by PTAC will be part of a final memo of all Preferred Strategies, which will be considered by the same committees later in the Spring. Committee members will then have another chance to review the list of preferred strategies. This process will inform the content of the updated Draft SWMP, which will be brought to the public for consultation by mid-2024.

5 CLOSING

The Sunshine Coast Regional District retained Morrison Hershfield to conduct the work described in this report, and this report has been prepared solely for this purpose.

This document, the information it contains, the information and basis on which it relies, and factors associated with implementation of suggestions contained in this report are subject to changes that are beyond the control of the author. The information provided by others is believed to be accurate and may not have been verified.

Morrison Hershfield does not accept responsibility for the use of this report for any purpose other than that stated above and does not accept responsibility to any third party for the use, in whole or in part, of the contents of this document. This report should be understood in its entirety, since sections taken out of context could lead to misinterpretation.

We trust the information presented in this report meets Sunshine Coast Regional District's. If you have any questions or need addition details, please do not hesitate to contact one of the undersigned.

We trust the information presented in this report meets Client's requirements. If you have any questions or need addition details, please do not hesitate to contact one of the undersigned.

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OCT 24 PTAC Follow-Up: Action Considerations

1. Name (Optional)

8
Responses

Latest Responses

"John Sutherland"

"Susan Selzer"

2. Strategy 1: Improve Regulatory Requirements to Enhance Waste Diversion

■ High Priority (0-5 years) ■ Lower Priority (5-10+ years) ■ Not in the interest of the region to pursue

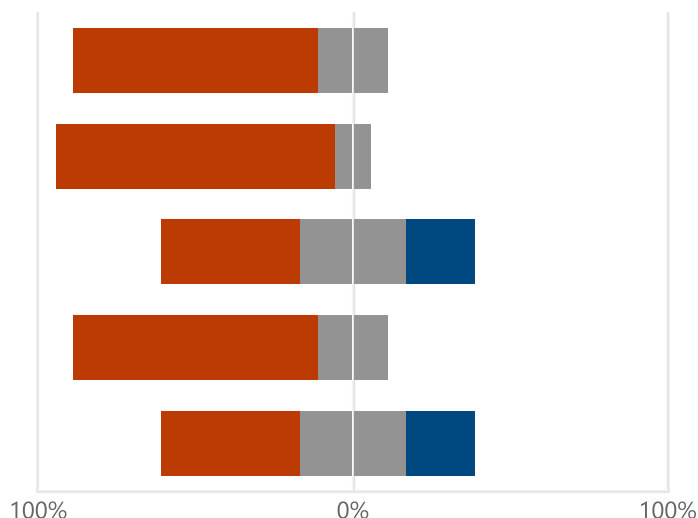
1A: Ban materials from disposal rather than variable tipping fees

1B: Harmonize waste collection bylaws to effectively encourage waste diversion across the region

1C: Implement Waste Stream Management Licensing

1D: Implement Mandatory Waste Sorting

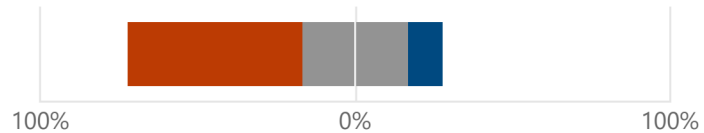
1E: Implement Waste Hauler Licensing



3. Strategy 2: Improve Access to Residential Curbside Recycling Collection

■ High Priority (0-5 years) ■ Lower Priority (5-10+ years) ■ Not in the interest of the region to pursue

2A: Re-assess curbside recycling costs and provide better access to curbside recycling...

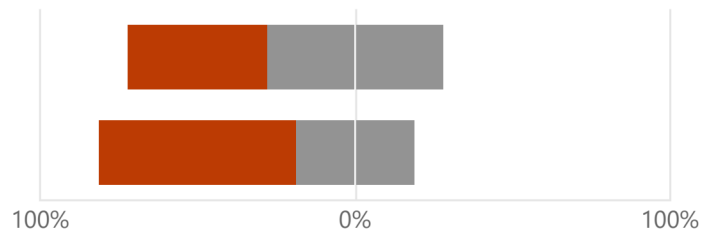


4. Strategy 3: Improve Waste Diversion Opportunities for Residents

■ High Priority (0-5 years) ■ Lower Priority (5-10+ years) ■ Not in the interest of the region to pursue

3A: Pilot reuse program, either a bulky item pick-up collection, or reuse days in a...

3B: Provide better access to waste diversion services through expanded cleanup events



5. Strategy 4: Provide More Waste Reduction, Reuse, and Repair Opportunities

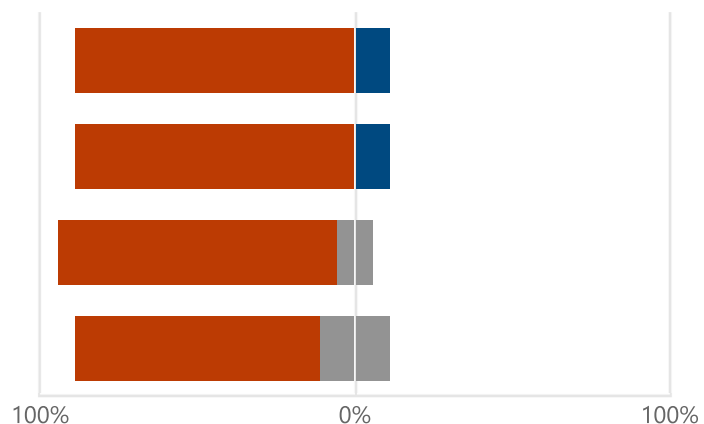
■ High Priority (0-5 years) ■ Lower Priority (5-10+ years) ■ Not in the interest of the region to pursue

4A: Encourage and support local businesses to reduce food waste

4B: Partner with local compost operator to develop a takeout guide that encourages...

4C: Collaborate with member municipalities and local organizations to educate residen...

4D: Adopt successful household waste reduction, repair and diversion campaigns...



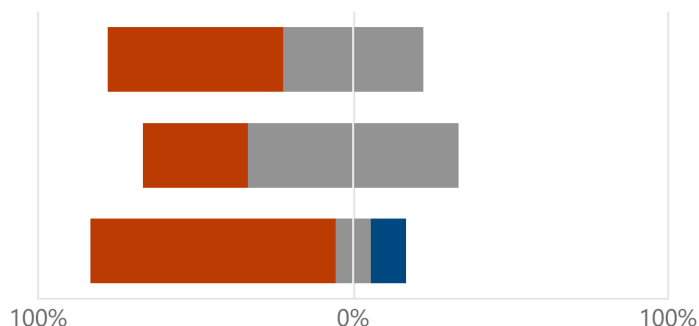
6. Strategy 5: Lobby for Better and More Provincial Product Stewardship Programs

■ High Priority (0-5 years) ■ Lower Priority (5-10+ years) ■ Not in the interest of the region to pursue

5A: Lobby for inclusion of new materials, regardless of the source (residential or ICI)...

5B: Lobby for increased cost recovery by stewards

5C: Lobby for increased focus on reduce and reuse efforts amongst existing EPR...



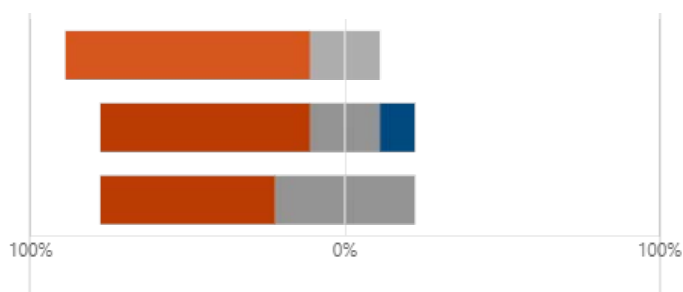
7. Strategy 6: Improve Waste Diversion Through Education and Enforcement

■ High Priority (0-5 years) ■ Lower Priority (5-10+ years) ■ Not in the interest of the region to pursue

6A: Partner with haulers, depot operators and other business organizations to provi...

6C: Simplify bylaw enforcement by requiring waste generators to use...

6D: Increase enforcement capacity beyond current 2023 levels



8 Are there any specific comments you have regarding any of the potential actions?		
6 Responses		
Responses		
		Would like to see a bylaw that makes it illegal to include recyclables in household garbage within 5 years. Perhaps curbside recycling should include all recyclables. Seems silly to only pick up certain items and force residents to go to the depot anyhow. Maybe the whole curbside recycling efforts should not be eliminated because of this. Add fire extinguishers and bulky furniture to the EPR program
		In my opinion areas where SCRD can work within its mandate should be given priority as there is more flexibility to get things done. Lobbying/partnerships with the Province are important- but they are longer term projects.
		Strategy 1: I think that the harmonization of bylaws, to ban recyclables and organics from entering the landfill, should be the highest priority. In this regard, I noticed a few mentions of banning backyard burning in the "What We Heard" memo. Each electoral area has a different (or non-existent in the case of Pender Harbour) smoke control bylaw and the Town of Gibsons doesn't even allow for a campfire So residents of Gibsons descend on Bonniebrook Beach in particular to have beach fires. There is always confusion circulating on social media about when and what is allowed to be burned. I would LOVE to see the regional district's bylaws to be consolidated, and strengthened, into one bylaw that would require yard waste to be transferred to Salish Soils for composting thus maintaining the carbon sequestration of plants rather than potentially smoking out neighbours every day for 6 months of the year. Strategy 2: If curbside collection is implemented and glass and flexible plastics are not part of the pickup, what about having bins for just those two types of items at locations such as fire halls or elementary schools for those people who can't drive all the way to a depot? Strategy 4: Reducing food waste from businesses is very important! Everything is expensive these days, so helping people to eat and keeping produce from being wasted may make increased service fees otherwise more palatable. Restaurants should not be sending organics to the landfill! The bylaw ban in Strategy 1 should fix this and partnerships could be created with local farmers for feeding their animals.
		1a-i think this should be the biggest priority of the solid waste plan 2a-I don't believe it makes sense to expand curbside recycling to SCRD or Gibsons given current recovery rates. Since it was asked for by a majority of the residents I think it is vital to do an education campaign explaining why the PTAC did not make it a priority so when asked by residents why there is no residential collection every member of the solid waste team can provide an easy, concise answer. 6a-I think having a semi annual newsletter sent to residents where they can bring items should be prioritized. I think it should include a section for commercial customers (what are their options? I work at Salish Soils and I don't know the answer to this) as well as waste wins. Waste wins not only includes diversion but local projects that have been funded through the region to reduce waste. I believe this newsletter should be mailed out individually and not sent through utility bills in order to grab all residents of the Sunshine Coast including renters. Overall I think there should be a rating section on the impact strategy that discusses where it lands on the 3R hierarchy. So if as a committee we are focussing on the first R of the hierarchy it would be clear on our impact strategy.
		Regarding licensing in strategy 1 i don't think the cost of creating a licensing system would benefit from the few waste haulers we have. In strategy 4a would be covered with a food waste ban in ICI sector I support transparent bags mostly for food, organic waste and hard plastic containers, soft plastic and small packaging is harder to separate.
		All of the actions should be pursued with in the 5-year period as dearly needed.

9 Are there any issues that you want to make sure are discussed at upcoming PTAC meetings? What are they?		
7 Responses		
Responses		
		Attention to major contributors of waste (in terms of volume) in increased tip fees. These are the users that are exponentially contributing to the volume in our landfill. ie B.C. ferries, independent grocer/larger retailers, hospital, SD46, pulp mill etc.
		Curious about the move from having two sorts for soft plastics to a single sort. It's a great idea, but how does that work when it gets to the recycler? I note that the tipping fee for compostables at the Pender Transfer Station is the same as regular garbage. Probably isn't worth reducing tipping fees for food waste, but it might be worth looking at. Would like to know how curbside recycling is sorted after pick up. How to get restaurants and large grocery stores on board with recycling food waste (separating it from their garbage)
		If our goal is to provide advice- then what form will that take ? Are we providing recommendations for action, or suggestions for consideration ? Looking at the topics on the next page, we have a lot of area to cover in the remaining time frame.
		I am concerned about invasive species management and the 4.1% response rate in "What We Heard" about waste-to-energy. Rather than building our own (expensive!) incinerator and risk becoming like Denmark in not having enough to fuel it, we should look at sending our residuals to the existing facility in Burnaby. And we should find out what's happening with the mill in Powell River, possibly it could deal with invasive vegetation?
		As we are talking about outreach and education a special note should be made for vacationers and people who only live on the coast part time to make sure they are also getting the message.
		BC Ferries garbage and tourist waste
		Better opportunities for Committee members to participate which I am pleased to see occurring at the next meeting. Great!

Tourism Waste Management

Nov 5/23

To PTAC Committee Members,

This information on Tourism Waste Management was submitted for our September meeting, but is now on November's agenda. I may not be able to attend, so please consider these additional points to help guide discussion.

- The Committee needs to decide to what extent we look at the topic, considering our other priorities.
- I feel we **can try** to get a sense of additional waste produced by tourists/visitors by doing the following-
 - Meeting with Sunshine Coast Tourism Assoc. for their comments, and ask if they will place recycling information on their web site, and promote the diversion of land fill waste.
 - Asking Municipal/District staff if they notice major increases in waste volume at popular locations during the Tourism Season, and if the material is recycled/landfilled ?
 - Putting the same questions to BC Ferries and BC Parks .

With some effort we should be able to gather enough material to make informed comments on the subject.

I am prepared to further work on the topic if that is the wish of the committee. Best Wishes, Mike Ernst

Please Note This 'study' is only of personal interest. So far no contact has been made with Sunshine Coast Tourism on behalf of PTAC, or SCRD.

What is a Tourist ?

Many definitions exist, but Britannica Dictionary's is very simple.

'A tourist is a person who travels to a place for pleasure.'

<https://www.britannica.com/dictionary/eb/qa/Tourist-and-Tourism-difference>

Tourism B.C. is more descriptive

'... a tourist is "someone who travels at least 80 km from his or her home for at least 24 hours, for business or leisure or other reasons" (LinkBC, 2008, p.8).'

<https://opentextbc.ca/introtourism2e/chapter/what-is-tourism/>

As a growing world wide industry the estimated number of tourist 'arrivals' world wide was 177 million in 1980, by 2019 that had risen to 1.5 billion

(UN Environment Programme [unep.org](https://www.unep.org/))

Coast Room Revenue Forecast p.14 Sunshine Coast Strategic Plan 2021-2026

	Scenario 1 - Slow Return		Scenario 2 - Medium Return		Scenario 3 - Fast Return	
Year	Room Revenue	% Change	Room Revenue	% Change	Room Revenue	% Change
2019	\$20,318,458	14%	\$20,318,458	14%	\$20,318,458	14%
2020	\$10,702,002	-47%	\$10,702,002	-47%	\$10,702,002	-47%
2021	\$12,687,630	19%	\$13,451,074	26%	\$15,041,215	41%
2022	\$14,892,740	17%	\$16,656,464	24%	\$20,724,827	38%
2023	\$17,481,099	17%	\$20,623,234	24%	\$22,797,309	10%
2024	\$20,521,642	17%	\$21,654,396	5%	\$25,077,040	10%
2025	\$20,726,858	1%	\$21,979,212	2%	\$25,578,581	2%
2026	\$20,934,127	1%	\$22,308,900	1%	\$26,090,153	2%

Tourism contributes \$200 million annually in direct and indirect spending on the Sunshine Coast.
[sunshinecoastcanada.com](https://www.sunshinecoastcanada.com)

Some destinations have replaced ‘Tourist’ with Visitor, or Guest.
Using these names softens the negative image the industry may have generated.

How Does Tourism Affect Waste ?

A quick search on the topic will bring up information from the UN Environment Programme unep.org
‘It is an industry prone to over consumption.
‘Tourists can produce twice as much waste as local residents.’

Top 3 World Generators of MSW (Municipal Solid Waste)

Further research indicated ‘The United States comes first in the list of countries with the highest amount of daily per capita MSW with 2.58 kg, followed by Canada 2.33 kg, and Australia 2.23 kg.’
<https://www.developmentaid.org/news-stream/post/158158/world-waste-statistics-by-country>

From the 2023 SCRD’s Solid Waste Diversion Study - ‘As of 2021 the Regional District currently ... has a solid waste disposal rate of 421 kg/capita/year.’ (approx. 1.15 kg/day)

Considering most tourists come from more affluent countries the U.N. statistics are not surprising. The majority of visitors bring their ‘wants/needs/expectations’ with them and they want a memorable experience. Providing this experience will demand more resources than those required by the local population. This often places a strain on local waste collection and processing systems.

Visitors from outside the Coast may come from areas with different MSW recycling programmes and this is a challenge many tourism operators may face when handling their garbage. (M.Ernst)

Do Visitors to the Sunshine Coast practice better waste disposal habits, as they may have a closer connection to the environment ?

Visitors to the Sunshine Coast may differ in a number of ways, including their expectations, attitudes, motivations, interests, passions, and willingness to pay for a tourism experience. It is important to consider these market segmentations in development plans. Currently, the following interest groups and passions are identified for the Sunshine Coast:

ARTS (e.g. fine arts, performance arts)	HIKING	KAYAKING/ PADDLING	BOATING	DIVING
FAMILY CABINS/ RESORTS	MOUNTAIN BIKING	WRITING (e.g. Sunshine Coast Writers Festival)	FORAGING	CRAFT BEER/CIDER

Can we determine Visitor MSW Waste in the SCRD area ?

- What accuracy do we need to make the information relevant ?
- Can we determine the number of visitor days ?
 - Do we separate out Visitor Nights as those people will generate more waste ?
 - Separating Powell River data may prove a challenge. (Destination BC may be able to help.)
- Do we estimate their daily disposal amount using the U.N. information, or something closer to our own ?
- How do we account for other waste generated that may be handled by SCRD
 - B.C. ferries ?
 - Other sources ?
 - Marinas
 - Provincial Parks
 - Airports



**No approach has been made to Sunshine Coast Tourism on behalf of the PTAC committee, or SCRD.
So far this 'study' is only of personal interest.**

Environmental Information for Tourists from Sunshine Coast Tourism

The following was sourced from sunshinecoastcanada.com and demonstrates their efforts to lessen the impact of Tourism activities.

- April 9, 2019 - Sunshine Coast Clean Up
Disclaimer 'The Sunshine Coast Clean Up is not a facilitated event.'
- Jan 07, 2022
 - Tips for being a mindful visitor on the Sunshine Coast
 - Choose Green Transportation Options
 - Leave No Trace
 - Conserve Water
 - Practice Social Media Etiquette
 - Be Adventure Smart
 - Make a Connection
 - Consider Shoulder Season Travel
 - Practice Responsible Wildlife Viewing
 - Be Respectful

Visitor Numbers

https://www.destinationbc.ca/content/uploads/2018/08/Final_Report_for_the_2007_Sunshine_Coast_Visitor_Study-sflb.pdf

Table ES1. The number of travellers in the Sunshine Coast between June and August 2007.

Traveller Segment	Travellers in the Sunshine Coast in June, July and August 2007	
	Volume	Percent of Total Volume
Resident Regional Travellers ¹	6,341	1.8%
Exiting Travellers	342,977	98.2%
Residents ²	16,675	4.8%
Non-Residents	326,302	93.4%
Grand Total	349,318	100.0%

1. Includes residents of the Upper and Lower Sunshine Coast who travelled to the other region using the Saltery Bay/Earls Cove BC Ferries terminals and who did not exit the Sunshine Coast.

2. Includes residents of the Lower Sunshine Coast who exited the Upper Sunshine Coast (via Westview BC Ferries terminal) and residents of the Upper Sunshine Coast who exited the Lower Sunshine Coast (via Langdale BC Ferries terminal).

Visitor Origins - p.19 2015 Sunshine Coast Destination Development Strategy

Source: Visitor Services Network Statistics Program, Destination BC, includes Gibsons, Sechelt and Powell River.

MARKET ORIGIN	PROVINCIAL MARKET SHARE	SUNSHINE COAST	POWELL RIVER	SECHELT	GIBSONS
BC	55%	89% (41% local)	75% (49% local)	83% (55% local)	77% (17% local)
Other Canada	18%	5%	6%	6%	11%
United States + Mexico	18%	2%	4%	3%	5%
Europe	3%	8%	11%	7%	7%
Asia + Australia	5%	1%	3%	1%	2%
Other	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%