

**REPORT TO ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024**

**SUBJECT     Solid Waste Management Plan – 2023 Progress Report**

**ISSUE SUMMARY**

To present the Capital Regional District’s (CRD) 2023 Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) Progress Report (Appendix A), which identifies progress towards implementing the CRD’s SWMP.

**BACKGROUND**

In BC, it is a requirement under the *Environmental Management Act* for all regional districts to develop their own solid waste management plans, which are high-level, long-term visions of how a regional district would like solid waste managed within its community, in accordance with the 5R hierarchy of reduce, reuse, recycle, resource recovery and residuals management.

The CRD’s first SWMP was approved by the Province in 1989, was updated in 1991 and again in 1995, and subsequently received eight amendments. A new SWMP for the region began development in 2012. This plan was endorsed by the CRD Board in May 2021, and was approved by the Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy in July 2023.

The 2021 SWMP includes four goals and outlines three focus areas (Reduce/Reuse, Recycling and Recovery/Residuals Management) consisting of 15 strategies, as shown below. An update on the progress towards implementation of the strategies can be found in Appendix A of the attached progress report.

<b>GOALS</b>			
Have informed citizens who participate effectively in proper waste management practices.	Surpass the provincial per capita waste disposal target.	Extend the life of Hartland Landfill to 2100 and beyond.	Ensure that the CRD’s solid waste services are financially sustainable.

<b>FOCUS AREAS</b>		
<b>Reduce and Reuse Strategies</b>	<b>Recycling Strategies</b>	<b>Recovery and Residuals Management Strategies</b>
1. Continue and Enhance Education Programs 2. Encourage Waste Prevention 3. Support Reduction of Avoidable Food Waste 4. Support Reuse Activities in the Region 5. Support Local Governments in Working Towards Zero Waste and a Circular Economy 6. Continue and Enhance Policy Development	7. Increase Residential Diversion 8. Increase Multi-Family Diversion 9. Increase Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Diversion 10. Support Existing and New Extended Producer Responsibility Programs 11. Increase Organics Diversion and Processing Capacity 12. Increase Construction, Renovation and Demolition Material Diversion 13. Encourage Proper Public Space Waste Management Activities	14. Optimize Landfill Gas Management 15. Enhance Hartland Disposal Capacity

Performance indicators in the attached 2023 report have been analyzed and assessed by CRD staff. In the SWMP, the per capita waste disposal rate is used to help the CRD and residents of the region understand progress towards the plan’s waste reduction goals and targets. In 2023, the CRD calculated a disposal rate of 382 kg/capita, a decrease of 23 kg/capita from 2022. The 2023 per capita disposal rate excludes landfilling of Class A Biosolids.

In the spring of 2023, CRD staff worked with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee to develop additional indicators to enable tracking of progress towards meeting the SWMP goals. Through this process, additional data collection was initiated to allow for comparisons over time, and the following studies were added to the Environmental Resource Management workplan and 2024-2028 budget: the Market Research and Engagement Study (2024), the Waste Generator Study (2025) and the Solid Waste Composition Study (2026). The 2023 Progress report will be reviewed by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the SWMP implementation.

In relation to policy changes, the CRD Board has approved bylaw changes at Hartland Landfill, including new material bans, adjusted the tipping fee structure and increased bylaw fines. The changes to the Hartland Landfill Tipping Fee and Regulation Bylaw No. 3881 and Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw No. 1857 will come into effect in two phases in 2024. These new policies are expected to support the CRD’s goal to reduce the per capita disposal rate and make progress towards the SWMP disposal rate target of 250 kg/capita.

Furthermore, the Province requires that the implementation of the SWMP be monitored by a plan monitoring committee, which is one of the main roles of the CRD’s Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

**CONCLUSION**

The CRD’s Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) includes four goals and 15 strategies, and staff began implementation of the SWMP in 2021. An update on the progress towards implementation of the SWMP can be found in the CRD’s 2023 SWMP Progress Report. It is expected that with the implementation of the new policies, the per capita disposal rate will further decrease, which will make progress towards the SWMP disposal rate target. The CRD’s 2023 SWMP Progress Report will be reviewed by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for monitoring and evaluating purposes.

**RECOMMENDATION**

There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

Submitted by:	Russ Smith, Senior Manager, Environmental Resource Management
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**ATTACHMENT**

Appendix A: Solid Waste Management Plan – 2023 Progress Report