

**REPORT TO ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 2018**

SUBJECT **Renovation Waste Campaign Update**

ISSUE

To update the committee regarding the Capital Regional District (CRD) Reno Safe and Waste Wise campaign supporting safe management of residential renovation waste.

BACKGROUND

Construction, renovation and demolition-related waste has increased at Hartland landfill in recent years and home renovators produce a significant portion of that waste. Many renovations are completed by homeowners who may not understand waste and safety-related risks and regulations. CRD staff have observed that many loads are improperly packaged and bring potentially hazardous renovation waste to the landfill. In doing so, they potentially expose themselves, family members, landfill visitors and staff to airborne asbestos fibers and other hazardous wastes.

WorkSafeBC regulations require safe working environments for all employees. To ensure the safety of CRD landfill employees, a new pre-approval process has been implemented prior to accepting residential renovation waste. The pre-approval process for residential users mirrors the process already in place for commercial users and involves review of data to confirm the presence/absence of hazards. The new process essentially compels the public to properly demonstrate waste quality and appropriately package and dispose of wastes.

The CRD launched a six-week pilot program and campaign in January 2018. The goal was to educate the public regarding the risks associated with hazardous wastes, with an emphasis on asbestos, and the upcoming pre-approval process. The campaign is consistent with current WorkSafeBC messaging and reminds the public about renovation waste health risks and that these risks extend beyond their immediate family to renovation workers and landfill staff.

The message has been delivered through outreach events and new educational tools. Through the campaign, staff prepared web content and other educational tools such as brochures (Appendix A) and print and digital advertising (Appendix B). Staff shared information with municipal planning departments, Hartland landfill, visitors and staff, private waste disposal centres and at numerous outreach events. Campaign costs were approximately \$30,000, including planning, graphic design and advertising. During the six-week campaign, staff engaged over 2,000 members of the public. The attached table (Appendix C) reports metrics for the main campaign tools.

CONCLUSIONS

In early 2018, the campaign and pilot study successfully educated over 2,000 members of the public regarding safe management of renovation wastes. The message and campaign materials will continue to be shared with the public during various CRD outreach events (e.g., home shows). Hartland's new pre-approval process commenced on March 31, 2018 and improved evaluation of renovation waste quality will continue to support safe working environments for all employees.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environmental Services Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That this report be received for information.

Submitted by:	Glenn Harris, Ph.D., R.P.Bio., Senior Manager, Environmental Protection
Concurrence:	Larisa Hutcheson, P.Eng., General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

KKT:cam/ss

Attachments: Appendix A – CRD Clean Demo Brochure
Appendix B – CRD Clean Demo Waste Advertisement Example
Appendix C – CRD Clean Demo Campaign Metrics