

Executive Summary – 2018 Existing Solid Waste Management System

The Capital Regional District (CRD) is undertaking a review of the 1995 Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP). The *Environmental Management Act* mandates regional districts to develop plans for the management of municipal solid waste and recyclable materials. The purpose of the SWMP is to provide the CRD with a guiding document that will direct the Region's solid waste management activities over the next 10 years, while also considering longer-term objectives and opportunities.

This document outlines the implementation status of the 1995 Plan and describes the current waste management system in the CRD. This information will be used as the baseline for developing an updated SWMP.

From 1989 to 2016, the CRD reduced the per capita disposal at Hartland from 671 kg per capita per year down to 348 kg per capita; a reduction of 48%. In 2016, there was 133,196 tonnes of solid waste disposed at Hartland landfill. The implementation of a kitchen scraps disposal ban in 2015 resulted in a 6.6% decrease in organic waste being landfilled in 2016.

Waste composition studies conducted by the CRD at Hartland landfill indicate that the largest components of waste currently being landfilled (by weight) are organics, paper, plastic and wood.

Solid waste activities in the CRD include: curbside collection services, recycling depots, return centres for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) products, reuse opportunities, transfer stations, recyclables processing facilities, yard and garden waste composting facilities and two landfill sites. These activities are undertaken by public, private and non-profit organizations and are reflective of a complex and mature solid waste management system.

The annual budget for the CRD's solid waste services was \$19.5 million in 2016, which includes all activities at Hartland landfill and all solid waste diversion programs. The solid waste services are funded primarily through tipping fees revenue (69% of revenues). The CRD's curbside recycling collection of packaging and printed paper is funded through an EPR program, which accounts for 24% of revenue. Additional revenue is received through the sale of recyclables and energy generated by landfill gas.

This report describes the system as it exists in 2018. A previous report was prepared in 2012; however, the process to update the SWMP was put on hold from 2015 to 2017. A number of changes have occurred since that 2012 report was prepared. Many of the issues that were identified in the previous report have been resolved and new challenges have arisen. These challenges are described at the end of relevant sections.