



**REPORT TO ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2013**

**SUBJECT EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAMS AND NEW
INITIATIVES UPDATE**

ISSUE

To provide the Environmental Services Committee with an update on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs and new initiatives.

BACKGROUND

Waste Diversion Initiatives

Environmental Resource Management staff continually investigate new waste diversion initiatives based on research, new technology developments, public feedback, pilot projects and stakeholder consultation. The status of these initiatives is presented in annual updates to the Environmental Services Committee. Appendix A provides an update on current initiatives and new projects.

Extended Producer Responsibility Programs

A component of waste diversion programs involves staff participation in consultation and assistance with local implementation and monitoring of EPR programs. EPR, through the *British Columbia Recycling Regulation*, requires that brand owners of certain commodities take responsibility for the end-of-life management of their products and not the general taxpayer or local government.

The provincial regulation currently includes the following EPR programs:

- used beverage containers
- paint
- solvents and flammable liquids
- used gasoline
- pesticides
- pharmaceuticals
- tires
- lead acid batteries
- used lubricating oil
- filters and containers
- antifreeze
- electronic and electrical items

Provincial programs provide the Capital Regional District (CRD) with the ability to partner with the individual industry stewardship program agencies to collect these materials on their behalf. For EPR programs provided at Hartland recycling, the CRD is typically paid a handling fee and the stewardship agencies cover transportation and recycling/disposal costs. Appendix B provides an update on EPR programs and a complete list of collected materials.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environmental Services Committee receive the Extended Producer Responsibility Programs and New Initiatives Update for information.

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WASTE DIVERSION INITIATIVES

INITIATIVE	2013 UPDATE
Asphalt Shingles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asphalt shingle recycling was tested through a successful pilot program where, in 2010, diversion of dedicated loads of shingles received at Hartland landfill's active face began. With more than 800 tonnes of asphalt shingles diverted from the landfill in 2012, this work was tendered and a permanent program is now in place for the hauling and processing of this material.
Hide-a-Bed Sofas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new initiative for the recycling of the metal portion of hide-a-bed sofas is currently being piloted for items received in the Hartland general public drop-off area.
Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Programs (beyond Hartland site)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotating mobile HHW collection events on Salt Spring and the Southern Gulf Islands have been conducted since 2006. In 2013, events will be held on Galiano, Mayne and Saturna Islands. Assistance with management of HHW abandoned at non-profit recycling organizations was initiated in 2007.
Illegal Dumping/ Waste Abandonment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research was conducted in 2011 to determine the level and impact illegal dumping and waste abandonment activities have on the region. A strategy was subsequently developed, with 2013 activities comprising of extensive outreach and communications, the investigation of expanding existing CRD programs as well as a follow-up survey.
Kitchen Scraps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In April 2012, the CRD Board approved a phased-in diversion strategy for kitchen scraps management, which includes a \$20/tonne incentive (2013-2014) for waste haulers who deliver kitchen scrap loads to CRD-approved facilities, and a 20% surcharge (2014) at Hartland landfill on garbage loads containing kitchen scraps. The final phase is a ban on kitchen scraps from Hartland landfill starting January 1, 2015. There are currently 7 haulers receiving incentive funding with almost 3,000 tonnes of kitchen scraps diverted from the landfill and sent for composting between January and May 2013.
Mattresses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Segregation of mattresses and box springs at the Hartland general public drop-off area began in 2009, subsequent to a pilot conducted the previous year in partnership with the Fairmont Empress and Ellice Recycle. In 2012, 163 tonnes of mattresses were diverted from the landfill where, through deconstruction, 75% of the components are recycled. In early 2013, this initiative transitioned to a permanent program.
Non-Profit Recyclers Diversion Credit Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since 1992, the CRD has provided funding to non-profit recycling organizations to assist with disposal of unusable donations. Staff meet and communicate with 8 local agencies regularly and work together to encourage the public to donate responsibly.

INITIATIVE	2013 UPDATE
Plastic (Film)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A pilot program for the collection of clean film plastic began at Hartland recycling in 2007. • This program diverted 6 tonnes of material from landfill in 2012. • In 2014, this material will be managed through the industry-led stewardship program for printed paper and packaging.
Plastic (Rigid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection of rigid plastic items at Hartland recycling, such as lawn furniture and toys, began in 2006. • This program diverted 139 tonnes of material from the landfill in 2012.
Polycoated Cartons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polycoated cartons (milk cartons and soup/juice boxes) were added to CRD curbside, depot and apartment recycling programs in May 2012.
Salvageable Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through partnerships with local non-profit recycling organizations, various reusable items are accepted at Hartland recycling. • This program, which diverted more than 8 tonnes of material for reuse in 2012, is regularly monitored for opportunities to expand. • Bicycles are now accepted for repair and refurbishment for deployment to local market, as well as programs overseas.
Styrofoam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A pilot for the collection of Styrofoam at Hartland recycling is underway, with 6 tonnes of material collected in 2012. Material is subsequently densified and shipped for processing where it is made into items such as moldings and picture frames. • In May 2014, this material will be managed through the industry-led stewardship program for printed paper and packaging.
Toilets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection of toilets at Hartland recycling began in 2007, in conjunction with a CRD Integrated Water Services initiative. • The toilets were crushed onsite and used to displace the use of aggregate. This program was discontinued in early 2013 due to safety concerns.
Wood Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary segregation of wood waste at the Hartland general public drop-off area began in 2006. • The program diverted 1,270 tonnes of material from landfill in 2012 and a limited collection has now been implemented at the landfill's active face. • A wood waste landfill restriction will be considered in the new Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan. • New contracts were awarded in December 2012 for hauling and processing of wood waste. The successful tenderers were also awarded contract for mattress and asphalt shingle hauling and processing.

EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAMS

INITIATIVE (STEWARDSHIP AGENCY)	2013 UPDATE
Antifreeze	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collection of antifreeze began at Hartland recycling in 2004. In July 2011, the stewardship program for used oil was expanded to include antifreeze and its containers. Hartland is a registered collection site.
Beverage Containers (Encorp Pacific) (Brewers Distributor)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CRD participates in these programs indirectly through the processing contract for mixed containers collected in recycling programs. In 2013, staff participated in the consultation process on Encorp Pacific's draft stewardship plan for 2014-2018.
Bicycle Tires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new voluntary bicycle tire recycling program was launched in June 2011 by Tire Stewardship BC. Hartland recycling has been secured as a collection site.
Electronics – Phase 1 - televisions/computers (Encorp Pacific)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program launched in 2007; Hartland recycling is an official collection site. In anticipation of an expansion to this program set for August 2013, electronic toys (e.g., ride-on vehicles and hand-held gaming devices) are being collected at Hartland recycling.
Electronics – Phase 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPR programs launched in July 2010; Hartland recycling is an official collection site.
- household batteries (Call2Recycle)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collection at Hartland recycling began in 2006.
- lighting equipment <i>LightRecycle</i> (Product Care)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hartland recycling began collecting fluorescent tubes in 2008. With the launch of EPR program in 2010 for fluorescent tubes and CFL bulbs, Hartland recycling was established as an official collection site. Lighting program expanded in 2012 to include all types of light bulbs and all light fixtures.
- mobile phones (Call2Recycle) - telecommunications audio/video equipment (Encorp Pacific) - thermostats (Switch the 'Stat)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collection at Hartland recycling began in 2006. Previous to EPR program, some of this material was diverted through salvage area or metal recycling. Collection at Hartland recycling began in 2006.

<p>Electronics – Phase 3 - smoke detectors (Product Care)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection at Hartland recycling began in 2006 through the HHW program. • EPR program commenced in 2011.
<p>Electronics – Phase 4 - small appliances <i>ElectroRecycle</i> (Product Care)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After a successful partnership in 2011 for the provision of a test load of material, Hartland recycling was established as an official collection site. • Subsequently, the small appliance recycling program expanded to include power tools, sewing and hobby equipment and exercise machines.
<p>Electronics – Phase 5 - outdoor power equipment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor power equipment has historically been accepted in the scrap metal stream at Hartland recycling since 1992. An agreement to establish Hartland recycling as an official EPR collection site was secured in 2012.
<p>- large appliances</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large appliances have been collected at Hartland recycling since 1992 through the scrap metal recycling contract. In 2012, this program diverted 138 tonnes of material. • An EPR program is currently under development and is expected to include non-metal items, such as dishwashers, and provide for management of refrigerant removal.
<p>Packaging and Printed Material</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>BC Recycling Regulation</i> was amended in May 2011 to include packaging and printed material, which requires a program for collection from residential premises and municipal property (that is not ICI) to commence within 3 years. • The products regulated will include the items collected in the CRD Blue Box program, as well as additional packing materials such as Styrofoam and film plastic. • Current recycling contracts have been structured to align with the May 2014 launch date. • An update on this program will be presented to the Environmental Services Committee at its July 2013 meeting.