



**TECHNICAL AND COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CORE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT
Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

1:30 pm

Online only (MS Teams)

PRESENT: B. Donald, C. Coleman (Chair), C. Valeo, D. Kobayashi, D. Monsour, J. Andrews, J. Clary, J. Paul, L. Hatch, M. Engelsjord, S. Rennick

STAFF: D. Green, L. Nickerson (Recorder), P. Kickham

GUESTS: D. Liddy, K. Hamilton, R. Beise

REGRETS: C. Counce, C. Remington, G. Gillespie, G. Harris, I. Leung, J. Roe, K. Wilson, W. Pugh

Electronic Participation Only

Chair Coleman called the meeting to order at 1:31 pm.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Chair Coleman provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

Agenda for the [May 22, 2024](#) Technical and Community Advisory Committee meeting:

**MOVED by D. Kobayashi and SECONDED by B. Donald
That the agenda be approved as circulated.
CARRIED**

3. Adoption of Minutes of March 14, 2024

Minutes from the [March 14, 2024](#) Technical and Community Advisory Committee meeting.

**MOVED by D. Kobayashi and SECONDED by B. Donald
That the minutes of the March 14, 2024 Technical and Community Advisory
Committee be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED**

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Coleman thanked the committee members for their involvement and interest, and thanked Vice Chair Kobayashi for chairing the March 14, 2024 meeting.

5. Review of Long-Term Biosolids Management Plan

a. Update to long-term management options format - P. Kickham, CRD

P. Kickham informed the group of the long-term management options for biosolids that were presented to the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board during their meeting on May 8. The options have been divided into three different tiers in order of preference.

These changes are consistent with the recommendations from GHD (CRD's technical advisor for long-term biosolids management planning) except for specifying a distinction between in and out of region, compliance or contingency options, and there are greenhouse gas implications of transporting biosolids longer distances. See Item 7.2 from the [CRD Board May 8 meeting](#).

The group provided comments, asked questions and P. Kickham provided answers.

b. Public consultation update - K. Hamilton, Tavola Strategy Group

K. Hamilton gave a recap and update on the biosolids public consultation process (see Attachment A).

The "What We Heard" [Summary Consultation Report](#), captured and analyzed all of the feedback received.

c. First Nations engagement summary - P. Kickham, CRD

P. Kickham provided an overview of the First Nations engagement process. See the report titled [Long-term Biosolids Management Plan First Nations Engagement What We Heard Report](#). The Board directed staff to explore beneficial use opportunities for biosolids with any First Nations that have expressed interest.

d. Process and next steps - P. Kickham, CRD

The revised long-term biosolids strategy is posted on the [Get Involved](#) website showing Tiers 1, 2 and 3 in detail, available for public comment until June 3. All comments received will be included in the final reporting at the June 12 Board meeting. If the Board approves this long-term strategy, it will be submitted to the Province on June 18.

The Board directed staff to retain an independent, unbiased academic researcher to look at the risks and benefits of land application of biosolids and to hire a law firm or legal expert to provide the Board with an understanding of the potential legal liabilities associated with land application of biosolids. CRD staff will be providing information to the CRD Environmental Services Committee and back to the CRD Board in the coming months.

6. Draft Amendment 13 (Inflow and Infiltration and Sanitary Overflows) update on process and next steps - D. Green, CRD

An invitation to review and discuss the Kerr Wood Leidal (KWL) consultant report and draft Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP) Section 5 (endorsed by the TCAC at the February meeting) has been sent to Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations for their input and comment. CRD staff hope to have a response by mid-June to engage with both nations as they have a significant interest in the shorelines of the core area.

Staff will also do a wider First Nations notice to the nations in the British Columbia Consultative Database that have interest in this region. Online public consultation will be via the CRD website (similar to how Get Involved is used for other CRD initiatives).



Making a difference...together

All input will go back to the CRD Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee. CRD staff anticipate it will also go to the municipalities for their endorsement as the seven core municipalities are participants in the LWMP. It will then go the Board to send Amendment 13 to the Province for their consideration before the end of the year.

7. Next meeting

There are no more meetings scheduled at the moment but that may change.

8. Closing Comments

Chair Coleman thanked the group for their involvement as it has been very helpful in understanding a series of issues.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:56 pm.

**MOVED by D. Kobayashi and all in favor
That the Technical and Community Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED**

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT
**Long-Term Biosolids
Management Plan**

**Summary of Public Input
TCAC**

May 2024

TAVOLA
STRATEGY GROUP



Engagement Process



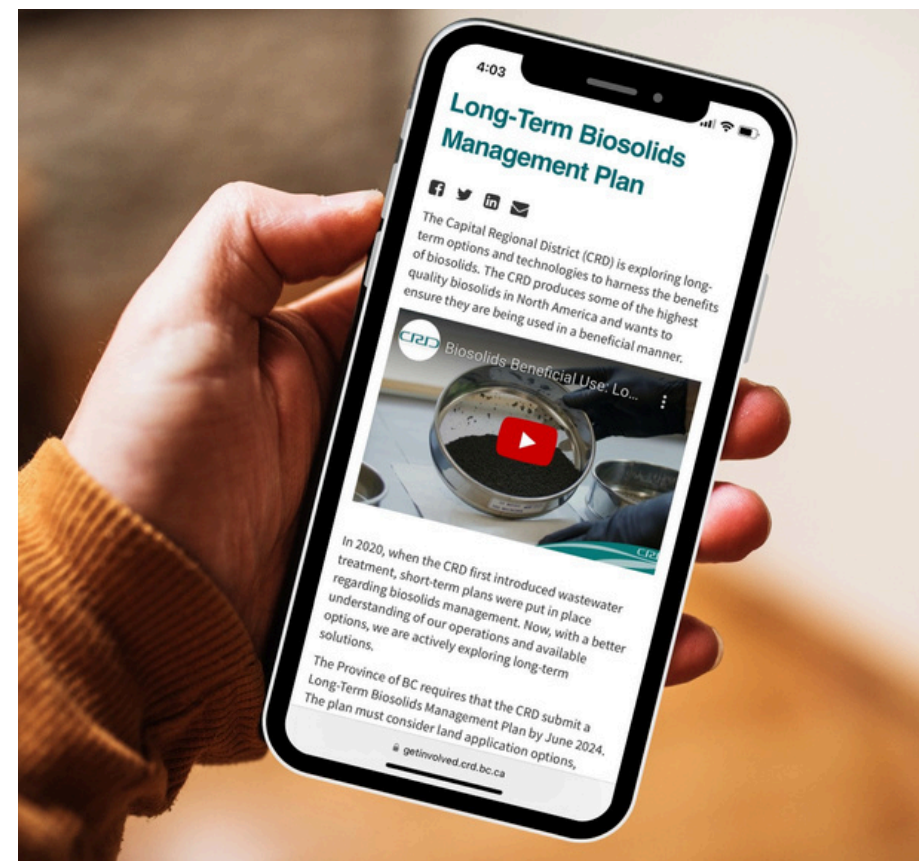
IAP2 Informed Consultation Plan

Establish engagement objectives and methods.



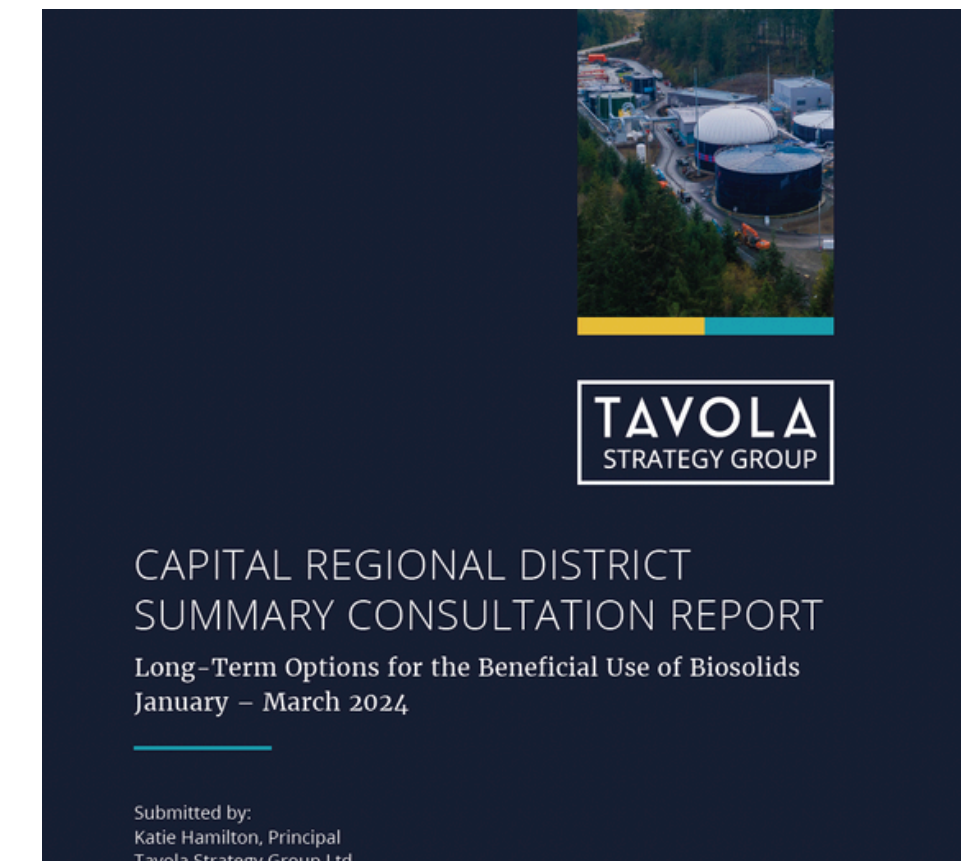
Active Engagement

Awareness-raising and variety of engagement activities to capture input.

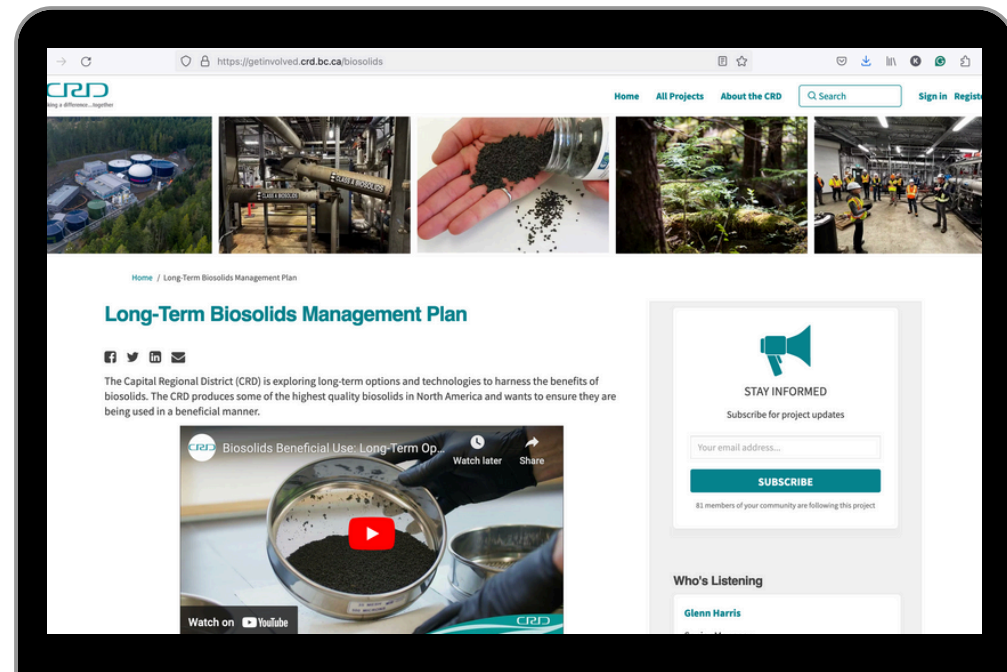


Reporting and Closing the Loop

What We Heard report and communicating results to participants and community.



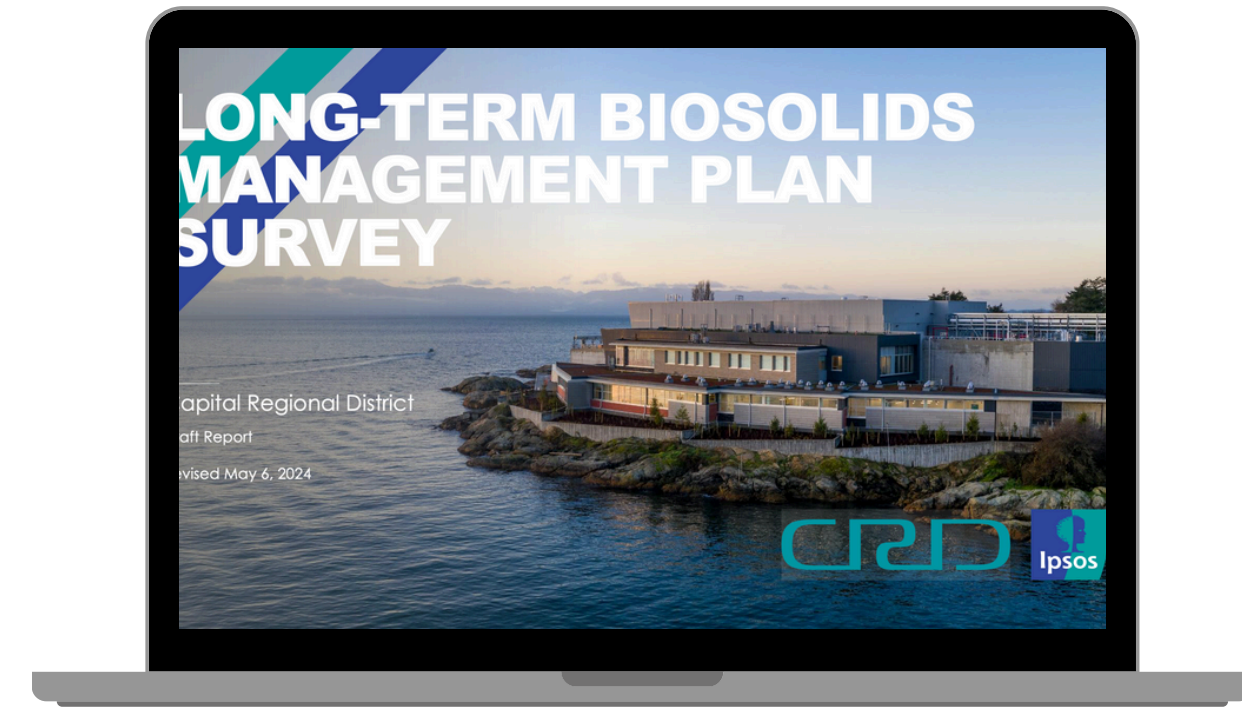
Engagement Activities



**CRD Online Survey
January 11 -
March 6, 2024**

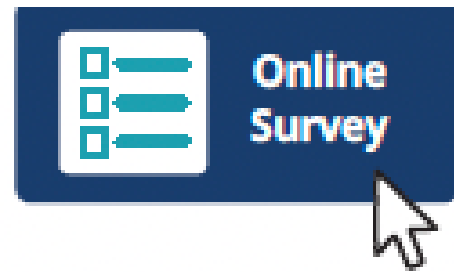


**Virtual Open House
Tuesday, February 20, 2024**



**IPSOS Representative Survey
March 1 - March 11, 2024**

Participation



569
Online survey participants



56
Open house attendees



516
*Representative survey of
Capital Region residents*



12
Subscribers to project updates



3,300
Unique web visitors



7
Emails to biosolids@crd.bc.ca



12
Questions and answers via website



Part 2:

What We Heard

Over-Arching Themes

- **Both surveys indicated “Environmental Impacts [air, water and soil contaminants]” were most important consideration.**
- **The 2 surveys solicited very different results in terms of options:**
 - **IPSOS representative survey indicates strong majority support and low levels of opposition to all beneficial uses presented. Support is highest for forest fertilizer and industrial land reclamation.**
 - **CRD survey indicates substantial opposition to most options other than Advanced Thermal, with least support for bagged residential and agricultural fertilizer.**
- **The most popular option (Advanced Thermal) in CRD survey was the least popular for the broader general public in the IPSOS survey.**
- **The level of opposition to all options and associated concerns were much higher in the CRD survey.**

Over-Archiving Themes

Comparison of survey results regarding options:

	IPSOS		CRD	
	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>
LONG-TERM BIOSOLIDS USE OPTION				
Forest fertilizer	85%	4%	41%	51%
Industrial land reclamation (e.g. mine/quarry)	83%	6%	43%	45%
Wholesale fertilizer for landscaping	79%	5%	37%	54%
Agriculture fertilizer	78%	7%	34%	60%
Bagged fertilizer for low-cost residential use	77%	7%	33%	56%
Fuel for incineration/ combustion	66%	9%	49%	38%
Advanced thermal (gasification/pyrolysis technology)	56%	11%	66%	19%

**Numbers may not add to 100% due to summary reporting and rounding.*

Over-Arching Themes

- **Many respondents to CRD survey noted concerns:**
 - **Potential contaminants [e.g. toxicity, PFAS's] and health and environmental risks of land application**
 - **Felt land application options are not a “beneficial use” due to potential risks.**
 - **Advanced thermal/biochar options are seen as the most effective method to reduce risks.**
- **Correspondence, open house, and CRD survey expressed need for more detail about:**
 - **Piloting advanced thermal options**
 - **Testing, scientific research and risks associated with land application.**
 - **Cost-benefit analysis of options and feasibility and case studies of in other jurisdictions.**
-
- **The majority of correspondence noted risks associated with land application and encouraged the CRD Board to uphold the existing land application ban.**

Next Steps

The *What We Heard* consultation summary report will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy as part of the Long Term Biosolids Management Plan.

It will be posted on the project website:
www.getinvolved.crd.bc.ca

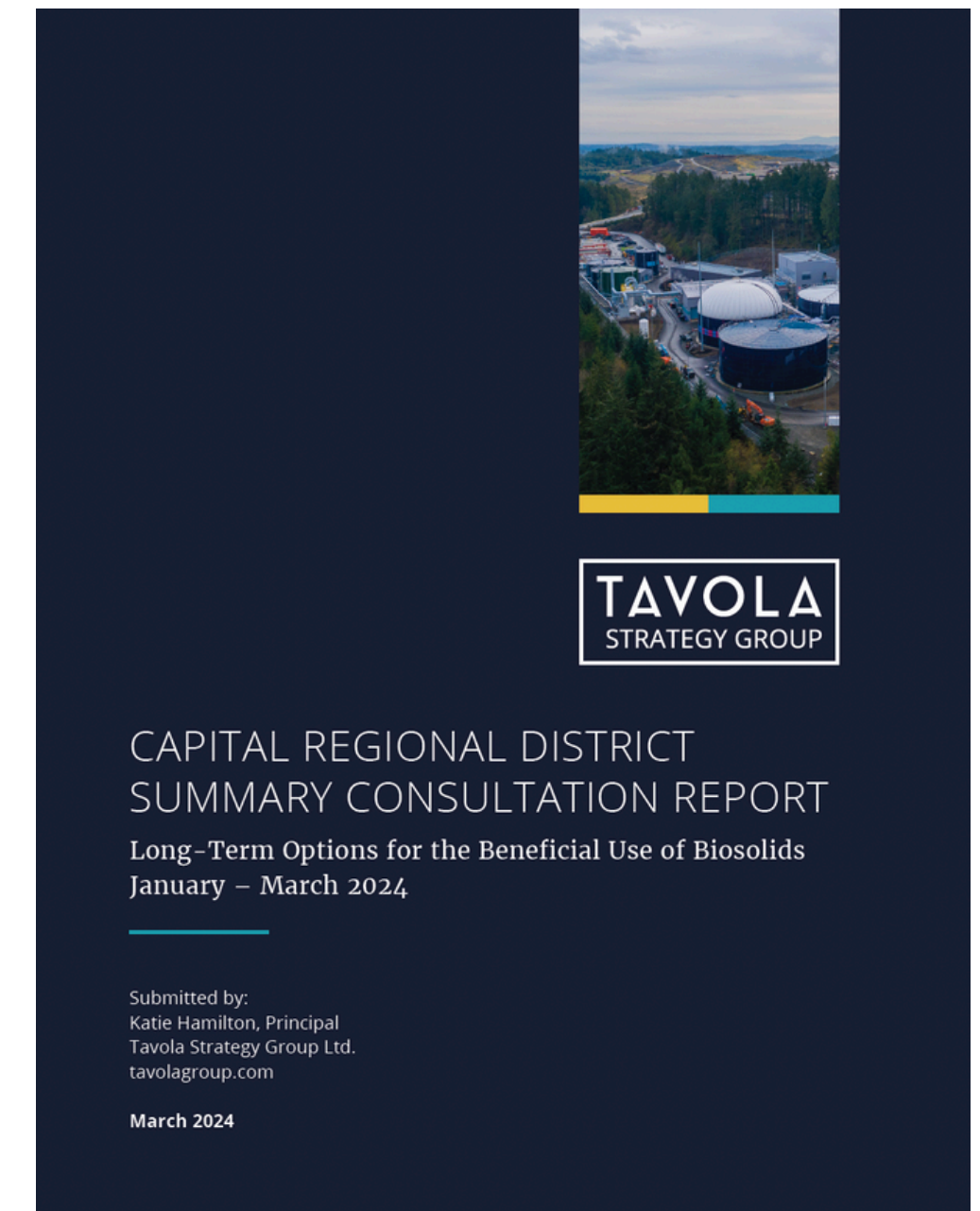


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Questions?

We are here to help.

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