

Minutes of the Plan Monitoring Advisory Committee (PMAC) meeting held Wednesday, December 12, 2008, in the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine Board Room, Suite 300, 4545 Lazelle Avenue, Terrace, B.C., commencing at 9:55 a.m.

<p>MEMBERS PRESENT:</p> <p>STAFF PRESENT:</p> <p>REGRETS</p>	<p>Barb Hall - KUTE Stew Christensen - Public Brad North - City of Terrace (left at 1:10 pm) Edward Derrik - Gitanyow Band Mark Love - Ministry of Environment (by phone) Brenda Black - Ministry of Environment</p> <p>Roger Tooms - Manager, Works & Services Laurie Gallant - Zero Waste Program Coordinator (p/t contract) Sarah Houston - Secretarial Support</p> <p>Tim Gleig - District of Kitimat Kelly Mattson - Village of Hazelton Pauline Rubinato - Gitanmaax Band</p> <p>It was noted all original PMAC members were sent a letter and phoned about the meeting. Some of the original PMAC members have since moved out of the area, have changed phone numbers, have changed jobs, or are no longer interested. All Band offices were also contacted by letter.</p>
<p>CALL MEETING TO ORDER</p> <p>WELCOME AND INTRO-DUCTIONS</p> <p>ADOPTION OF AGENDA</p>	<p>Laurie called the meeting to order at 9:55 am. Given today's agenda and the number of members present, it was agreed that Laurie would chair the meeting. Stew is the official PMAC chair and suggested that when there are more members a Chair could be elected.</p> <p>Copies of the presentation for today's meeting were distributed, along with the original Terms of Reference for the committee and the Applicant's Kit for Landfill Diversion Credits. The presentation notes are posted at http://www.rdks.bc.ca/zero_waste/whatsnew_events.php and should be consulted while reviewing the minutes.</p> <p>Laurie thanked everyone for coming and stated that the meeting's two objectives are 1)to bring everyone up to speed on waste management issues on a local, regional and provincial level as they relate to implementation of the Solid Waste Management Plan and 2)to review the Committee Terms of Reference. All present introduced themselves – name, organization represented, history with PMAC and/or Solid Waste Management.</p> <p>Laurie noted that she has been working with RDKS over the last 4 years on specific projects and about a year ago, that role evolved into a part-time (avg 10 hrs/wk) position to assist Roger with Plan implementation and other environmental programs such as water conservation, air quality and energy management, all bundled up into the new Zero Waste Program.</p> <p>The agenda was adopted with Laurie's addition of a closing circle where each participant would state their priority concern and solution to be addressed by this committee in</p>

	<p>partner with UNBC students to conduct a waste composition study at RDKS landfills as part of a UNBC field course. The Diversion Credit program also asks for data related to materials diverted by recycling and composting projects.</p>	
<p>Overview of Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) see slides</p>	<p>LG provided an overview of the SWMP noting specific strategies under each category of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recovery, and Residuals Management (Landfilling). Not all Regional Districts have been able to meet the BC target of 50% reduction of materials. Roger said the PMAC plan was hit 33% diversion by 2000. It was noted that the City of Terrace/RDKS composter distribution program was delivered before 1995.</p> <p>Mark Love commended Roger and the Regional District for undertaking the revision of the Solid Waste Management Plan. He added that implementation of the Plan has been challenging due to the amount of time and energy spent on landfill siting and management issues.</p> <p>There have been some major developments since 1995, such as the creation of this committee and the BC Recycling Regulation, which can help all RDKS communities move forward with zero waste. Examples of successful programs were provided by participants ie. in Kitimat, school classes tour the recycling depot to see how things are done. Barb feels that more people are recycling because the students are excited about recycling. An in-house purchasing policy was discussed, and Laurie feels it should be looked at more. With respect to City bylaws requiring new developments to provide space for recycling. Brad noted that the City of Terrace is using biodegradable bags for composting at their landfill and looking at those types of bags for other wastes.</p> <p>Laurie suggested have a "Myth or Truth" area on the RDKS website under Zero Waste, where people can type in questions or comments, and Laurie would let them know if it was myth or truth. Brad cited a resident who had phoned inquiring if it was true that all recycling materials was now being landfilled due to market crash.</p> <p>According to the Plan, up to 16.5 full-time equivalent positions could be needed to implement all strategies including landfill and recycling facility operators. After doing an approximate head count, there are</p>	<p>LG to send Brad North an example of a municipal purchasing policy with some specific tips for accelerating a composting solution for organic materials being landfilled.</p> <p>RDKS staff to send PMAC an operating landfills status update with the SWMP.</p> <p>LG to follow up with David Block at City of Terrace regarding bylaws that facilitate zero waste.</p> <p>PMAC members to send LG questions, myths, anecdotes and facts related to zero waste for the website.</p>

	approximately 16 full-time equivalent positions to date including Laurie and Roger.	
other big questions	<p>Ed updated the Committee that there is one landfill in Kitwanga which collects waste from a bunch of little towns, but there is no recycling available. He would like to see better signs, and more separation of waste.</p> <p>Roger added that as a priority he would like to review Financing of the Plan.</p> <p>Mark asked about the monitoring committee. He feels the challenge is resources, and putting ideas into motion, then keeping them moving. Roger said when developing the committee, and looking at implementing, there wasn't an appetite to move forward from everyone. There were different priorities from different communities. There are different initiatives looking at financing so the challenge will be to prove initiatives offered are going to be beneficial cost wise. He suggested amending the plan, but the committee could still move forward without some amendments, and look at using the resources already in place.</p>	Review Plan Financing; Taxation, User fees, and First Nation contribution.
BIG CHANGES (see slides)	LG presented information on the three most significant big picture changes since the RDKS SWMP was adopted in 1995.	Look at carbon offset procedures for the Regional District. Ask MOE to share their system.
climate change	Noted that climate change impacts occur at each stage of a product's life cycle, from extraction to landfilling or recycling. Barb asked about production of methane gas during compost process and how this compared to landfilling organics. Roger described a proper composting system, which has aeration, therefore will not produce methane gas. The Terrace and Thornhill landfills compost yard and garden waste using static piles.	LG to meet with City of Terrace and NWCC in January regarding a composting pilot project.
BC Recycling Regulation	<p>Laurie described the BC regulation that shifts responsibility for product management from local government back to industry – called “extended producer responsibility” (EPR). Combined with organics diversion, these two strategies are the pillars of a zero waste program. She noted that RDKS is a member of the BC Product Stewardship Council, a coalition of regional districts that provide advice to the province and industry on the implementation of new programs including setting priorities for which products should have programs and how to improve the program performances. She is part of the Stewardship program, so if there is anything the committee would like to discuss, to please let her know.</p> <p>Roger described a paper that Laurie produced</p>	<p>PMAC members to provide comments to Laurie to pass back to Stewardship Council on effectiveness of EPR programs.</p> <p>Send out EPR evaluation template to PMAC.</p>

<p>failing economy</p>	<p>on how Regional Districts can transition to 100% product stewardship – this was circulated around the province. It includes an evaluation process where each product stewardship program be evaluated, and those evaluations be given the product stewardship. He encouraged everyone to fill in these evaluations, and then the whole province can use this information for the benefit of all.</p> <p>Laurie noted that conversations regarding failing recycling markets are happening across the province (and the globe) and now more than ever we have a chance to be innovative. Strategies for coping with traditional markets include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. reduce and reuse materials that are hard to recycle 2. buy products with recycled content i.e. paper and plastic 3. compost everything possible 4. explore local reuse and recycling options <p>She noted that she has taught a workshop on recycling-based economic development and has many good materials to share on the subject.</p> <p>Roger had a meeting with “Do Your Part” a recycling business in Terrace and Thornhill and they talked about getting the crushed glass from Encorp and use it as a ground cover at the landfills. Barb agreed with idea, rather carting our recycling down south, why not have something in the North.</p>	<p>LG to distribute information related to creating and supporting local end markets.</p> <p>Roger to pursue formal development of glass reuse program.</p>
<p>ZERO WASTE see slides</p> <p>CURRENT ZERO WASTE PROJECTS see slides</p>	<p>Laurie presented the concept of Zero Waste and pointed out that many of the Plan strategies are consistent with a Zero Waste goal as written.</p> <p>Projects she is working on now are all branded Zero Waste including the Landfill Diversion Credit Pilot Project. Five applications were received for the Landfill Diversion Credit Pilot Project by the December 1st deadline. Three other applications are possibly going to be added by the March deadline. Agreed that for the pilot project staff can evaluate applications and project logistics and PMAC can get involved during next iteration.</p> <p>Laurie noted she has developed and staffed several displays over the past year and the public response has been very positive. Themes have been “greening business” and “backyard composting”.</p> <p>LG noted that she has been working on a Business Waste Reduction Guide with Northwest Community College and has tested out a quick and dirty audit form. This is being finalized</p>	<p>Laurie to send a summary of applications to PMAC.</p>

	<p>and presented early in the new year – a partnership with Community Futures (CFDC 16/37) to roll this out is in the works.</p> <p>Roger added that demonstration gardens showing a variety of composting methods are being discussed as a public education program. Barb informed the committee of a project KUTE did with summer students and composting education, where the students would go to homes in the community and research what kind of system the homeowner would like for composting, then the students would build a composter for the homeowner out of old wood pallets and deliver them to the homeowner. KUTE received a grant for this project.</p> <p>Ed said that Kitwanga had a similar project, but by the end of the summer the depot was broken into and the recyclables were spread across the community again. Laurie offered to make a presentation to students in Kitwanga and to work with them on more projects.</p> <p>Mark stated he is glad to see discussion on climate change at this committee – this is a provincial priority. Any projects that help with the situation are more likely to get support i.e. diverting organics. He noted that Nova Scotia had great success with diverting organics by banning them from landfills on a provincial landfill – they have achieved 75% diversion. Laurie added that Clean Air is tied into this and she is working on a project through the BVLD Airshed Management Society and CFDC 16/37 to build an inventory of woody debris being burned (or landfilled) so that matches can be made with end users – project to be completed by March 31, 2009.</p>	<p>Laurie and Mark to organize a regional seminar on open burning and the woody debris inventory.</p>
<p>TERMS OF REFERENCE (amended version attached)</p>	<p>Changes approved: Remove statements no longer relevant or now redundant under Committee Representation and Scope. Amendments to Objectives and Tasks to address need for Plan reviews and ability to conduct them.</p> <p>Amendments to Conduct of meetings:</p> <p>add: meet bi-annually eliminate: election of secretary add: RDKS will provide secretary, travel expenses will be reimbursed.</p> <p>Understood: meetings and travel will be conducted in a way that minimizes our footprint i.e. carbon offset programs for travel.</p>	<p>Roger to confirm Board policies on inviting public to meetings and posting information on websites related to the work of advisory committees.</p> <p>RDKS staff to circulate new draft of TofR.</p> <p>Revisit definition of quorum.</p>

<p>CLOSING CIRCLE: TOP CONCERNS AND SOLUTIONS</p>	<p>Brad would like to see more composting in the community, and would like to have more meetings, but shorter.</p> <p>Ed would like to know what is going to happen at the Kitwanga Landfill, and feels the solution is to stop burying the garbage, and recycle more. A transfer station should allow for sorting of materials.</p> <p>Roger said the intention is to stop the landfill in Kitwanga, and turn it into a transfer station to Hazelton.</p> <p>Stew asked about Forceman Ridge and when it was going to open, and his solution is to open it up and get it going.</p> <p>Roger told him that the Operating Certificate has been issued and appealed, and he will be reporting to the Regional District Board on Friday, December 12, 2008.</p> <p>Barb feels there are lot of issues the PMAC is going to have to deal with and is concerned with a potential lack of focus. She recommends setting priorities and building on synergies.</p> <p>Mark's concern is Kitwanga's landfill and how there needs to be a source for the waste to go to. A potential solution is taking it to Hazelton which would involve a change in the Plan. His long term concern is climate change and feels that organic diversion is the solution.</p> <p>Brenda would like to see education on diversion; she feels that the public don't know that certain things can be diverted from the landfills.</p> <p>Roger would like to change people's reduction habits and see more support in EPR programs. He feels it would be in best interests to save money.</p> <p>Laurie noted that there is a lot of important work to be done, and looks forward to simultaneous implementation of diversion programs and landfill projects. She is glad to have a committee to work with and that there seems to be much agreement about focusing on EPR, organics diversion, and education.</p>	<p>Set up a meeting with neighbouring Regional Districts, Ministry of Environment, and member municipalities to look at joint initiatives.</p> <p>LG to set up a page for PMAC on the RDKS website where agendas, minutes presentation and reports can be downloaded.</p> <p>Re-establish subcommittees and local committees for landfills.</p>
<p>NEXT MEETING</p>	<p>Agreed to have meetings twice per year, potentially April and October with subcommittees meeting as needed. It was agreed that a Chair and Vice-Chair would not be</p>	<p>Staff to prepare Agenda and choose next meeting</p>

	<p>elected until the committee had more members.</p> <p>Suggested a Wednesday in April 2009, commencing at 10:00 a.m. Agreed that Terrace is the most central point to have PMAC meetings and carpooling is encouraged. Agenda items to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elections 2. Organics and Composting 3. General updates on Landfills 4. Orientation for new members 5. Landfill Diversion Credit Pilot Project 6. SWMP Review 	<p>date.</p>
<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>	<p>Meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.</p>	