January 15, 2019

PTAC Meeting #3

Theme:
Reduction & Reuse



## Survey Results



# Survey Distribution



14,200 printed surveys were sent to all households in the Regional District



36 drop-off locations for collecting completed surveys at municipal and band offices, educational institutions, public centers, and businesses



Reminders to complete the survey were published for two weeks in four local papers



Online survey was open from February 27 to April 1

- 875 responses received
  - 697 from the Terrace Service Area (about 4% of the population)
  - 178 responses were from the Hazelton and Highway 37 N Service Area (about 3% of the population)



Reduction and Reuse Topics

Reduction and reuse options

Reducing single-use items

Food waste reduction

Waste management space requirements for new ICI construction

Deconstruction versus demolition



### Reduction & Reuse Options



#### Reduce & Reuse Overview

- Waste reduction and reuse initiatives cost less than recycling, composting, and disposal
- The RD's focus is on enabling, supporting and promoting
  - Pass bylaws or disposal bans to incentivize waste reduction and reuse
  - Create stability at no net cost to the Regional District
  - Support organizations by promoting their activities
- Survey results show strong support, especially for reuse



# Reduce Options (1)

- Lobby the Provincial government to require manufacturers to reduce packaging (92% support in survey)
  - Use the Recycling Regulation
  - Resolution(s) to the North Coast Local Government Association (NCLGA) and Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)
  - Discussion with the Product Stewardship Council
- Adopt Green Government Strategy
  - Lead by example
  - Encourage municipalities as well



# Reduce Options (2)

- Conduct a low waste holiday campaign
  - Promote low-waste gift ideas, gift wrapping and decorating suggestions, and food waste reduction tips
  - Materials available from Metro Vancouver
- Conduct a textile waste reduction campaign
  - Promote the reduction, reuse, and repair of clothing
- Provide zero waste party supplies
  - Reusable cups, dishware, utensils, and cutlery available for residents to borrow



## Reuse Options

#### Reuse Stores

- Support non-profit organizations by identifying suitable sites, connecting volunteers with potential donors, helping volunteers navigate regulations, and promoting the facilities
- Investigate potential markets and incentivize or require deconstruction

#### Reuse Events

 Assist in finding or providing event locations, connect volunteers with potential donors, helping volunteers navigate regulations, and promote the event

#### Contractors' Guide

Focus on waste reduction and reuse in construction





### Reducing Single Use Items



# Single Use Items Overview

- Most item covered by Recycle BC at Do-Your-Part Recycling and Hazelton Bottle Depot
- Cutlery, straws, and any food-contaminated items are not recyclable



# Authority to Regulate Single Use Items

- RDKS cannot create bylaws directly regulating the distribution of SUIs
- RDKS does not issue business licenses (cannot regulate items distributed by businesses)
- The RDKS can:
  - Develop a model bylaw for member municipalities
  - Ban disposal of SUIs
  - Focus on education / outreach / behaviour change
  - Support pilot projects for exchange of dishware, containers or cups
  - Lobby senior governments

88% of survey respondents agree or strongly agree that the Regional District should explore options for reducing single use items



# Single Use Items Options (1)

- Develop model bylaw for member municipalities
  - Reduces burden on municipalities and increase potential for harmonization
  - CRD has taken this approach; Metro Vancouver chose not to
- Ban disposal of SUI
  - RDKS has the authority to ban or restrict certain items from disposal at its landfills
    - Difficult to enforce
    - Thresholds often higher than baseline quantity in the waste stream
    - No alternative market for SUIs from the ICI sector (no Recycle BC coverage)
  - Not recommended



# Single Use Items Options (2)

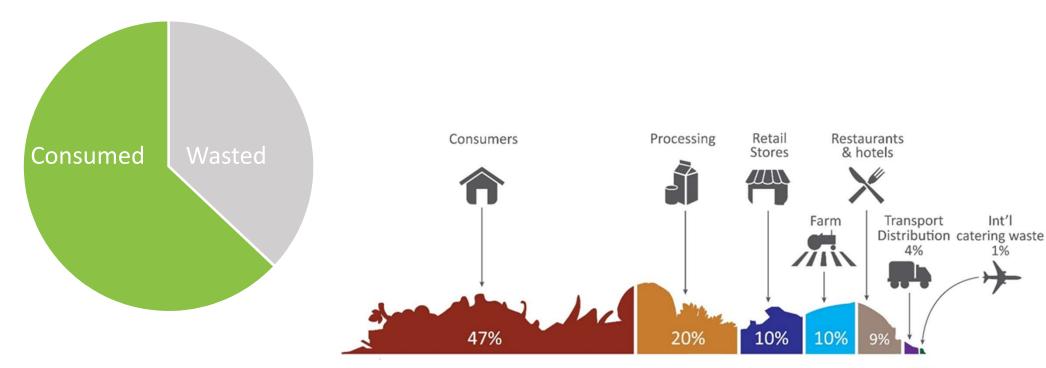
- Focus on education / outreach / behaviour change
  - Change personal habits and businesses practices
  - Focus on all SUI or just plastic bags?
- Support pilot projects for exchange of dishware, containers or cups
  - Facilitate connections between businesses to form a network
  - Liaise with local health authority to establish best practices
- Lobby senior governments
  - Lobby the provincial and federal governments to require businesses to restrict distribution of SUI



#### **Food Waste Reduction**



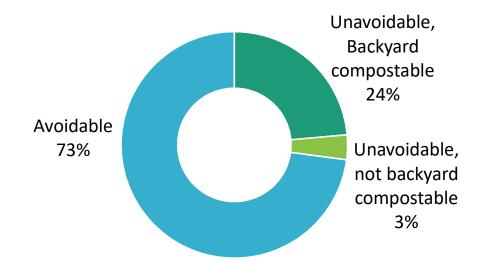
### Food Waste in Canada





#### Food Waste in the RDKS

1,184 tonnes of food waste in the garbage in the Terrace Area



Plus an estimated 1000 tonnes of food waste that goes to the composting facility

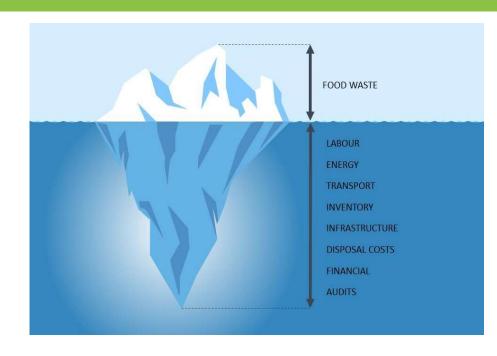
And an estimated 800 tonnes of food waste disposed of in the Hazelton and Highway 37 North Service Area

3,000 tonnes of food wasted every year



# Impacts of Wasting Food

- Energy and resources used in production and transportation of food are wasted
- Households and retailers waste money
- Greenhouse gas emissions increase
- Disposal costs rise
- Landfills generate methane gas and toxic leachate



88% of survey respondents support the Regional District in exploring food waste reduction strategies

## Food Waste Reduction Options

- Focus on Residential Sector
  - Adopt materials from Love Food Hate Waste (available at no cost)
- Focus on the ICI Sector
  - Fewer targets, may be more easily implemented
  - Can use toolkit from BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
- Develop a comprehensive strategy
  - Address both sectors
- Minimal effort
  - Combine outreach with other efforts/topics
  - Link to resources online



#### Waste Management Space in new ICI Construction



## Waste Management Space Overview

- Lack of space for collection containers is a barrier to recycling and organics diversion in multi-family and ICI buildings
- Municipalities may be able to set mandatory minimum space allocations for new developments and major re-developments
- The 1995 SWMP called for the RDKS to encourage member municipalities to develop this type of bylaw. No municipalities have taken this step.
- 89% of survey respondents agree that newly constructed multi-family residences and businesses should provide designated space for waste





# Waste Management Space Options

- Set requirement for RDKS-regulated areas
  - Applies only to development-permit areas (Thornhill)
- Encourage member municipalities to adopt their own bylaws
  - Set own minimums and requirements for which developments would need to comply
- Develop model bylaw and guidelines
  - Guidelines could be adopted both by the Regional District and member municipalities
- Educate members municipalities and developers
  - Proactively work with developers before designs are completed
  - Could work for both common area space and in-unit space



#### Deconstruction vs. Demolition



#### Deconstruction vs. Demolition Overview

- There are approximately 50 tonnes of material in a typical home; with standard demolition practices, most of this goes to the landfill
- Deconstruction is the systematic dismantling of a building so the resulting materials segregated for reuse, recycling or disposal
- Alternatives to disposal must exist before deconstruction is required
  - Drywall and asphalt shingle recycling are not available within the RDKS
  - No businesses exist for the resale of construction materials and goods
- The RDKS does not have the authority to issue demolition (or deconstruction) permits
- 89% of survey respondents support the establishment of policies that encourage deconstruction of buildings



## **Deconstruction Options**

- Pilot program
  - Evaluate the viability
  - A lack of incentives may limit volunteers
- Increase tipping fee differential
  - Charge significantly more than the standard tipping fee for mixed loads of demolition waste.
     Sorted loads of demolition waste are charged less (the standard tipping fee or a reduced fee)
  - Could be introduced for clean wood first, since clean wood can be composted or burned
- Support organization(s) that want to establish re-use facilities



