



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (Committee of the Whole)

AGENDA

Thursday, December 10, 2015

Page		Action
	1) Accept Supplementary Agenda	
	2) Minutes	
2-6	Waste Management Committee Meeting Minutes June 11, 2015	Receive
	3) Business Arising Out of the Minutes	
	4) Reports/Documents	
7-66	Report: Janine Dougall, Director of Environmental Services, Salvaging Ban and Re-Use Shed Closure – Feedback Summary Document	Direction – At the Discretion of the Waste Management Committee (Pg. 11)
	5) Items for Discussion	
	6) Correspondence	
	7) New Business	
	8) Adjournment	



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REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**
(Committee Of The Whole)**Thursday, June 11, 2015**

PRESENT: Chair Taylor Bachrach

Directors Eileen Benedict – arrived at 10:45 a.m.
Shane Brienen
Mark Fisher
Tom Greenaway
Thomas Liversidge
Rob MacDougall
Bill Miller
Rob Newell
Mark Parker
Jerry Petersen
Darcy Repen
Luke Strimbold
Gerry Thiessen

Director Dwayne Lindstrom, Village of Fraser Lake
Absent

Staff Gail Chapman, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services
Hans Berndorff, Financial Administrator
Janine Dougall, Director of Environmental Services
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bachrach called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

AGENDAMoved by Director Repen
Seconded by Director Petersen**WMC.2015-2-1**

"That the Waste Management Committee receive the June 11, 2015 Waste Management Committee Agenda."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**MINUTES****Waste Management**
Committee Meeting Minutes
-March 12, 2015Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Miller**WMC.2015-2-2**

"That the Minutes of the Waste Management Committee for March 12, 2015 be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS/DOCUMENTS

Correspondence

The following correspondence was discussed:

- Ministry of Environment News Release Re: Changes Coming to Solid Waste Management Plan Review Process;
- Report: Director of Environmental Service's April 28, 2015 memo titled "Solid Waste Management Plan Review";
- Document: RDBN Solid Waste Management Plan Review – Stage 1 Report, March 19, 2009;
- Document: RDBN Solid Waste Management Plan, September 1996;
- Document: Ministry of Environment, Guide to the Preparation of Regional Solid Waste Management Plans for Regional Districts, Revised Edition/December, 1994;
- Information Sheet: Ministry of Environment, Considerations for the Inclusion of Waste-to-Energy Facilities in Solid Waste Management Plans, December, 2010;
- Taylor Bachrach, Chair – Waste Management Committee, Document: Proposed Solid Waste Management Plan Review and Renewal Process.

ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

Solid Waste Management Plan Review

Janine Dougall, Director of Environmental Services spoke of the Ministry of Environment (MoE) News Release Re: Changes Coming to Solid Waste Management Plan Review Process. She noted that the final guideline is expected to be implemented in 2016 after consultation with local governments. This may have implications to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako's proposed Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) review and renewal process. Discussion took place in regard to the RDBN being leaders in moving forward with the development of its SWMP and working with MoE in its proposed changes to the solid waste management planning process.

In moving forward with a SWMP Review and Renewal Process:

- RDBN Board to determine a full review or amendment depending on changes;
- Under new guidelines – uncertain of public consultation requirements;
- Need to determine:
 - o How to move forward?
 - o How to engage the public;
 - Need to help the public understand the challenges for rural communities;
 - o How to ensure adequate public consultation;
 - o Consult with MoE to determine its criteria.

Chair Bachrach spoke to the age of the current RDBN SWMP and the changes that have occurred regarding recycling and solid waste management since the inception of the RDBN SWMP.

The document provided by Chair Bachrach titled "Proposed Solid Waste Management Plan Review and Renewal Process – 2015-2016" was discussed. The Waste Management Committee discussed having Ms. Dougall bring forward the document for MoE review in the near future.

Concerns were brought forward regarding the targets outlined in the Ministry of Environment Information Sheet "Waste-to-Energy and Solid Waste Management Plans – December, 2010, Considerations for the Inclusion of Waste-to-Energy Facilities (WTE) in Solid Waste Management Plans."

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION (CONT'D)

Solid Waste Management Plan Review (Cont'd)

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Repen

WMC.2015-2-3

"That the Waste Management Committee recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors direct staff to bring forward the document titled "Proposed Solid Waste Management Plan Review and Renewal Process – 2015-2016" to the Ministry of Environment; and further, that feedback be requested."

Moved by Director Benedict
Seconded by Director Greenaway

WMC.2015-2-4

"That Motion WMC.2015-2-3 be amended to include the following:
and further, that the Waste Management Committee recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors direct staff to draft a timeline for completing the RDBN Solid Waste Management Plan Review and Renewal Process; and further, that an expected date for Ministry of Environment approval be requested.

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Miller

WMC.2015-2-5

"That Motion WMC.2015-2-3 be amended to include a bullet in the "Proposed Solid Waste Management Plan Review and Renewal Process – 2015-2016" after number 2. Jurisdictional Scan, that outlines "Identification of Partnerships."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

"That the question be called on Motion WMC.2015-2-3 as amended."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The importance of MoE being informed of the desire of the RDBN Board of Directors to move forward with a SWMP review and renewal process in a timely manner was brought forward for discussion.

The timeline for the SWMP review and renewal process was discussed. A two year timeline from the start of the process to the completion was discussed. Hans Berndorff, Financial Administrator spoke of the financial timeline to move forward. He noted that the Regional Board has allocated funding in 2016 and 2017 for the process.

Concerns were brought forward in regard to the timeline that was required to complete the past RDBN SWMP and the implementation of components of that plan. Director Thiessen noted that item 3.1.2 of the current SWMP "Tipping Fees and Variable Rate Charges" have yet to be implemented. The need to move forward the SWMP review and renewal process in a timely manner and determine a set timeframe for completion is very important. The Solid Waste Management Plan was brought forward in the RDBN Strategic Priorities in January, 2015 and the recycling and solid waste management industry is changing.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION (CONT'D)**Solid Waste Management Plan Review (Cont'd)**

The process that the RDBN has moved forward since the inception of the current SWMP

- Infrastructure;
- closing of old landfill sites;
- shift to waste reduction initiatives.

The current plan is more detailed with respect to residual management including landfill closures and not as clear on recycling initiatives. Moving forward with a review and renewal of the current plan will, with public consultation and planning, help determine initiatives that are environmentally responsible and fiscally attainable to the tax base. It will provide an opportunity to define the goals of the RDBN.

Moved by Director Repen
Seconded by Director MacDougall

WMC.2015-2-6

"That the Waste Management Committee recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors move forward with a Solid Waste Management Plan review and renewal process."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding attendance at the Region Wide Cardboard Ban Workshop scheduled for June 24, 2015. Ms. Dougall explained that the workshop is intended to provide local government an opportunity to discuss the impacts, what is existing, and the process local governments need to consider in order to implement a region wide cardboard ban. Inviting stakeholders to a future RDBN meeting as delegations was brought forward for discussion. Concerns in regard to completing a cardboard ban in a timely manner was discussed. Discussion took place regarding the District of Vanderhoof and the Village of Burns Lake moving toward implementing cardboard bans from their municipal waste streams. Chair Bachrach noted that the Town of Smithers does not have a ban in place for cardboard. The workshop will provide an opportunity to outline exactly what is needed by local government to move forward with a region wide cardboard ban in a timely manner.

NEW BUSINESS**Recycling of Industrial Waste**

Director Newell brought forward concerns in regard to forestry mill construction demolition waste and that there does not appear to be an attempt to recycle, and it is being brought to the Knockholt Landfill. The RDBN does not have any mechanisms to enforce recycling. Ms. Dougall stated that the Landfill does not take any materials that are remaining on site that were used during the operations of the site. Waste materials produced at mills during their daily operations are not accepted at RDBN Landfill facilities and are treated as industrial waste. The tipping fees at the Landfill that were implemented by the Regional Board of \$60 per tonne for Construction and Demolition Waste are being applied.

6

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Brien
Seconded by Director Greenaway

WMC.2015-2-9

"That the meeting be adjourned at 11:39 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Taylor Bachrach, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

MEMORANDUM

To: Chairperson Bachrach and Waste Management Committee (December 10, 2015)

From: Janine Dougall
Director of Environmental Services

Date: November 30, 2015

Subject: Salvaging Ban and Re-Use Shed Closure – Feedback Summary Document

At the August 20, 2015 Board Meeting the following motion was passed by the Board of Directors:

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors direct RDBN Staff to develop and implement bylaws to ban all salvaging activities at RDBN Solid Waste Management Facilities and further, that the re-use sheds be immediately closed until or unless a safe solution is found; and further that it is made public that the closure is due to safety concerns and legal liability to the taxpayers of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako.”

At the September 3, 2015 Committee of the Whole meeting, direction was provided to staff to host public meetings in the following communities during the months of October/November 2015:

- Vanderhoof
- Fort St. James
- Fraser Lake
- Burns Lake
- Southside of Francois Lake
- Houston
- Granisle
- Telkwa
- Smithers

The intended purpose of the public meetings was to explain to those attending:

- The reasons why the Re-Use Sheds have been closed and the current challenges surrounding operation of the facilities;
- The issues surrounding the continued salvaging of metal and wood and the rationale behind the implementation of a ban on salvaging;
- An explanation of what has already been tried and investigated in an effort to, in an economically viable manner, deal with the issues surrounding Re-Use Shed operation and salvaging activities at RDBN solid waste management facilities;
- A brief description of the planned review the RDBN Solid Waste Management Plan and the intent of, through the plan review process, to further consider alternative reduce and re-use programs and strategies.
- A request was also made at the meetings that if any members of the public have suggestions or ideas for how to promote re-use activities that those comments and ideas be forwarded in writing to the RDBN.



The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a summary of the feedback received following the decision by the Board of Directors to ban salvaging and close the re-use sheds.

Notifications of the re-use shed closures was provided by issuing a media release as well as the placement of posters on the re-use sheds, which included RDBN contact information for further questions or inquiries.

Public meeting information details were provided also in poster form on the re-use sheds, as well as on-line (RDBN webpage) and through communication with concerned citizens who contacted the RDBN either through phone call or e-mail.

A background information document as well as an ideas/suggestions/solutions feedback document was prepared in advance of the meetings and distributed on-line (web and e-mail) both before and after the public meetings. The documents were also provided in hard copy form at the public meetings. Copies of the background document and ideas/suggestions/solutions feedback document are attached.

The following table provides summary information on the public meetings:

Date	Community	Open House Time	Location	Number of Attendees	Number of Feedback Submissions
Tuesday, October 6	Smithers/Telkwa	6pm-8pm	Telkwa Community Hall	48	29
Wednesday, October 7	Houston	6pm-8pm	Houston Seniors Activity Center	11	3
Wednesday, October 14	Vanderhoof	6pm-8pm	Nechako Senior Citizens Friendship Center	54	14
Thursday, October 15	Fraser Lake	6pm - 7:30pm	Fraser Lake Recreation Complex	20	7
Monday, October 19	Southside of Francois Lake	7pm-8pm	Grassy Plains School	11	3
Tuesday, October 20	Fort St. James	6pm-7:30pm	Stuart Lake Seniors Center	15	4
Wednesday, October 21	Burns Lake	6pm-8pm	Regional District Office - Burns Lake	18	11
Monday, October 26	Granisle	6pm-8pm	Granisle Seniors Center	25	15



Overall it was felt that the meetings were well attended and it was clear that members of the public attending were very passionate about re-using and many were very disappointed in the closure of the re-use sheds. The meeting format, which was intended to be “small group workstations” was very much appreciated by some, but other members of the public had wanted or expected more of a “town hall style” meeting. Regardless of the meeting format, many attendees expressed their appreciation for being provided information and being included in the process to find a solution.

The feedback document provided by the RDBN asked a total of 7 questions. Public meeting data as well as written feedback received from community members has been compiled and summarized on a “Feedback Summary Form” specific to each community. Please see attached documents for review. All written feedback on the submitted forms is also available for review upon request.

The following provides an overview of the common themes which emerged at many of the public meetings held across the Regional District (please note that the following should not be construed as a complete list as many ideas emerged at the meetings and are outlined in greater detail in the community specific “Feedback Summary Forms”):

- Suggestions for addressing the hazardous materials and bad behavior issues included:
 - Additional clear signage and public education.
 - Additional staffing – both hired or volunteers.
 - Do not allow unopened bags or boxes to be dropped off.
 - Have a separate drop off area that is monitored.
 - Staff training on how to effectively deal with aggressive people and situations.
 - Installation of camera systems.
 - Paid membership in combination with signed liability form.
 - Calling the RCMP.
 - Zero tolerance and banning people from the site or fining people.
- Suggestions surrounding how to ensure when a product does reach “end of life” that it is taken to an available recycling facility:
 - How do you determine “end of life”?
 - More education on available recycling programs.
 - Have bins near to the re-use sheds or at the transfer station, where the products could be collected and then transported to the recycling facility either by volunteers or the recycling businesses themselves.
- Suggestions surrounding how good usable materials can be directed to those that need it the most:
 - Re-use shed was good at this.
 - Work with local church groups or charitable organizations to identify families in need or products needed.
- Suggestions surrounding how the RDBN could promote and encourage re-use:
 - Open the re-use sheds



- Additional public education – educate, educate, educate
- Suggestions surrounding other options for re-use materials that would minimize amount landfilled:
 - “Street side giving”
 - Enterprising non-profit concept for “up-cycled” product production
- Other general comments and ideas included:
 - Some people disagreed with the risk and liability associated with use of the re-use sheds and that the incidents occurring were rare and not a sufficient reasoning to close the re-use sheds.
 - Nominal pick fee would be acceptable. Other people felt that maintaining a “free” facility was important for supporting low income individuals.
 - Use the re-use sheds as a fundraising mechanism to support local organizations.
 - Reduce hours of operation of the re-use sheds to minimize additional staffing costs.
 - Transitioning the management of the re-use sheds to non-profit organizations who would look after operation or partner with existing organizations to expand existing operations. RDBN to provide funding. Re-use sheds could be moved closer to communities if it made sense to do so. Examples of organizations suggested for review included KUTE (Kitimat based), Gabriola Island and Gibsons. Information obtained from the web on the program in Gabriola Island is attached for additional information.
 - Re-use sheds need to be bigger and located better to reduce traffic congestion.
 - Re-use sheds should be accessed by adults only or children only if under direct supervision by an adult.

Suggestions Provided by Director Repen

Back in September 2015, Director Repen provided suggestions on ways to deal with the issues being encountered associated with the re-use sheds and wood salvaging. The suggestions are provided below for information:

Re-use Shed

- Reference other municipalities / jurisdictions- who is doing it? Problems? Solutions? Liability? (Capital Regional District? Islands Trust?)
- Utilize a ‘receiving shelter’ open at all transfer station opening hours.
- Trained ‘volunteer’ re-use shed attendants sort items from receiving shed to re-use shed. In exchange for their service, they get dibs on items dropped off.
- Notification posted that public only allowed to drop off in receiving shelter- no salvaging. CCTV monitoring.
- Re-use shed open during reasonable but limited hours only, according to availability of volunteer attendants.
- Attendants must wear appropriate PPE, receive an orientation regarding potential hazards of sorting and moving materials. Orientation could be video, given as group at set times by trained volunteer.



- Reference hazardous work safety 'best practices' of other municipalities. (Downtown East Side Vancouver?)
- Sponsorship of re-use shed? Availability of recycling funds? (Telkwa has money available for collaborative use.)
- Volunteer attendants could also monitor metal and wood coming in for obviously re-useable, high quality items.

Wood Salvage

- Reference other municipalities / jurisdictions- who is doing it, how, how are liabilities managed?
- Once safety plan is developed, consult WCB / independent safety consultant to verify.
- Minimum PPE- Steel toed boots, leather work gloves, safety vests. Possibly also safety glasses / hardhats.
- Possible to build small shelter stocked with a few sets of each PPE item in variety of sizes – cost? Possible sponsorship from local supplier- donated or purchased at cost? (PIR / Canfor produce wood, Mark's sells workwear- potential sponsors)
- Posted safety rules and liability disclaimer- violators either fined or banned from wood salvage. If necessary, a brief orientation video could be produced and salvagers could be required to take orientation and sign off. (Could be facilitated by reuse shed attendant?)
- Wood coming to landfill- windrow 4' to 6' high, back 20' from main pile. Clear direction signage for users to dump at emerging end of windrow. Easily movable barricades with clear signage banning access to main pile. Anyone caught on main pile fined / banned.
- Windrow pushed into main pile on weekly / (other time period) basis
- Re-use shed attendant also can examine windrow for 'uniquely reusable' items and pull out to a nearby, safe location.
- CCTV monitoring to mitigate challenges to site staff in monitoring.

Regional District Review

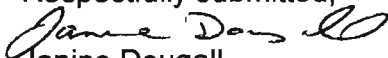
In investigating what other Regional Districts are doing with respect to re-use sheds, indications are that there are significant variations in operational methodologies. Some Regional Districts that operate re-use sheds are experiencing some of the same challenges to those currently being experienced by the RDBN, while others are not and the re-use sheds are working quite well. In most cases, where re-use sheds are working well, the facilities are staffed to a certain degree either through the use of Regional District staff, contractors or non-profits. In addition, materials accepted in the re-use sheds were limited to good materials in clean and working condition and the decision as to acceptability of materials was up to the attendants managing the facility.

RECOMMENDATION

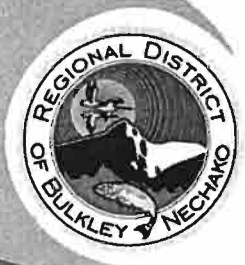
(All/Directors/Majority)

1. That the Waste Management Committee receive the memorandum titled, "Salvaging Ban and Re-Use Shed Closure – Feedback Summary Document" and dated November 30, 2015.
2. Further that direction be provided at the discretion of the Waste Management Committee.

Respectfully submitted,


Janine Dougall

Director of Environmental Services



Salvaging and Re-Use Shed Background Document

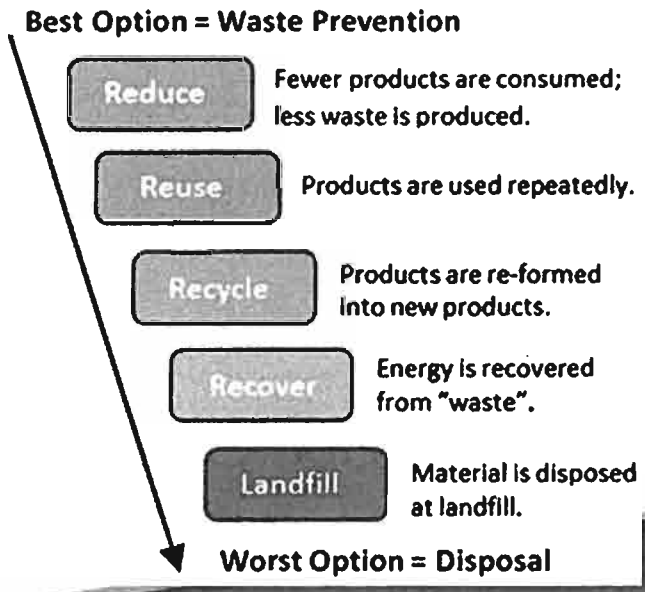
Board Motion

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Intent of Re-Use Sheds

The original intent of the re-use sheds was to promote and encourage the re-use of items that were still in good and useable condition as a methodology to minimize waste generation. Most re-use shed facilities were constructed when RDBN solid waste management facilities transitioned from landfills to transfer stations. The re-use shed that has been in operation the longest (greater than 15 years) is located at the Smithers/Telkwa Transfer Station. At many locations, volunteers who have donated their time to clean up and sort materials have been an integral component in the operation of these facilities.



Re-Use Sheds Today

For many years, the use of the re-use sheds by the general public and coordination between RDBN staff and volunteers made for the successful operation of the re-use sheds. Unfortunately however, over the past number of years, there has been a distinct change in the way re-use sheds are being utilized. The following are some examples of what has been occurring:

Inappropriate (Unacceptable) Items in Re-Use Sheds

- o Hazardous wastes inappropriately placed in re-use shed (cleaning products, used hypodermic needles, live ammunition, unmarked prescription medication).
- o Placement of what is clearly garbage in the re-use sheds (eg. bag of fish guts, dirty diapers).
- o Potentially contaminated items such as clothing, toys and canned goods/food items.
- o Children's car seats/strollers and helmets, which may or may not meet current certification standards and ultimately be unsafe.

Incidents of Bad Behaviour

- o Differences in opinion of what is garbage and what is a re-useable item, which leads to conflict and items which are not suitable to be placed in re-use shed.
- o Aggressive/intimidating behaviour of some individuals toward other members of the public and RDBN employees while the public are accessing items in the re-use sheds. Also, aggressively taking items from other people's vehicles without permission. There have been reports of "fights" at some facilities and cases of what could be classified as assaults.
- o People backing up to the re-use shed with a vehicle and removing everything from the shed. Sorting what they want and don't want at home. This is resulting in a number of "unsightly premises" in the RDBN for which taxpayer's dollars are being spent on enforcement by the RDBN to clean up these properties. This activity also does not allow use of items by others and is seen by some as "unfair".
- o People are also opening bags/boxes and scattering items on the re-use shed floor and leaving them there. It has been reported by one transfer station attendant that when asking a member of the public to not scatter items on the floor, the individual subsequently urinated on the items on the floor.
- o In some instances where RDBN staff have tried to enforce rules regarding salvaging and appropriate use of re-use sheds, some members of the public have threatened or verbally abused staff.

Other Unintended Consequences

- o Loitering – People hang out near the re-use sheds in order to access items from other members of the public resulting in vehicle congestion.
- o Children accessing the re-use sheds. At one of the RDBN transfer stations a child was run over by a vehicle. Thankfully the child was ok. Children are quite often left at the re-use sheds unattended for long periods of time while parents access other areas of the site.
- o Use of the re-use sheds as a convenient “dumping” ground for items that should be recycled (eg. TV’s, electronics, small appliances). In many circumstances these products ultimately have the cords cut off, are smashed and are rendered unusable and cannot be recycled. This leads to more garbage to landfill and does not support local recycling businesses that take these items and receive payment under Extended Producer Responsibility programs.
- o The RDBN has tried to allow “safe salvaging” of metals and wood products by designating specific low hazard areas. Unfortunately, some members of the public ignore the dangers and hazards of crawling up the metal and wood piles and ultimately put themselves and others at risk of injury.

Liability to the RDBN Taxpayer

Taken from Legal Opinion (September 16, 2015 Document): *“As the owner and operator of the re-use sheds, the Regional District is an “occupier” of those facilities within meaning of the Occupiers Liability Act. As an occupier, the Regional District has a statutory duty to ensure that anyone who attends the re-use sheds will be “reasonably safe” while on the property.”*

WorkSafe and Responsibilities of the RDBN under the Workers Compensation Act

The landfills and transfer stations operated by the RDBN are worksites and as such the RDBN has certain responsibilities under the *Workers Compensation Act*.

Taken from Legal Opinion (September 16, 2015 Document): *“As an employer the Regional District is under a statutory duty, under Section 115 of the Workers Compensation Act, to ensure the health and safety of its workers, and without limiting that obligation, must remedy any workplace conditions that are hazardous to the health and safety of its workers.”*

“The Regional District needs to be mindful of the fact that as an employer, it has a legal duty to address bullying and harassment in the workplace, as set out in policies recently adopted by WorkSafe BC (WorkSafe BC policies respecting bullying and harassment make it clear that this obligation extends to dealing with the behavior of members of the public directed towards Regional District employees in the workplace).”

OPTIONS INVESTIGATED TO DATE

Hire Additional RDBN Staff to Monitor and Maintain the Re-Use Sheds

The table below outlines the estimated additional staffing costs associated with this option. Please note that the estimated costs are for a single additional attendant at each transfer station, working the same hours as existing staff, at a wage rate of \$17/hour. This option could require the re-use shed areas to be fenced and/or relocated, depending on the operational hours. A “pick-fee” could be implemented to offset additional staffing costs and to curb large scale purging of the re-use sheds. Other Regional Districts in the Province that operate re-use sheds (free stores) have indicated that adequate staffing, time limits, and fees associated with deposit of items into the shed or a per item pick fee are key variables in the effective and safe operation of the facilities.

Facility	Additional Staff Hours/Week	Additional Staffing Costs – Wages, Benefits, Sick and Holiday Relief
Fort St. James Transfer Station	58	\$69,126
Vanderhoof Transfer Station	66	\$78,064
Area “D” Transfer Station	56	\$66,892
Burns Lake Transfer Station	66	\$78,064
Southside Transfer Station	24	\$31,140
Knockholt Landfill	56	\$66,892
Granisle Transfer Station	30	\$37,844
Smithers/Telkwa Transfer Station	66	\$78,064
Total		\$506,085

Use of Volunteers

The RDBN has received a legal opinion on the use of volunteers to manage the re-use sheds.

WorkSafe BC would not regard re-use shed volunteers as “workers” and as such there would not be an impact on the RDBN’s obligations or liabilities under the *Workers Compensation Act*. However, volunteers would be within their right to sue the RDBN for damages if they were injured while performing their volunteer duties and further the signing of a waiver form will not be sufficient to knowingly expose those volunteers to the hazards and conditions currently being experienced at the re-use sheds.

Overall, the use of volunteers to look after the re-use sheds does not waive the liability risks to the taxpayer of the RDBN and may require extra RDBN staff resources to manage a volunteer program.

Alternative Re-Use Opportunities

There are alternative recycling and re-use opportunities across the RDBN for products that are most commonly placed in re-use sheds. These alternative options include, but are not limited to:

- Industry (Extended Producer Responsibility) Programs

Extended Producer Responsibility is a policy approach whereby responsibility for a product's end-of-life management is shifted from local government and taxpayers to the producers of that product. Businesses across the Regional District are being established to take back products for recycling and are being paid by industry and you as a consumer for this service.

Material	Locations
<p>Electronics – Encorp Electronics Recycling Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Televisions Computers Stereos Video Gaming Equipment Electronic Toys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fraser Lake Bottle Depot Houston Recycling Bulkley Valley Bottle Depot (Smithers) Burns Lake Return-It Recycling Depot NVSS Bottle Depot (Vanderhoof)
<p>Small Appliances and Power Tools – ElectroRecycle Small Appliance and Power Tools Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toasters, Microwaves Coffee Makers, Kettles Vacuum Cleaners, Carpet Cleaners Irons, Sewing Machines Portable Heaters, Fans Blow dryers, Curling Irons Electric Razors / Beard Trimmers Electric Toothbrushes Power Tools – portable and bench top Exercise Machines, Sports, Leisure Arts & Crafts Devices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fraser Lake Bottle Depot Houston Recycling Bulkley Valley Bottle Depot (Smithers) Burns Lake Return-It Recycling Depot
<p>Lighting Fixtures and Light Bulbs – LightRecycle Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Table Lamps Ceiling fixtures/fans Fluorescent tubes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fraser Lake Bottle Depot Houston Recycling Bulkley Valley Bottle Depot (Smithers) Burns Lake Return-It Recycling Depot McLeod's True Value Hardware (Fort St. James) – Bulbs Only Nak'azdli Recycling Depot (Fort St. James) – Bulbs Only

Alternative Re-Use Opportunities

- Community/Church Organizations and Thrift Stores – clothing, shoes, books, kitchen items, sports equipment, knickknacks (Fort St. James, Vanderhoof, Burns Lake, Houston, Smithers)
- Free Classifieds – L.D. Free Classifieds (Burns Lake), Phraser Connector (Fraser Lake), Pleasant Valley Express (Houston, Granisle, Topley), The Gander (Vanderhoof), Southside News (Southside of Francois Lake), Bulkley Browser (Smithers)
- Websites – Kijiji and Craigslist.
- Facebook Pages – community buy and sell (eg. Burns Lake Buy and Sell, Houston Buy and Sell), item specific pages (eg. Vanderhoof Clothing Swap and Buy)
- Community Garage Sales (eg. Mother Millie in Burns Lake – profits to help animals in need)

It is appreciated that the alternative re-use and recycling opportunities may not be considered as convenient as the re-use sheds. Also, it should be considered that not all individuals have access to internet and local thrift stores have limited space.

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

Ideally, the RDBN wants to promote and encourage re-use as it is a fundamental component of good waste management policies and when done properly results in less garbage to landfill. The challenge is how do we do so in a way that does not result in unacceptable risk and liability, supports local recycling businesses and be cost effective to the taxpayer of the RDBN?

If you have ideas to share, please pick up the “Promoting Re-Use in the RDBN” document, fill it out and return to the RDBN.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

**If you have further questions, please contact the Environmental Services
Department at 250-692-3195 or 1-800-320-3339.**

**RDBN Office: 37-3rd Ave, P.O. Box 820
Burns Lake, BC, V0J 1E0**

Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Monday to Friday, Except Statutory Holidays

Website: www.rdbn.bc.ca



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BURNS LAKE, BC
VOJ 1E0

REGIONAL DISTRICT
OF BULKLEY & NECHAKO

"A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN OUR REGION"

Promoting Re-Use in the RDBN – Ideas/Suggestions/Solutions

What is to be Done?

Ideally, the RDBN wants to promote and encourage re-use as it is a fundamental component of good waste management policies and when done properly results in less garbage to landfill. The challenge is how do we do so in a way that does not result in unacceptable risk and liability, supports local recycling businesses and be cost effective to the taxpayer of the RDBN?

Please fill out the following form and return to the RDBN. Forms may be submitted by mail (PO Box 820, Burns Lake, BC, V0J 1E0), fax (250-692-3305), e-mail (inquiries@rdbn.bc.ca) or hand delivered (37-3rd Ave. Burns Lake) between the hours of 8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday-Friday, Excluding Statutory Holidays.

Do you have suggestions/ideas on how to ensure inappropriate, dangerous and hazardous materials do not end up in the Re-Use Sheds?

Blank lined area for providing suggestions/ideas.

MUNICIPALITIES:

Bathurst FV-St. James
Vanderhoop Fraser Lake
Houston Tumbler
Burns Lake Granite

ELECTORAL AREAS:

A-Bathurst Rural F-Vanderhoop Rural
B-Burns Lake Rural E-Francis & Oosta Lakes
C-Fort St. James Rural G-Houston Rural
D-Fraser Lake Rural



Regional District of Bulkley- Nechako Salvaging and Re-Use Shed Public Meeting Feedback Summary Form

Location: Telkwa

Date: Tuesday, October 6, 2015

Meeting Information

- Meeting was held at the Telkwa Community Hall from 6 pm to approximately 8 pm.
- A total of 48 people attended.

Feedback Form Responses

A total of 29 submissions were received, before, during and after the meeting. Please note, not all submissions included responses to all questions, and some only included general comments.

Question 1: Do you have any suggestions/ideas on how to ensure inappropriate, dangerous and hazardous materials do not end up in the Re-Use Sheds?

- Want a meeting with the Regional Board of Directors.
- Explicit signage, pointing out penalties.
- I do not see how this is an issue. No one is going to take one of these "products" home not knowing what it is. Someone who does take it hope is fully aware that it is unlikely to be a star product. Really I can't help but think "How dumb do you think people are?"
- Hire a staff person to staff each of these facilities. Pay for this through the following means: Pay for taking, pay for dropping off/donating (though I have concerns that some will dispose of their recyclable items rather than pay a fee), through RDBN taxes, grants.
- Have a sorting spot. No longer drop and go. Have a person staffed. Staff payment from a \$10/yr membership District wide. Cards, names, address, phone. Gives ability to find problem drops people, aggressive users, problem pickups. Then can have rating system for users. Know who is problematic.
- Regular users of re-use shed and have never found anything like used needles or dirty diapers.
- Public education.
- Only have it open when someone (paid or unpaid) can oversee. Prohibit unopened boxes and bags – unpacked go to dump. Put up "at your own risk" signs. Adjust the job description of transfer station employees to include monitoring the re-use shed. Determine \$ saved with re-use shed and use it to put toward a contract for a group to care for it and carry the liability.
- Provide a biohazard drop off at the transfer station.
- Hire someone who monitors disposal not just scoops it all up. Require clear plastic bags. Refuse/redirect inappropriate materials.
- Common sense should police this but since common sense isn't very common, "\$#^& does happen!" Perhaps more signage could help and certainly this "closure" should scare some to think more than they have!



- Cut the hours (days) to times that someone hired or a volunteer can oversee. Unopened boxes or bags no allowed. Remove liability by removing closed boxes/bags. Boxes and bags to be emptied by person bringing in items, not staff or volunteers.
- Use of volunteers. Have had no problem discarding “hazardous” material. Just throw away medicines, pornography magazines, etc. Don’t make such a big deal over not so much. Open the re-use shed if there is a committee of volunteers willing to maintain it. Can we get a summer student worker for when the re-use shed is busy?
- Look at the model being used in Kitimat. Do not allow unopened bags/boxes. Add staff to monitor. Formalize volunteers. Have shed open only when staff or volunteers are present.
- Educate the community – everyone in the community. Take stuff at your own risk. Perhaps people bringing items would have to place their items on shelves instead of leaving closed boxes and bags that could potentially have harmful items in them. Items not unpacked could go straight to the dump.
- Volunteers or employees to screen or sort through items. Encourage users to exercise caution and take responsibility for their own safety while salvaging. Explicit signage.
- Better signage in relation to hazardous materials. Separate facility that processes materials prior to re-use shed. More appropriate and dedicated jobs to ensure safety/clean garbage. Legal disclaimer in relation to safety certification standards issue. Membership cards? Reduce costs by reducing hours or separating re-use shed open hours from dump hours.
- Clear set of regulations/rules on site. User responsibility should be clearly outlined and people are aware of the potential risk of frequenting a facility at a landfill. Use at own risk should be emphasized and left up to the discretion of the individual.
- Part time positions would be less wages. Less hours of operation at re-use shed. Say 10-3pm. Post the sign that it won’t be accepted. It’s not about closing the shed, it’s about proper management. You don’t need to pay employees (eg. seniors or disability persons on low income) a large wage. There are a lot of ways to have cheaper wages.
- Have a sharps container for disposal. Buy a camera and monitor incidents.
- Reduce management’s wages and use that money to hire an attendant who inspects goods before they are allowed to go into the shed. Also, only have the shed open 3 or 4 days a week.
- At one time a sign saying “enter at your own risk” would have been sufficient to prevent a liability suit. That should still put the responsibility on the person proceeding past the sign.
- There has to be front end intervention at the re-use shed. Front end sorting should eliminate most of the inappropriate materials and aid education.
- Build or purchase a heavy steel disposal can that can be locked. Have a small opening on the top that has a lid. Label it “dangerous items”. Have a plastic garbage can inside. Have a sign that directs patrons to put anything dangerous in there. The worker is then aware of potential dangerous items and can deal with accordingly. Also put up signage that is simple to read. Very few items are actually dangerous.



Question 2: Do you have suggestions/ideas on how to address bad and aggressive behavior at RDBN solid waste management facilities in general and specifically associated with the Re-Use Sheds?

- Point out in sign form that respectful behaviour is required at all sites.
- We have a police force for a reason. Ban those few bad apples from the facility. Call the police if they continue to come.
- Additional staffing.
- Hire security guards.
- Measure the # of positive behaviours and interactions. Post 911 for emergencies. Put a camera with a sign. Positive ticketing. Increase space for more “shopping”.
- Time limit on how long you can stay in one visit. No campers. It would only take a few months of paid enforcement before people got the idea. Or, have non-profit group gather re-sellable items and operate a store front in town.
- Have seen more positive behaviour than negative. Would it be enough deterrent to call RCMP a couple of times. Some people call it aggressive behaviour when ones rush to take items out of my car. I call it great! Would like to see positive behaviour written about.
- A sign telling folks to not rush up to someone bringing in a box of new donations, to let the first one at a box to look through and leave before the next person can look through that box. A volunteer present can help referee.
- Focus on and acknowledge positive use. Create space for people and items, give it a “shopping” feel. Education programs.
- Aggression met with aggression. Staff training. At times, yes, there were people there who were acting inappropriately. At least their actions made me fill uncomfortable. This might have been 5% of the entire time I use the shed, both to take items and leave items. This is over several years of going to the shed 3 to 4 times a month. Most of the time people are kind and sharing.
- Volunteer or staff presence. Stress that the facility is user maintained or partially user maintained. Examine the issues at each individual facility and determine a local solution.
- Do what you would in any situation when encountering poor/aggressive behaviour, call the law enforcement.
- Larger signage. No aggression tolerated.
- Cameras. Have attendant with open 3-4 days per week.
- Surveillance camera would deter people from bullying and bad behaviour. People sign a form clearing the RDBN of liability. It is always sad thing to see the proverbial “whole class being punished for one student’s misbehaviour!”
- Bad behaviour usually happens when there is an opportunity for anonymity. A person on duty, ends anonymity.
- Have a workshop for your employees on how not to deal with people. Better training on how to approach people without causing aggression.
- Can the RDBN not ban specific individuals? Could specific bylaws not be passed and fines issued to those who contravene them? If people are crawling on the metal piles, fine those people, do not ban everyone from salvaging because of the behaviours of individuals. If RDBN workers are expected to do enforcement of landfill rules, regardless of whether there is a re-use shed or not,



they can be expected to have to deal with aggressive members of the public. We cannot exclude people from the transfer stations outright, so staff will have to be trained to deal with challenging people.

Question 3: How does the RDBN ensure that when a product does reach “end of life” it is taken to an available recycling facility instead of to an RDBN facility where it is ultimately landfilled?

- Why is this a RDBN problem at all? Who would assess whether a product has reached end of life.
- Better that the RDBN arrange for it to be taken or picked up by the recycling depot that it end up junked over the bank or and the end of a quiet road. Work with other levels of government to have higher levies or refundable deposits for returning these items.
- Education (TV, newspapers, facebook, websites, radio, twitter). Posters about town with images (visual!) of what is acceptable at: Smithers Bottle Depot, Tatlow recycling facility, re-use shed at transfer station.
- A volunteer based system would be effective. I know of quite a few people that were already doing this of their own accord.
- How do you decide “end of life”? Have a couple of blue boxes.
- Since the recycling facilities are for profit, have them organize pick ups.
- Hire someone to monitor what is brought in. Revamp the way materials are dropped off, separated more at drop off in a covered facility.
- Make a couple of bins available to throw in those items. Then haul it back to recycle in town.
- A volunteer or summer worker could tell folks where to take broken or unwanted appliances. The regular transfer station worker could tell folks where to take such items. Volunteers could mark the date on it and in two weeks (or so) take it to the bottle depot if unclaimed in that time.
- Have bins available near re-use shed to place items which should be recycled and transport them to recycling center as needed. Education programs.
- Have facilities located in convenient locations. Educate, educate.
- This could be the responsibility of a volunteer or employee.
- Could it potentially be enforced with a fine to such persons who drop off unacceptable re-use items?
- We have volunteers who take them to the recycle depot.
- Partner with private sector business recyclers. Whether it is co-locate or sponsor with tax dollars recycling bins for recyclers to lump with their collections. Have bins for other recycling appliances.
- A bin at the re-use sheds for electronics and appliances that don't work.
- I was not aware of all the different items that should be taken to the transfer station/re-use shed, until I read the “background statement”. Thank you I appreciate this info. It might be a good idea to post this list on bulletin boards, “Bulkley Browser”, etc.
- Front end person at re-use shed. At beginning there may be appliances. These could be transported to right place, eventually the educational opportunity should change this behaviour.



- Recently noticed a large increase in electronics, etc. in the metal pile. People like one stop disposal. Allow working electronics to be re-used. The non-working or not wanted items should be picked up by the bottle depot once per week, thus recycling it and re-using the usable items. The present way is not working.
- Make recycling receptacles available at all transfer sites and landfills, and transport materials accordingly. Put another way, the dump should not just be a dump. Increase convenience for dump users: Expand operating hours, increase diversity of sorted materials accepted, and transport them to appropriate facilities periodically, as required. This is worth spending money on.

Question 4: Do you have ideas on how good useable materials can be effectively directed to those that need it the most?

- Who would assess usability or need?
- The re-use it shed is the closest we can get to people in need. It's free, there is no stigma, it is helping keep this stuff out of the landfill. One person's garbage is another person's treasure. Only limit is transportation, but it is still possible to catch a ride. The last thing we need is more organizations like Value Village profiting from poor people and good will.
- A challenging question.
- The swap shed was working rather well...
- Keep the re-use shed open.
- Non-profit/volunteer group to salvage re-sellable materials.
- Increase space so people are not squished. Most people accessing the re-use shed have no money – so nix S. Army and New to You. Move the entire shed closer to town.
- A black board or bulletin board may help – one could say that they are needing and volunteers could phone them when a possible donation comes in. Offer to drive a neighbour who has no car out to the re-use shed to “shop”.
- Many accessing the shed have restricted funding and other options are not available to them. Keep the re-use shed open.
- A place in a convenient location. Most people do not have a vehicle.
- Re-use shed did a good job at this. How can you determine who needs things the most?
- Is this the responsibility of the public? The free-shed has been a welcome solution to this.
- Have volunteers fix items and give them to organizations that help the poor.
- How about a sign-up sheet (in town, on web and at re-use shed) for items? The up-front person could put potential items to one side. Possibly even a system of photographing and e-mailing photos. There used to be a person at Northern Drugs who fixed small appliances people brought in and gave to people in need (through social services?).
- Have a re-use shed and allow salvaging. People do not want to use and will not use your list of alternative re-use opportunities. They will work to some degree but overall people want free no hassle disposal and free to take home site.
- Make all materials available to the public, and allowing the public to determine which materials are still usable and distribute them as appropriate, by facilitating general salvage. (See Annex A; the “going, going, gone” model.) Garbage is not necessarily waste; it is a

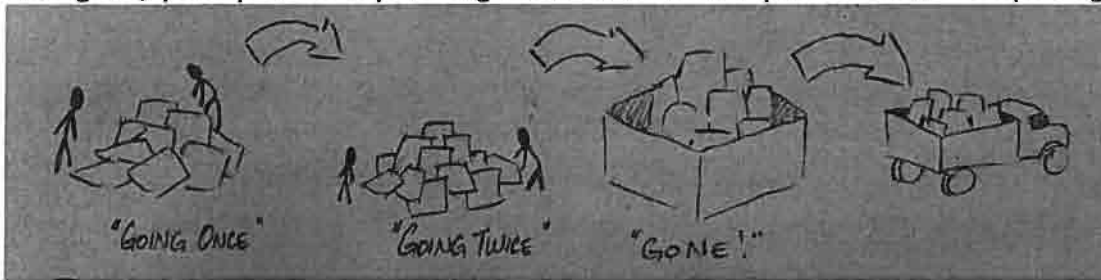


resource, and in some ways a very inexpensive one. This resource — if it is made freely available to the public — can fuel economic innovation. In the long term, this is essential for a closed-cycle economy. Furthermore, members of the public have a right to public waste streams that over-rides and pre-empts the privileges awarded to for-profit entities with whom the RDBN has entered into salvage contracts. With regard to liability concerns, I consider it inarguable that members of the scavenging public voluntarily take on the risks associated with that activity, and implicitly waive any liability on the part of the regional district.

Annex A: The "Going, Going, Gone" Model

The "going, going, gone" model is a system employed at various cooperative workspaces to remove excess scrap materials and unwanted items while allowing people to salvage and scavenge what they please.

The system involves designating three distinct zones for waste: ("going once," "going twice," and "gone,") and periodically moving items from one receptacle to the next. (See figure.)



New waste is deposited into the first receptacle, and periodically emptied into the second receptacle. Both the first and second receptacles are open for salvaging. The third receptacle is slated for disposal, and is not open for salvaging. The use of two receptacles for salvage ensures that some material is always available for the taking, rather than creating disappointment by periodically emptying out the entire supply of waste.

In the case of waste transfer stations, distinct piles of material would serve as the receptacles, rather than containers. To reduce work, the separate piles would be re-labelled rather than physically moving materials from one pile to the next. Separating the incoming waste into multiple smaller piles reduces the danger associated with manually removing materials from them.

Question 5: Do you have ideas/suggestions on how the RDBN can promote and encourage Re-Use?

- Provide categorized sheds – eg. computers, appliances, windows, doors. If people can easily find what they want, more will be re-used.
- Shutting down the shed is discouraging re-using. Instead you want to spend money on lame marketing ideas of telling people how to re-use? Ineffective.
- Charge a fee for dumping (though, again, some will choose to dispose of garbage and recyclables on rural roads, rec. sites, logging areas, etc.).
- Advertisement usually does the trick...
- Education programs/campaigns. Find out what other communities are making it work. Keep it open. Provide opportunity for direct question and answer.



- Keep the re-use shed open.
- Articles in your newsletter on re-using stuff. Your pamphlet on where to take recycling stuff is very useful. Posters on wall of transfer station would help, such as: no cardboard here! Take flattened cardboard to the 3 green bins. Hire a couple of young fellows to chainsaw wood pile into firewood to sell.
- Education, social media campaign.
- Educate, educate, educate. Open 3 days a week, 10am – 4pm. Someone there during open times. Pay an honorarium, could be a senior.
- Promote fixing items with minor issues. Host a fix-it workshop where volunteers with know-how will fix items that the public brings in – or teach how to fix. Host a free stuff swap every week.
- The free-shed promotes this by example.
- Whoever works there has to have a positive re-use/recycle attitude.
- Membership card to use dump, pay membership \$10/yr with a liability form.
- Allow electronics, etc. (non-working, unwanted) picked up by recycler. Organize wood so easy to salvage and then push up on pile, two windrows, one active for dumping, other active for salvage, push up and change when appropriate. Re-use goes into large pile, active becomes re-use, new active dumping where re-use was. Keep rotating. Allow all glass re-use. Allow personal (not commercial) metal salvaging, the contractor who bids will bid accordingly.
- Make recycling receptacles available at all transfer sites and landfills, and transport materials accordingly. Put another way, the dump should not just be a dump. Increase convenience for dump users: Expand operating hours, increase diversity of sorted materials accepted, and transport them to appropriate facilities periodically, as required. This is worth spending money on.

Question 6: What are some other things that can be done with re-use materials to minimize the amount of garbage to landfill?

- Compost organics, catalog publicly (on-line) what is available.
- Refundable deposits on all electronics. Keep the re-use shed open.
- Donate to the needy. I.e. Salvation army, new to you.
- Host upcycling workshops.
- Can Salvation Army in Prince George accept bags of clothing with Bandstra hauling (like New to You does)? Someone could repair electronics. Could the blue box program take plastic toys? Could special people with sheds store stuff like hockey equipment, x-mas stuff until it is seasonally needed? I save canning jars for folks in Hazeltons. Another shed, a “maker space” to build with scrap wood/metal.
- Educate, children, parents, adults, seniors.
- Have someone run a second hand store where items could be taken, especially large items such as furniture and large appliances that still work or can be fixed, ie. stoves, washers, etc.
- Make items such as wood easy to access and take home. Allow access to windows, etc.



Question 7: Do you have any other comments, suggestions or ideas to share?

- The Salvaging and Re-Use Shed Background document is not suitable for decision making. Impression is that the RDBN is being reactive and has no clear vision of its goals. What account is being taken of practices in other Districts – not specified. Liability concerns are stipulated but not specified. What liability has actually been incurred – none in 15 years?
- Hiding behind liability is a cop-out. Our politicians should be managing the risk, not denying service. All of these “problem” could be ameliorated with funding. The money that is saved by diverting waste from the landfill could be used to hire attendants.
- Don’t join the insanity of a world where the fear that someone is startled by their own shadow and sues you causes you to make everyone live in a bland, oppressive, non-inclusive world.
- The RDBN has to contact all other Solid Waste Management facilities and ask (and listen) to how they deal with their re-use shed contents. This should be in all BC facilities.
- Most people accessing the shed have low incomes. What are you going to do about increased waste because of what was re-used through the shed?
- Given the fact that it is 2015 our landfill is archaic and needs to be revamped. Institute tipping fees to fund changes and staff. This meeting is extremely disappointing and gives the impression staff has no real interest in solving the problem.
- This building is so small in size yet so instrumental in serving the needs of recycling, reuse, reducing landfills, labour and energy (pollution) to transport it and at the same time provide goods for so very many people. This is a stunning success story and should be an inspiration and incentive for the whole province and the whole country!
- Have a real meeting. We talked among our table. Contract out management of re-use shed. Use money saved from diverting items from landfill to pay contract.
- I am willing to work with RDBN to get the re-use depot back open and salvaging allowed. This facility has given me great pleasure and many others. Why has the staff wanted to close this down?
- Have an actual meeting where questions can be asked and answered. Do a proper cost benefit analysis of issue (what do we save by having a re-use shed and other salvaging activities).
- See attached – especially what Kitimat is doing. Kitimat have a recycle group, KUTE, a non-profit. A small establishment, linked to building. Use own initiative to set things aside. Have paid staff and volunteers. About KUTE- Recycling depot and environmental protection. KUTE has a dual mandate. Educating the public on environmental matters and operating a recycling depot. Operation of our depot assists in making a more sustainable and environmentally aware society. KUTE is a non-profit society with registered charitable status. Support from the District of Kitimat, our community and local businesses and suppliers helps us keep our doors open. KUTE was formed in 1990. The idea (and the name) came from a group of Challenge Students at Mount Elizabeth Secondary School. They had been tackling environmental problems in their class and decided that there were many issues that they, as students, couldn’t handle, but an adult group could. They placed an ad in the local paper advertising a meeting for people interested in being involved in an environmental group.
- Nominal membership fee annually to cover costs of maintenance. Reduce hours of operation to minimize costs. Can it not be the responsibility of the user to remain safe on the premises.



- If I take from metal pile, but I as tax payer save money. Yes, RDBN loses, but the community wins.
- Tipping fees. Federal subsidies to the re-use shed. Measure weight in and weight out to show liability under weighs the potential re-use. Referendum and vote amongst taxpayers. Have partnerships to support the local recycling business, join transfer station with sorting station. Example Gibsons. GHG trucking garbage, need for local solutions. Free store organization. Drop off only accepted during hours in locked compound...garbage everything else.
- Children should not be allowed. Salvaging should be allowed at the metal pile and the wood pile.
- Ensure that materials are left in the re-use shed long enough for people to take stuff. Hire part time instead of full time workers. Hired staff should firmly believe in and practice the 3R's and treat those who use the RDBN facilities with respect, while also having the authority to implement and maintain the policies of the RDBN.
- Use re-use shed as a fund raiser for organizations or specific purchases (eg. CT machine for hospital, NW Animal Shelter, food box). The up-front person should be paid and trained. There could be a monthly garage sale of sorted goods with proceeds going to help pay costs and remainder going to the chosen organization or project. The New to You raises greater than \$100,000 annually. Organizations spend way too much time fund raising and burning out volunteers. The NW Animal Shelter annual garage sale was done at Davidson Building Fair Grounds. This might be a good site for monthly sales. Also, more accessible than re-use.
- We are becoming far too risk averse. The benefits of the re-use sheds outweigh the challenges and we should leave them as they are and accept the risk until a more appropriate model is in place. Recycling is great, but re-use is better and should be supported as much as possible by the RDBN by keeping the re-use sheds open. I fully support increasing taxes to cover the cost of having an additional attendant at the landfill to oversee the re-use shed, educate the public, monitor for public safety, and ensure products are deposited appropriately. There seems to be no shortage of funds for large infrastructure projects and community events, so we shouldn't have any problem finding the funds to ensure the appropriate disposal of our wastes (preferably by promoting re-use). I would be willing to pay some sort of picking fee if it is quite minor, but would prefer to see it remain free. I think drop-off or picking fees would discourage use, and for those that need it most it may be cost prohibitive. Gabriola Island has a great model of a re-use and recycling facility. The RDBN could support the establishment of something like this in the various communities or adjacent to/within the existing transfer stations.
- There is no consensus on picking and tipping fees. My own opinion is that garbage disposal is a non-optional practice in general, and therefore the service should remain free to the public at the point-of-use. The benefits of user fees (in terms of income for the district and as a deterrent to misuse) are debatable, and serve to punish low-income members of the public. Therefore, fees should be omitted to avoid restricting access for the least wealthy members of society. Personally, I disagree with not allowing children at the dump. I consider my childhood experiences at the dump to be formative and educational, and entirely safe.



Regional District of Bulkley- Nechako Salvaging and Re-Use Shed Public Meeting Feedback Summary Form

Location: Houston
Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Meeting Information

- Meeting was held at a meeting room at the Houston Seniors Activity Center from 6 pm to approximately 8 pm.
- A total of 11 people attended.

Feedback Form Responses

A total of 3 submissions were received. Please note, not all submissions included responses to all questions.

Question 1: Do you have any suggestions/ideas on how to ensure inappropriate, dangerous and hazardous materials do not end up in the Re-Use Sheds?

- Have two sheds. People bring things to first shed where volunteer/staff goes through it before it goes into the re-use shed. Where are these inappropriate materials coming from, are they being put there intentionally by someone who does not want re-use going on.
- Staff the re-use sheds for 8 hours/week. Folks would need to line up for drop-offs and have loads checked.

Question 2: Do you have suggestions/ideas on how to address bad and aggressive behavior at RDBN solid waste management facilities in general and specifically associated with the Re-Use Sheds?

- Camera – people would be confronted and dealt with RCMP if needed.
- Education program indicating standards. Cameras.
- Report/charge offenders if directed at RDBN staff. Ban repeat offenders from premises.

Question 3: How does the RDBN ensure that when a product does reach “end of life” it is taken to an available recycling facility instead of to an RDBN facility where it is ultimately landfilled?

- Staff would redirect folk to take the item to the appropriate facility – ie. the Houston recycle facility. Publish information about what can be recycled in the PV Express.



Question 4: Do you have ideas on how good useable materials can be effectively directed to those that need it the most?

- Have a re-use shed in town, and again with volunteer/staff and only some hours of operation per day.
- Offer Salvation Army volunteers first dibs at stuff dropped off? Have a list from Salvation Army of what they need and set it aside? Ask Salvation Army to list what they need and direct folks to them?

Question 5: Do you have ideas/suggestions on how the RDBN can promote and encourage Re-Use?

- Information and facilitate transfer from those with stuff to give away to those who could use it. Encourage folks to use the Houston Buy and Sell on facebook and in the PV Express in a section for free items of quality (direct from person to person with no middle-man).

Question 6: What are some other things that can be done with re-use materials to minimize the amount of garbage to landfill?

- Encourage recycling. Promote re-use/recycle. Set up systems to encourage folks to be more responsible. Provide a recycle shed in town that is staffed and more easily accessible. Encourage someone to set up a business where people could drop off items for other to buy the items cheap – like a garage sale.

Question 7: Do you have any other comments, suggestions or ideas to share?

- No children in landfill/transfer station.
- Relocate re-use shed closer to communities. Allow wood and metal salvaging, have fenced area with cameras to record offenders, going, going, gone boxes.
- Good luck! Like the idea of a more easily accessible re-use facility in town that is staffed. Many folks that could use the items do not have the transportation to the landfill/transfer stations.



Regional District of Bulkley- Nechako Salvaging and Re-Use Shed Public Meeting Feedback Summary Form

Location: Vanderhoof
Date: Wednesday, October 14, 2015

Meeting Information

- Meeting was held at a meeting room at the Nechako Senior Citizens Friendship Center from 6 pm to approximately 8 pm.
- A total of 54 people attended.

Feedback Form Responses

A total of 14 submissions were received. Submissions occurred before, during and after the meeting. Please note, not all submissions included responses to all questions.

Question 1: Do you have any suggestions/ideas on how to ensure inappropriate, dangerous and hazardous materials do not end up in the Re-Use Sheds?

- The site needs to be monitored just like the rest of the transfer station. Many recycling sites in North America have a section of their sites for exchange of cleaning materials etc. It would be better to use them than place them into the landfill and the groundwater. Monitoring with staff and video surveillance would be necessary. People that are placing hazardous materials in the re-use shed should be fined. Public education on the seriousness of what they are handling is needed.
- Suggest that volunteers be identified where they are expected to be on location for half a day at a time.
- Has to be staff or? Sorted before being placed in any building. Meet person donating and physically look at goods before accepting them. Person donating handles goods at the drop off facility, non-useable products taken to dump by donator.
- Have a worker to assist in re-use shed for 4 hours per day (could be mentally challenged).
- RDBN to allow NWRI to have a space at the waste transfer station to run the re-use shed. The re-use shed can be staffed (employees/volunteers) who sort and organize donated items so these hazardous materials do not end up in the re-use shed.
- Education. People often don't connect the dots to danger unless someone has already been injured. Simple signs posted with line through so no language barrier. Take down licence plate number and send warning letter.
- The citizens of this area should be made aware of where each of these materials are to be disposed of. This information is sadly lacking in all depots.
- Have the person dropping off open their items to the volunteers or single employee. Items are then sorted and organized. No drop off and run.



- Clearly posted rules. Paid attendant even if it means shortened hours of operation of re-use shed.
- Post a disclaimer at the dump gate and on the re-use shed door stating that you are not responsible for accident, etc. on the premises, an “enter at your own risk” policy.

Question 2: Do you have suggestions/ideas on how to address bad and aggressive behavior at RDBN solid waste management facilities in general and specifically associated with the Re-Use Sheds?

- Aggressive behaviour should not be tolerated. People should be charged. Clear signage to inform them of the consequences and follow through is necessary. It should not be that a few bullies close down the re-use shed for all.
- Ban them from the re-use or recycle program (or) facilities. Report to RDBN.
- Have personally told people you can't do that here.
- If donated items can be dropped off at bays behind the building, and people going to “shop” at the re-use shed use the front door, aggressive behaviour between people dropping items off and those picking up are minimized. Staff present at re-use shed will also discourage aggressive behaviour.
- Aggressive behaviour should be dealt with by police. Take down licence plate number and description. Attendant should always back down, it takes two to fight.
- The dump and area are the property of the RDBN and not the community. The RDBN has graciously let the citizens of the community use it. For some reason or other folks have taken it for granted that it is their dump? And we can do with it as we please! Of course this will lead to problems with certain individuals as always there is a need to remind the community of that fact!
- If people have to drop off in a controlled fashion and pick up in a controlled fashion, there shouldn't be any aggressive behaviour. But things need to be controlled.
- Large, visible posted code of conduct and the rules. Attendant on duty at all times. Attendant calls the RCMP when necessary. Give salvagers a licence to salvage, must have own liability and WCB. Then they can go to the metal pile rather than the re-use shed.

Question 3: How does the RDBN ensure that when a product does reach “end of life” it is taken to an available recycling facility instead of to an RDBN facility where it is ultimately landfilled?

- There needs to be folks on hand to monitor what folks drop off. The entire recycling set-up in Vanderhoof needs to be overhauled. Presently, according to the NWRI poster a resident must travel to 8 different locations to recycle things at end of use. Some residents doing it but imagine if recycling/reuse and garbage was at one site. Staff could direct residents to the appropriate spot instead of explaining to them they need to go to this spot at this time to recycle that particular item. I suspect much of the rejected items for the re-use shed would be recycled rather than landfilled.
- Put spray paint on product so it is visible or a sticker stating recycle.
- Having a convenient alternative near the waste transfer station allows people to “impulse recycle” items that may have been thrown in the waste transfer station instead. A centralized



location for recycling is key because convenience is essential. Last resort option: charging people to throw away items that could be recycled. Proper advertisement for awareness of recycling options.

- Visible, simple signage that must remain posted at all times will educate their patrons on a daily basis. Are these facilities paid to handle these items or is it just extra work for them? Homes need containers to store items to collect them over time that are stackable, have handles for easy loading, size appropriate and all fit in a convenient area.
- I believe personally that they have done this to the best of their ability with the very few personnel they have to carry out this service. There is no easy answer to this whole adventure, so much will be experimental at best. If we could hire one more full time employee and be assured that they will be as dependable as the one we have, that is also a wait and see? So if we could try again to cause people to be responsible in their conduct, and would be willing to police one another and that is with all the information on do's and don'ts it would be worth a try. Surveillance cameras are a thought?
- More advertising and educating people. Maybe approach grocery stores about putting a printout sheet (provided to them by the Village) into grocery bags. At some point everyone would get one if we did this periodically.
- Good question. If we build a new facility or combine all recycling options in one place, it will be easier to recycle than simply dump. ie, TV, book, toaster, etc. It is important to have the re-use shed beside recycling facilities. And if some items aren't fit to be re-used and can't be recycled (ie. couch and chair) then it should be refused in the re-use/thrift shed and sent to the dump.
- The facilities need to be available and convenient in the community. At this time we do not have a place for small appliances or lighting. Keep it free. I think if people have to pay for disposing of items they may start leaving them in gravel pits or forests.

Question 4: Do you have ideas on how good useable materials can be effectively directed to those that need it the most?

- It is my understanding that the re-use shed in Vanderhoof has been open for more than 7 years. During that time, people that needed it were accessing it. The local thrift store and safe home had all they could handle. The facebook site "Vanderhoof Free to You" puts out requests to meet immediate needs. People were utilizing the items at the re-use shed to earn money either by selling it or upcycling it. Many artists and drafters use the re-use shed as a resource. Several volunteers redirected things to the Salvation Army and local animal shelter. After chatting with several re-use shed managers it would seem having staff on hand to sort items as they come in is key. Both Galiano and Pender sites have restricted lists of what they will accept. They also have restricted hours of operation that range about 20 hours/week. Both have active volunteers that work under the direction of paid staff.
- Be sorted, managed, donated to a society. Or placed in a building and sold very inexpensively, fees to help, incur costs of manager/building etc.
- Having a re-use shed with staff sorting items will help. Staff can coordinate with charity organizations (soup kitchens, etc) to make sure people in need get the recycled items.



- The re-use sheds did that very effectively. If bins were set outside for item found that were not suitable for reuse, people would clean as they went. More shelving. Have cleaning the re-use shed part of the attendant's job description. Improve parking and access to minimize congestion.
- A person or persons who are willing to use their property with sheds etc. to carry out this project as we have several months of winter. Where they could charge everyone who drops off these items, so they would receive remuneration.
- People "shop" at the re-use shed and pay a nominal fee for things (to help compensate the employee). Or there are some people that "register" as needing help and perhaps documenting what items they are looking for. Then, when those items come in, that person is called to pick up for either zero \$'s or a very small fee.
- A re-use building is the most effective method. We have a thrift store but it does not have the space needed for larger volumes and probably not enough profit for larger space. It is full to capacity at the moment.

Question 5: Do you have ideas/suggestions on how the RDBN can promote and encourage Re-Use?

- Promotion of proper use of re-use shed would be helped by: simplifying the recycling process to a one stop spot instead of eight, educate the citizens of the cost of tossing "stuff" in taxes and the environment. Monitor through staffing and volunteers with fines for abuses. Reduction of hours in line with other centers would reduce staffing costs. Encourage/facilitate innovation. Rather than look at this as a problem consider it a free resource to create economic diversity. I.e. A cement factory in Kamloops now diverts millions of Keurig coffee pods from the landfill into their cement.
- Newspaper, and local office of village, flyers, computer sites, etc. Get grants etc., to set up a local building.
- More publicity! Not enough public awareness. Most people are not going to search for a place to recycle an item that can be conveniently thrown away.
- Reopen the re-use shed. If someone is loading everything up and taking it home to sort and causing an unsightly premise, then it is the job of the bylaw office to deal with. Why does everyone have to suffer because of a few, single them out. The collection of recyclables should be more centralized. One stop shop.
- When the public arrive at the dump, large signs should be posted in plain view with all the info needed.
- Educate children as well as adults. Educate adults on how much cost is involved hauling stuff away (I learned things at the meeting last night that I had never been aware of before).
- Advertising all of the hidden costs: \$80/tonne to landfill, extra fees when buying electronics, added taxes when buying new. If you re-use, no extra fees, no landfill \$'s and best of all no taxes!
- The best might be a non-profit group operating a re-use/recycling depot, with the recycling portion funding the re-use portion. Possible locations – area at transfer station or old shell station. The recycling is to include all recyclables, eg. paper, plastics, electronics. Funded by the various programs, eg. Encorp, light recycle program, small appliance program. A monitored re-



use area with attendant and possibly volunteers to make the program cost effective for those operators.

Question 6: What are some other things that can be done with re-use materials to minimize the amount of garbage to landfill?

- Free resource for social enterprises: provide resources for people with employment barriers, salvaging vintage clothing, button salvaging, glass grinding for fill, tin and aluminum compaction to reduce shipping costs, plastics bailing to reduce shipping costs, textile salvage, furniture, pallets stacked for re-use, refurbishing small appliances, large appliance parts salvage.
- Dump on conveyor belts with people sorting re-use and recycle material.
- Centralized recycling location! Community events that use recycled materials. Donations to Salvation Army – clothing shipped overseas.
- Reopen the re-use shed. Have staff at the transfer station clean the re-use shed and it must be made easier for them to do so. Have each area form a committee to come up with ideas, maybe a group of 5 volunteers that meet 4 times per year but are always on the lookout for better ways to do things. Maybe it's not necessary for every re-use shed in the RD to be closed.
- I have worked at the thrift store for 10 years here in Vanderhoof. The biggest part of my time has been spent sorting through all the boxes and bags coming in to the back of the store, taking out the unusable items and taking them to the dumpster, things we cannot sell in the store are boxed or bagged and sent to the Sally Anne in Prince George, larger items we cannot use, but are in good shape we took to the re-use shed. All plastics that were unusable were taken to the plastics bin.
- We have a bulletin board in town for people to post upcoming garage sales on. What about having one someplace where people could post building supplies that are left over such as small amounts of tile, flooring, etc., along with their phone number. This would save them from going to the landfill.
- Books – recycled, clothes – salvation army, furniture – salvation army?, electronics – recycled, bedding – animals?
- There needs to be a place where people can leave reusable items and others can take them. The place should have a paid attendant as well as easy access to removal of unused items. Should be open at least 3 days per week. A code of conduct or rules should be clearly posted.

Question 7: Do you have any other comments, suggestions or ideas to share?

- Propose to have the re-use shed reopened for a 6 week period to better understand how to manage it. This could be manned by the many volunteers who have already offered to help. Recommend that it be a reduced hours with strict guidelines on what is acceptable for recycling. It may be prudent to bring a textile van from Salvation Army and book a recycling bin on site right from the start so that volunteers don't get overwhelmed. NWRI group is reviewing their insurance policy to determine if this could be handled.
- I work at the thrift store, so I see the garbage in with the treasures. If people can be present when the stuff gets brought in, it can make a difference. I'm not volunteering to clean up the



shed, but when I do go there, I will pick up and straighten up and sort garbage out. We have the thrift store, but it is rather small. A whole lot more stuff could go for sale, and be protected from the weather in the meantime, if we had the room. As it is, furniture is not accepted, no beds, dressers, washers, dryers etc. We could have a much bigger store and have it full in no time! (We are a volunteer staff).

- Paid authoritative staff in a facility, with some rotating volunteers. Place a rental toilet.
- Could NWRI be responsible for liability – would it be economically feasible? Could re-use shed “members” sign a waiver/pay small membership fee? If re-use shed could be opened for a trial period to monitor items in/out, with certain # of open hours per week and staff, we could have a chance to find a viable solution.
- If the re-use shed had shelving that could dump on the floor for cleaning and the refuse could be back bladed onto the cement floor for ease of cleaning up with the bobcat that would be an improvement. Shelving needed for sure, especially for clothing. People need to be given incentive. Show them where their money would go if they were better recyclers and left a surplus in their budget. Could that surplus provide a job for their child after school or a recycled product made into playground equipment for the schools and parks. Give them something positive to talk about, to work towards.
- A lot of the problems that have taken place are because of lack of information and poor communication.
- When I first moved here we had a part time person hired to help people navigate the hoops of applying for a grant. I don’t think we have anyone doing that anymore so maybe that money could be used to hire someone part time to tend to the re-use shed or to pay for rent on another building that was not on landfill site.
- Reduce the hours, hire one person, charge \$ for things, control the drop off and pick up. Model after other re-use sheds. Open for 6 weeks and see how it goes with having someone control drop off. Try to estimate the amount of materials that gets diverted everyday, week, etc. If that alone is over 1 tonne in 5 hours @ \$15/hour, it is cheaper than moving that material to the landfill. And if employee is \$12/hr then 6-7 hours. Another idea, the NWRI takes the re-use shed on and is responsible for the employees and volunteers. We would then apply for the funding from the RDBN just like we do for recycling.
- As a volunteer at Neighbourlink thrift store, we had an extreme surplus of goods come to the thrift store when the re-use shed closed. Sadly we do not have the room in the store nor storage room for all of it. We now have the problem of trying to sort through and repackage, eg. Store, salvation army, or landfill all of it. The volume is becoming too much as most of the volunteers are senior ladies.
- Accept offers from volunteers who wish to help keep the re-use sheds clean, and the “junk” thrown into the landfill pile.
- Re-Use sheds support the 3 R's. Re-use or re-purposing extends the useful life of items and somewhat reduces the environmental footprint. However, the impact of operating re-use sheds on the landfill site is probably negligible. *Value to the Regional District is likely more in public relations.* Re-use sheds are part of the 'free-ish economy': i.e. free-use at roadside, Thrift Shops, gifting through internet notices, yard sales, etc. Do Re-use Sheds constitute a viable arm of this economy? Given recent reports of unsavoury items being left in Re-Use Sheds and the



sometimes messy condition of items within sheds it would appear that some sort of supervision or oversight is required to keep them at operational standards necessary for public safety and acceptance. I cannot support continuation of the re-use sheds if additional costs are incurred by way of point made above. My suggestion is: limit shed hours of operation to those times when sheds are supervised, allow volunteers to supervise, all intake to be examined, sorted, rejected as necessary. Reject material put into transfer facility.

- I began volunteering my time to clean and sort at the reuse shed in 2010. I saw an employee take a bobcat bucket full of clothing and footwear from the shed to the landfill and I was sad and determined to do something to stop the senseless destroying of perfectly good items. Since then, I have spent countless hours at the shed, and finding new homes for the "stuff".

The following is a list of where things go:

Clothing - our crew takes only a small portion, most is gone through and taken by various members of the community. We have taken several van loads out to hardship families in Burns Lake and First Nations Bands north of Fort St James. We have outfitted families that have lost everything to fire or flood and helped out new mothers and the elderly who don't have money for clothing. We drove vans full to Value Village in Prince George and then began working with The Salvation Army in Prince George. 2 years ago they placed a van on my property which they unload and move out every 2 weeks.

Old blankets, pillows and towels - these are gathered and given to pet rescue homes and businesses and vet clinics.

Fabric - This is given to local quilting clubs

Skates - These were taken by car load to our local arena. Since then Alcan donated a bunch of pairs to the arena users and the skates have been put in the landfill.

Dishes & Small Appliances - we sort them and put together on shelves, these come and go by the hundreds. Some that are broken are taken over to landfill.

Jars, Coffee Cans etc - some are picked up right away by people who are happy to get them for projects and others are tossed in landfill after a time.

Toys, strollers, playpens etc. - These come and go very quickly too. Really dirty gross ones are tossed and the rest are sorted and picked up.

Books - these cause the most distress at reuse. Encyclopedia sets usually don't get picked up so they go to landfill. Thousands of books and magazines are picked up and dropped off each month. We take damaged ones and they hit the landfill. I have tried to get some of them off to library but they are not interested and say they also have to discard books in landfill. We are still working on having books picked up for northern communities that don't have access to free books.

Costumes - picked up and given to local theatre groups and at Halloween

Christmas items - We have collected over 100 artificial trees from reuse along with decorations and lights. We made a Christmas House at The Hobson Museum in 2011 and 2012 before it closed and it was visited by thousands of people and filmed by PGTV. We plan on showing this collection at The Vanderhoof Historical Site annually for the month of December with donations going towards the Historical Society and The Pool Society. It will be run by volunteers too.

Halloween - we have collected décor and candles to help out with our annual Pumpkin Walk.



The good things we encounter at the reuse shed:

People are using the transfer station by the hundreds daily. Since I started in 2010, many more people seem conscious of their waste and want to do their part to recycle. People are generally friendly, some get angry because they lose out on an item when someone quickly takes it ahead of them, some think the site is gross and many people of all ages, quietly take items out of boxes and put them on shelves and in bins. Some drop off car loads and leave quickly, like they are ashamed. The ones that I find are the biggest offenders are seniors who drop off nearly everything (I think it is because they came from an era where they had very little and everything was deemed as valuable). I was humbled many times when stuff I thought was total junk was promptly picked up by person who was thrilled to find just what they were searching for. I also saw the best in people, they dug in and worked together in conditions that were not perfect. I have made many friends of all ages at the reuse shed.

The things I worry about if the shed remains closed:

People have already been messaging on facebook that they have bags of clothes and other items they were trying to drop at the shed. Many do not use the internet swap sites and even if they do and they are giving away items, people on line can't get out to pick up. The location of the shed has been perfect as it is close to town, well lit and safe for people. Some are saying they have tried to sell off or give away things by hosting garage sales but if they live rural those sales don't generate enough traffic. Some people have voiced concerns about allowing people on their property to rummage through their giveaway stuff. They feel they could be encouraging criminals to case their homes.



42





Regional District of Bulkley- Nechako Salvaging and Re-Use Shed Public Meeting Feedback Summary Form

Location: Fraser Lake
Date: Thursday, October 15, 2015

Meeting Information

- Meeting was held at a meeting room at the Recreation Complex from 6 pm to approximately 7:30 pm.
- A total of 20 people attended.

Feedback Form Responses

A total of 7 submissions were received. Please note, not all submissions included responses to all questions.

Question 1: Do you have any suggestions/ideas on how to ensure inappropriate, dangerous and hazardous materials do not end up in the Re-Use Sheds?

- Educate users with specific information for what is appropriate, what isn't and where to dispose of the items that aren't appropriate. Have a separate donation and sorting location from the pickup location. Monitor sheds with cameras. Reduced access hours.
- Education and awareness: Flyers and newspaper ads, school presentations, signage.
- Place big and I mean big, signs with list of items absolutely not acceptable in re-use shed.
- More obvious signs about not appropriate and dangerous as well as updating the website. I like the idea of hiring people to sort items and monitor the shed itself. Also, we could combine all the disposal services like hazardous chemicals and medical disposal. Making disposal of dangerous materials easier because they are all in one area. Include recycling into this bundle. All on one lot would make it convenient as well as efficient.
- I don't think you can ensure inappropriate, dangerous and hazardous materials in the re-use sheds unless you have someone there at all times through volunteers or hire someone. Trouble with volunteers is after a while that seems to disappear.

Question 2: Do you have suggestions/ideas on how to address bad and aggressive behavior at RDBN solid waste management facilities in general and specifically associated with the Re-Use Sheds?

- Train employees on how to diffuse aggressive situations. Give employees security training.
- Close circuit TV on live feed.
- Video surveillance – take their picture – change their attitude. Partner with a local business to operate a re-use facility. Aggressive or bad behaviour is less likely in a business environment than it would be in what is perceived as “public” or unsupervised space.



- Report bad and especially aggressive behaviour to police for further investigation. After all it's a public place and not someone's private property where he/she can do as pleases.
- Have two strikes your out of the dump or you have lost your privilege to use the shed. Also training for employees on diffusing aggressive behaviour of public and taking a security training course on top of that. When hiring make security backgrounds a priority.
- The attendants have to have the authority to deal with these matters in a reasonable manner. The people that don't follow the rules ban them for a period of time. The ones you can't deal with call the police that is their job. Don't make it harder than it is.

Question 3: How does the RDBN ensure that when a product does reach "end of life" it is taken to an available recycling facility instead of to an RDBN facility where it is ultimately landfilled?

- Educate public and provide a sorting location where workers can check on the items and redirect them as appropriate.
- Public service messages on TV.
- Supervision of what is dropped off, signage and promotion, video surveillance.
- RDBN is not able to ensure that unless the employees take the items to recycling facilities themselves, which is probably unrealistic. Based on my understanding, the main goal of re-use sheds is to reduce the amount of garbage disposed at landfills. By keeping the sheds open and allowing people to take and reuse the items they find useful, the sheds reach that goal. Even if the remaining items end up being dumped, it is still a success.
- You could combine the recycling depot into the landfill. Just have a combination of all services in one area. Even just a smaller area to dispose of materials no longer useable. That way people have no excuse to be lazy. With this we try to curb the dumping of materials into the woods.
- RDBN has to promote what is available in the community and elsewhere through word of mouth, ads, flyers etc. Educate the public.

Question 4: Do you have ideas on how good useable materials can be effectively directed to those that need it the most?

- Partnerships with community outreach programs such as the crisis resource center, hospice and social workers.
- Free cycle websites in each community.
- Keep the re-use sheds open.
- Clothes can be brought to the crisis center. Keeping the re-use shed open would allow people to use items if they need them. Having another employee sort items as people bring it will alleviate the issues of hazardous materials ending up in the re-use shed.
- Phone RDBN in Burns Lake with your good useable materials. The public could phone the RDBN for the items. Have a book at the landfill site when you come to the site you write what materials you have with your phone number, public can come up and read the book and phone the person and go pick it up. Some people in town put it at the end of the drive way with a sign "free". It works.



Question 5: Do you have ideas/suggestions on how the RDBN can promote and encourage Re-Use?

- Charge more for garbage and not for recycling.
- Public service announcements on TV.
- Keep the re-use sheds open and available to the public.
- Radio advertisement. Mailing of pamphlets or even making the pamphlets available at cash registers of local supermarkets. Recycling programs in schools to indoctrinate children into recycling everything they can.
- Get as much info on re-use through ads, mailing out flyers, town meetings, nice signs at the landfill sites.

Question 6: What are some other things that can be done with re-use materials to minimize the amount of garbage to landfill?

- Monthly streetside "giving".
- Help promote local businesses/organizations that recycle or distribute second hand items to new owners.
- Keep the re-use sheds open.
- Make good use of facebook buy and sell and even promoting the freecycling pages. Really having a person sort the items coming in will help a lot with making sure items go where they belong.
- In Fraser Lake use what's available, promote crisis center, bottle depot.

Question 7: Do you have any other comments, suggestions or ideas to share?

- Do not allow children on premises unless they remain in a vehicle. Better and separate access for machinery to site separate from public traffic.
- Permit to drop off or take by attending workshop on responsible use.
- Have a separate area for depositing re-use materials during transfer station hours. Optimize existing staff hours to sort items into the re-use shed. Open the re-use shed to the public for reduced hours daily (or for certain days of the week).
- By keeping the re-use sheds closed, people will bring all their items, including the ones that could be used again, to landfill. Majority does not care about creating more garbage. The thought of taking it to a second hand store or recycling facility doesn't even cross their minds. It's about convenience. We are a throw-away society and it would take a lot of effort, money and time to educate new generation to think about environmental consequences of their choices. On top of that the business side of the coin wants people to buy more and more, and that's what is encouraged as much as possible. By setting some sort of system of fees will get us back where we were not that long ago. People will dump their stuff, whether usable or not, into the woods, rivers, etc. The goal is to reduce the amount of garbage and the only way to accomplish that is to make the facilities open and available to the public for free.



- Unfortunately there will always be people that aren't responsible adults. We need to understand that when society has become large, people won't take responsibility for their actions. There are still good people but the bad ones make us lose a good thing too much. Closed circuit cameras for watching who is dumping what at the re-use sheds could all be monitored off site by one or two people and radio the dump attendant when problems are occurring.
- When safety comes into play with the re-use sheds there is no way you can guarantee 100% safety in the re-use sheds. Attendants don't have the time to stand over it 24/7. To try to keep the re-use sheds open you would have to spend money, after the meeting it was clear RDBN was not going to spend money. It would be better spent opening Thursday. For now, the re-use sheds should stay closed.



Regional District of Bulkley- Nechako Salvaging and Re-Use Shed Public Meeting Feedback Summary Form

Location: Southside of Francois Lake

Date: Monday, October 19, 2015

Meeting Information

- Meeting was held at the Grassy Plains School from 7 pm to approximately 8 pm.
- A total of 11 people attended.

Feedback Form Responses

A total of 3 submissions were received. Please note, not all submissions included responses to all questions. Duplicate responses are not repeated.

Question 1: Do you have any suggestions/ideas on how to ensure inappropriate, dangerous and hazardous materials do not end up in the Re-Use Sheds?

- Reduced hours of operation for the re-use shed, staffed and use of volunteers. Time limit to be there. No dollar deals.
- Existing attendant to better monitor the re-use shed.
- Not avoidable unless someone is looking after it. Someone to control incoming boxes or bags. Own risk and responsibility when using re-use shed.

Question 2: Do you have suggestions/ideas on how to address bad and aggressive behavior at RDBN solid waste management facilities in general and specifically associated with the Re-Use Sheds?

- Don't punish all parties unless necessary. Ban aggressive people or set a fine for those who wish to return after being banned.
- Ban aggressive people.

Question 3: How does the RDBN ensure that when a product does reach "end of life" it is taken to an available recycling facility instead of to an RDBN facility where it is ultimately landfilled?

- Check and supervise waste disposal. Use volunteers, work with those drawing a government paycheck and can't find a job, so at least they are serving their communities.
- Put containers at every refuse station.



Question 4: Do you have ideas on how good useable materials can be effectively directed to those that need it the most?

- Work with other organizations in the community and make a list of families or individuals that may have specific needs and supply them with appropriate items. Contact churches, schools etc. to find out.
- Re-use sheds are the best opportunity, so everybody can take what they need. A pick-fee is not an option I think.

Question 5: Do you have ideas/suggestions on how the RDBN can promote and encourage Re-Use?

- Newspapers, southside news, meetings and info evenings.

Question 6: What are some other things that can be done with re-use materials to minimize the amount of garbage to landfill?

- Loonie/toonie auctions, community garage sales and exchange events.

Question 7: Do you have any other comments, suggestions or ideas to share?

- Don't be fearful of banning offenders and aggressive people, but don't punish the innocent, the ones doing the right thing and being good neighbours.
- Think before you buy, avoid plastic and non-compostables, have different containers for different items at the refuse stations and a good organized recycle program.
- Put up a sign that would say that the RDBN is not legally responsible/liable for the use of the re-use shed. People use at their own risk. Kids cannot go in without their parents.



Regional District of Bulkley- Nechako Salvaging and Re-Use Shed Public Meeting Feedback Summary Form

Location: Fort St. James
Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Meeting Information

- Meeting was held at Stuart Lake Seniors Center from 6 pm to approximately 7:30 pm.
- A total of 15 people attended.

Feedback Form Responses

A total of 4 submissions were received. Please note, not all submissions included responses to all questions.

Question 1: Do you have any suggestions/ideas on how to ensure inappropriate, dangerous and hazardous materials do not end up in the Re-Use Sheds?

- It may be the time has passed for re-use shed to continue operating.
- Screen what is coming in, use volunteers, reduced hours of re-use shed operation.
- Educate the public. Signage.
- Relocate re-use shed adjacent to recycle depot and have it monitored by a paid employee. Public has to be educated.

Question 2: Do you have suggestions/ideas on how to address bad and aggressive behavior at RDBN solid waste management facilities in general and specifically associated with the Re-Use Sheds?

- Time to permanently close? What is cost of electronic monitoring cameras for addressing behaviour issues?
- Ban from site for length of time, then probation period following.
- Public should be informed about the consequences of bad and aggressive behaviour. Police will be called. Ban from the shed.

Question 3: How does the RDBN ensure that when a product does reach “end of life” it is taken to an available recycling facility instead of to an RDBN facility where it is ultimately landfilled?

- Challenge is lack of local access to recycle options. Inconvenience of stockpiling and transport to other communities. Need to look at provincial regulation and its “unfriendly” nature to rural communities/industry.
- Put aside and take to appropriate place.
- Educate the public. Post signs on what is to be dropped off and alternative locations.



Question 4: Do you have ideas on how good useable materials can be effectively directed to those that need it the most?

- Discussions with existing agencies, ie. Church and thrift stores, to see what their challenges are to larger inventories.
- Drop off/pick-up for time period, not all taken from site.
- Clothing – thrift shops, monthly community “garage sale”, social media, village recreation basement – books, community hall – monthly/seasonal clothing sale, ski/skate swap at community hall.

Question 5: Do you have ideas/suggestions on how the RDBN can promote and encourage Re-Use?

- Public education, flyers, fridge magnet info.
- Promote what we do have. ie thrift store.
- Teach people how to recycle.

Question 6: What are some other things that can be done with re-use materials to minimize the amount of garbage to landfill?

- Enterprising Non-Profit concept for re-use materials that may create employment and income from “up-cycled” product production.
- Church group contact for items, seek donations for drop offs to needy.
- Advertise reusable products through social media, facebook or town signs. “free stuff” signs in front of house.

Question 7: Do you have any other comments, suggestions or ideas to share?

- Public recognition re volunteers. Encourage school lost and found to be re-used, school, program volunteers.
- Talk with bottle depot to take on electronics.
- I used the recycle shed quite frequently. I miss the recycle shed.



Regional District of Bulkley- Nechako Salvaging and Re-Use Shed Public Meeting Feedback Summary Form

Location: Burns Lake

Date: Wednesday, October 21, 2015

Meeting Information

- Meeting was held at the Regional District office from 6 pm to approximately 8 pm.
- A total of 18 people attended.

Feedback Form Responses

A total of 11 submissions were received. Please note, not all submissions included responses to all questions.

Question 1: Do you have any suggestions/ideas on how to ensure inappropriate, dangerous and hazardous materials do not end up in the Re-Use Sheds?

- Send by mail to every person in the RDBN an informational pamphlet outlining dangers and concerns as well as a warning against violators. Whether it be a fine or another source of punishment. The public needs to be held accountable for their actions.
- Hire someone to monitor what people are dropping off.
- Install a camera (trail) or similar equipment and post warnings.
- Cameras, signs to say you are on camera, fines, name put in newspaper.
- Education, education, education! Use newspapers, free classifieds, posters and the web to make it absolutely clear what is acceptable and what is not acceptable. Emphasize the positive aspects of recycling. Use spot checks, utilizing existing employees that are informed and good at dealing with the public, to ensure guidelines are being followed. There should be an option for when a person does not have the energy to recycle, ie. Following a personal crisis, death, family breakup, etc.
- Use strategies employed successfully by other campaigns to educate and change citizen behaviour – seatbelts, smoking, drinking and driving. Don't reinvent the wheel. Reinforce positive behaviour by majority. Volunteer staff or hired staff at the shed to enthusiastically thank those who bring quality item and also diplomatically redirect inappropriate items to alternate locations.
- Education: clear simple listings of accepted/non-accepted materials. Website, on shed, community bulletin boards. Gatekeeper of some sort whether local non-profit personnel or paid staff. Have a planned hazardous materials drop off area. Redirect – accept and redirect inappropriate items rather than fight at the time.
- Rule – no items in a closed container or bag. Hire someone to check – could help pack in. Think bags of clothing made most mess. Have open only 3 days a week.



- Education is needed so that community members understand the rules and the current state of recycling in our community.
- Video web cams: an interactive web site to provide timely information, act as a community bulletin board, respond to staff and the public's concerns, receive suggestions, with links to the RDBN's social media accounts. Clear signage that specifies what items are acceptable and where to take items that are not. Increase staff so someone is available to help people make the right choices. Ongoing public education with positive messaging to keep public informed about where to take materials that are not wanted at re-use sheds. Keep the sheds clean and in good repair. When they are left to deteriorate, it sends a message that it is ok for people not to take care of them.

Question 2: Do you have suggestions/ideas on how to address bad and aggressive behavior at RDBN solid waste management facilities in general and specifically associated with the Re-Use Sheds?

- Ban from facility (may also cause garbage drop in other places). \$ fine for bad behaviour.
- Call police and then not allowed on premises.
- Put up signs, zero tolerance. If you do not abide by the rules RCMP will be notified.
- Advertise the positive aspects of recycling and the benefits the re-use sheds can provide to the public when used appropriately. Understand that when dealing with the public, there will be times that an employee will have to take a stand and say "this is unacceptable". Employees may have to call the police in extreme circumstances.
- Educate staff re strategies which increase likelihood of compliance. Enlist RCMP support for dealing with those isolated cases of repeat offenders. Use the law to enforce civil behaviour if necessary.
- Inform people about unacceptable items but if necessary accept and redirect, not fight. Video surveillance. Ban, fine, re-educate, assist.
- Smile, your on camera. 99% of people are fine – it's the 1%
- Ongoing public education about expected behaviour and consequences to individuals who do not comply, with signage onsite and clear messaging in print and social media. Stress importance of safety on the site, for staff and for the public. Instead of just designating an area non-salvage, signage should indicate that it is an unsafe area. RCMP patrols, even occasionally, would reinforce the concept that a standard of behaviour is expected and will be enforced. Video web cams going to the web where all can see, it could be a visible deterrent. At least one camera at the entrance to capture identifying information on every vehicle that enters the site. Control traffic flow and make it one-way. Design sites so that any individual vehicle coming in can be diverted for inspection or instruction if something needs to be addressed. Make salvage and re-use areas much, much bigger and separated from non-salvage.

Question 3: How does the RDBN ensure that when a product does reach "end of life" it is taken to an available recycling facility instead of to an RDBN facility where it is ultimately landfilled?

- Volunteer drop offs at appropriate recycle locations.



- People not respecting the rules should be fined.
- Educate the public. Write up in newspaper.
- Money. If everything had a charge on purchase and a refund on return, much of the problem would be solved. Recycling facility should have hours so people can drop off before/after normal working hours.
- Education – people can't do better until they know better. Create a positive culture/informed citizens use peer pressure to discourage inappropriate behaviour. Random Reinforcement Rewards – gift certificates for local business to recycling citizens – photo in newspaper. Catch people doing the right thing, reward those positive behaviours as an incentive to non-recyclers.
- Arrange with recycling facility to deliver or collect “end of life” items – do this as a service. RDBN support recycling depots. Research possibility of including re-use at recycling depots. Invest in staff to get “end of life” items to recycling.
- People recycle bottles etc. to get money. Could there be some kind of reward card? Perhaps discount card to use for local electronics, etc.
- Ongoing public education: where to take and what happens to it when it gets there; what happens if it is landfilled instead of recycled; put a dollar figure on increase costs to taxpayer for landfilling instead of recycling. Incentives for people to take to appropriate place: doesn't have to be costly – can be something that gives bragging rights – recycler of the year award for instance. Watch for garage sales and other events that will bring more materials in and add staff on those days.

Question 4: Do you have ideas on how good useable materials can be effectively directed to those that need it the most?

- Used clothing should not be allowed at the re-use shed. It should go to the thrift shop if in good repair and if not and only then it would have to go into waste management.
- By contacting various organizations that hold garage sales and let the public know the dates when the sale will be held. At the Lakeview Mall there is a large empty room that could be used for storage.
- Have sections in re-use shed for different items.
- Leave good useable materials in view and accessible for some time. Those that need them will find them.
- Transfer Station works. Don't clear items too quickly. Re-use shed works for 99%.
- Partnership with local organizations. Website showing items needed.
- Free classifieds paper. Encourage people to use to sell or give away.
- Keep the re-use shed. Pay someone to manage it. \$9/yr is fine. Recycling is not an option, it is a necessity. If tipping fees no good then raise taxes.
- Bulletin board in re-use shed. Ongoing public education/advertising. Information on website could tell us: Did You Know?



Question 5: Do you have ideas/suggestions on how the RDBN can promote and encourage Re-Use?

- Maybe different location. Re-use shed is already a well liked establishment, so promotion not really required.
- In schools, television, newspaper, posters – recycle properly or you will have a drop off charge per bag.
- Advertise success stories – what good things people have made with stuff they got from the dump. Have contest for the same.
- Open re-use shed 2-3 days/week (including long hours on Saturdays) with attendant (volunteers work at thrift store – why not re-use shed?). Pay attendant for 2-3 days – well advertised and train attendant to use strategies which encourage compliance with safe/positive sharing.
- Re-use sheds are the best – facilitate/filled in holes left by alternatives such as thrift stores. Convenience is a huge factor. I have donated items for re-use to all listed alternatives and still had plenty of good items to place in the re-use shed.
- Set a schedule for days of use and times for cleaning out the re-use shed.
- Education and community commitment in making our community a better place.
- Make sure advertising and messaging onsite tells the public that it is important to re-use whenever possible. Get'em young: hold events occasionally aimed at children. Eg. an after Christmas event to demonstrate ways to re-use old toys, and to show how to reduce packaging waste. Stop threatening to close the re-use sheds. If a few members of the public are creating the problems, bring stated consequences to bear on those few. Support staff at the re-use sheds to make sure they are welcoming and positive.

Question 6: What are some other things that can be done with re-use materials to minimize the amount of garbage to landfill?

- Work with recycle organizations to have their own containers set up at the landfill sites that they are responsible for.
- Donate to disaster stricken areas or third world countries if no demand locally.
- Educate.
- More education. More sorting.
- Address times when families are overwhelmed with personal crisis and are unable to sort and recycle. Some communities have businesses or community organizations like Big Brothers who gather these household items as a means of making money.
- Volunteer small repair people eg. Replace cords on otherwise perfectly good appliances. High school shop class?
- Free classifieds could be used more perhaps.
- Periodic contests to promote and reward innovation. Lobby provincial and federal governments to pass laws that support and encourage re-use and recycling. Not a quick fix, but a step in the right direction and sends a message of what is expected. Lobby provincial and federal governments for more funding specifically to support re-use. A “maker” area where anyone can crate art and innovative ways to re-use materials.



Question 7: Do you have any other comments, suggestions or ideas to share?

- Feel that the most important message to get across to the public is that they are responsible for their own actions and that consequences will be upheld by the RDBN.
- Looks like the re-use shed has fallen into the category where after number of years bad guys feel comfortable and try and govern the establishment, same as in other sectors.
- Being at the meeting helped me to be better informed to recycle better. Larger re-use shed. Volunteer sign-up. Signs with 15 minute time limit (no loitering).
- Some policies don't make sense – such as no electrical appliances in the re-use shed. Even perfectly working appliances are now being turned away. Why? Empower people by teaching them how to repair things rather than throw them away.
- Re-use shed is a valuable service for our community. Many single women do not feel safe advertising items and having unknown individuals come to their home. Re-use shed was perfect way to pass along those still useable items.
- Charging to drop items will likely send items to the landfill or worse yet, the road sides. Potential one time fee – to drop off and or collect for one year or more. Investigate why “there has been a distinct change in the way re-use sheds are being utilized”...a few bad individuals? Push back against other changes? Personally I am in favour of hiring and training staff to educate and promote re-use in the RDBN, mediate issues with the public, maintain re-use sheds. Quoted cost of \$9.00/yr/household to make this possible – money well spent for an effective re-use system.
- Requiring a fee to dump might encourage people to dump garbage where we don't want it. Teach children- if they care enough they might sway parents. Contest at schools. No “pick fee” – how would low income people know ahead of time what's there.
- Based on previous experience at the Nanaimo Recycling Exchange, dropped off items would be re-sold very cheaply to help raise income. An attendant would oversee the drop off of materials to make sure it fit re-use policy. Things had to be clean of course and not junk. Some of the better stuff was collected and stored for fund raising events held later in the year. After a time, the operation was expanded to include decent building supplies. I know we do not have the same population numbers as Nanaimo, but there is no reason why we can't subsidize the re-use shed in this way and make it more self reliant. I don't feel that just raising property taxes is the answer, it's just the easiest thing to do. I also think, that this would be a great way to start a re-use store for items that can be salvaged, fixed, up-scaled or value added as in clothes, appliances, furniture, etc. or new things made from recycling older materials and sold at a higher price. It would be a great way for micro-entrepreneurs to generate income as well, provide a service, well at the same time solving the problem of stuff. We could build on this over time with new ideas and make the re-use shed a recycling co-operative that everyone can enjoy. But you definitely will need a bigger building.
- The meeting on 21 October 2015 was enlightening and gave me hope that we can get our re-use sheds back. It is also clear that a great deal has to change. It was a surprise to hear that the RDBN really does want to encourage recycling and re-use. This is certainly not the message I have been hearing in the periodic threat to close re-use facilities. The threat to



56

close facilities, along with the lack of any visible steps to enforce rules or encourage compliance with RDBN's requirements, no messaging in support of re-use, and deterioration of the facilities themselves, led me to believe the RDBN desired to close them. RDBN needs to monitor and assess advertising and messaging. When the message does not produce the desired result, find out why it isn't working and fix either the message or reasons for non-compliance. Waste management is one of those areas in which governments at all levels must take the lead. Certainly there may be business opportunities, but there has to be a significant component of legislative, and financial support for reducing waste. I appreciate the opportunity to submit my thoughts on how to improve our recycling and re-use facilities. I hope this is the beginning of an ongoing dialogue between RDBN and the public to ensure that we have the facilities we need to make our communities more sustainable for everyone.



Regional District of Bulkley- Nechako Salvaging and Re-Use Shed Public Meeting Feedback Summary Form

Location: Granisle
Date: Monday, October 26, 2015

Meeting Information

- Meeting was held at a meeting room at the Granisle Seniors Center from 6 pm to approximately 8 pm.
- A total of 25 people attended.

Feedback Form Responses

A total of 15 submissions were received. Please note, not all submissions included responses to all questions.

Question 1: Do you have any suggestions/ideas on how to ensure inappropriate, dangerous and hazardous materials do not end up in the Re-Use Sheds?

- All people dropping off items should first check with the attendant.
- Supervise – cameras.
- Camera security, additional staff, limited available hours.
- Cameras are a good idea. Extra staffing for only a couple of hours a day. Shorten the hours it is open.
- User beware. We are adults. In larger, more populated areas (particularly problem areas) have two (or more as required) staff. More signage and cameras.
- Put up signs, no dangerous or hazardous materials to be left at this re-use shed. Install camera. Large spot light. Install out house. Sniffer dog. Print fact in newspaper, guilty person may see it and change their ways.
- I feel staffing the sheds would be the best option. Offsetting the cost with fees to access the shed would be an interesting option. Drop off fees may not be well received by the public but fees at a nominal rate to pick items would encourage people take only the items they will use. A sign in book may be a good addition for drop off and pick up so that a record of users can be established. Those abusing the sheds could be suspended or banned in the event of an unacceptable use.
- Pay the Lions Club to run the shed. Install cameras. Have attendant look after it 2 hours per day.
- Education – informative signs, TV commercials. Provide convenient alternative location for “inappropriate, etc.” materials.
- This is used by adults “buyer beware”. Signs telling users: “please check what you bring and what you take home”. Anything not appropriate should be taken to the operator’s building. Or if large, the operator should be told what the problem is.



- Without a caretaker on site the above request is impossible. A motion sensor camera would expose the guilty culprit, but then what? Common sense will tell you to check the material you take home. Everybody knows it's "buyer be aware" and the system was working in Granisle.
- More signs – do not put dangerous and hazardous materials in shed.
- Signs with "not acceptable" listed. More education of public required.

Question 2: Do you have suggestions/ideas on how to address bad and aggressive behavior at RDBN solid waste management facilities in general and specifically associated with the Re-Use Sheds?

- Give the attendant the authority to call the RCMP.
- Cameras.
- Suggest invite RCMP to an RD meeting and ask for thoughts on what/how is legal to deal with aggression.
- Attendant should walk away from confrontation and possibly call RCMP or public works for assistance to have them removed from the property.
- Get more cameras and signage and warn the public that this type of stuff will not be tolerated.
- Call manager and tell of the bad behaviour, name the person.
- Abusive users would be suspended or banned from the sheds. In the event of an incident the attendant should immediately lock the shed until the party leaves and report the incident.
- I don't think this happened in Granisle.
- Bad behaviour is closing our re-use without consulting with the users.
- Call police.

Question 3: How does the RDBN ensure that when a product does reach "end of life" it is taken to an available recycling facility instead of to an RDBN facility where it is ultimately landfilled?

- Have recycling drop off more conveniently located.
- Recycling is not available in the north, re-use is – identify the difference.
- Recycling is not available in our area – common sense should tell you a broken item is going to landfill.
- If a person is being paid then they should also be a dismantler.
- Put up sign, stating that fact.
- Could a depot area be set up and pick up arranged by the appropriate agency? If not could a run be set up periodically to deliver to the appropriate facility?
- Provide a convenient location for "end of life" items.
- How close to Granisle is this place? I use Houston and Burns Lake. Limited items.
- Better signs. Eg. no electronics etc.
- Bins that are picked up when full and delivered to recycling facility.



Question 4: Do you have ideas on how good useable materials can be effectively directed to those that need it the most?

- Approach salvation army, red cross.
- Privacy issues, who governs those that need and those that don't.
- Breach of privacy.
- Word of mouth, tell your friends in need.
- An inventory could be established and items that are needed could be requested by emergency agencies, churches or social services.
- Define "who needs it the most"?
- If in doubt, contact thrift shops or sally ann.
- Signs for thrift shops shed and informing people medication can be dropped off at the "health clinic".

Question 5: Do you have ideas/suggestions on how the RDBN can promote and encourage Re-Use?

- Advertise on radio and in papers.
- Leaflets.
- Monthly notices, advertise locally radio, etc.
- Person to person contact. Signs at village office and bulletin boards.
- Tell your people about the re-use shed. Take your items for re-use. Don't throw it in the bush or the dump. Or burn it. The people could really use it and bring the items to their own home. Would need to run the re-use shed as a business, would cause people to have more respect for it.
- Annual pancake breakfast and info session. Attend Canada Day with information.
- Word of mouth works in Granisle.
- It is working/it was working in Granisle.
- Not without the use of the re-use shed.

Question 6: What are some other things that can be done with re-use materials to minimize the amount of garbage to landfill?

- Salvage hardwood furniture and glass for craft clubs (advertise available).
- Have another bin for recycle that is taken to a station for recycling.
- Hold garage sales and try to sell items.
- Donate surplus to thrift shops, churches, etc.
- Re-use sheds.
- Give away day at curb but this can only work in summer. At end of day, everything left is picked up by Regional District.



Question 7: Do you have any other comments, suggestions or ideas to share?

- People who have toys, car seats, strollers, helmets, etc., should put up posters or use word of mouth to get these items out there.
- Have a committee in each community to help those who cannot take items to the re-use shed. By calling the village office and letting them know and in turn, the committee can be called.
- Burn the wood here, not expensive trucking. The more we re-use, the less to haul.
- Disappointed in the meeting as to be in small groups so we can't have a discussion at large and someone who has to answer to the BS that has closed all the recycle shacks. Also the length of time it has taken to get to this.
- Re-use sheds are here to stay, along with the problems that go along with it, find persons to help, that have the stomach for the work. Charge a small fee for items. It would promote respect for the re-use shed.
- With reference to Granisle, the station is open 3 days per week and manned by a single person. A person expected to work alone is in itself dangerous. The operation of heavy equipment can be dangerous and if an accident occurred, being alone could easily result in death. A second person, to assist in all facets of the station would allow more time to control the re-use shed building.
- Please look at individual locations. Most of these "issues" would never happen here in Granisle.
- We "Granisle" is a long way from other centers. A re-use shed is better than just throwing everything away. Have operator do a walk through when open.
- Cameras around re-use shed.
- Security cameras may be helpful depending on cost.



Gabriola Island Recycling Organization


[Home](#)
[About Us](#)
[Reuse](#)
[Recycle](#)
[Community](#)

Hours: Wed. & Sat.
9:30-4:00

Statutory Holidays:
Nov. 11, 2015 1:00-4:00
Dec. 26, 2015 CLOSED

700 Tin Can Alley
Gabriola, BC
Tel: 250-247-9257
girodepot@gmail.com

How to get here

Please note:

- Preferably no drop-offs after 3 pm when depot is open and never when it is closed.
- Bring only items that are clean, dry, and in good repair and working order.
- We do not take some items (see list under **Recycle**).
- To ensure the safety of staff, volunteers and members of the public, GIRO will be closed during power outages.

Welcome to GIRO

Providing Green Solutions for 25 Years

Gabriola Island Recycling Organization (GIRO) is a community based, non-profit society that has worked for more than 20 years to provide island residents with tools for building a sustainable and waste-free environment.

Our recycling depot provides a popular resale store in addition to a waste materials recycling facility.

All of our services are designed to support a greener, more environmentally responsible community. We continually strive to improve and expand our services and facility to meet the changing recycling needs of the Gabriola and Mudge Island communities.

Mission Statement

The Gabriola Island Recycling Organization endeavors to create an island community that understands the importance of caring for the land which nurtures us.

Our mission is to actively encourage, enable and educate by providing a place for islanders to recycle and hence reduce our environmental footprint.



REMEMBER: RETHINK, REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

100% of our Visitors



This site is 100% powered by volunteers.

Beth Glascock, Photos & Design
Hans van Kessel, Original Website Programmer
John Beatty, Technical Support

25th Anniversary & Grand Opening!

You are invited to a "Double" Celebration for GIRO:

25th Anniversary & Grand Opening of the New Building

Sunday, November 1, 2015 2:00-4:00 PM

Location: New Building @ GIRO

Activities & Refreshments for All!

New General Manager

The Board is pleased to welcome Michelle MacEwen as the new General Manager, effective March 1, 2015.

Contact Michelle at
girodepot@gmail.com

Thank You to Our Volunteers!

The success of GIRO depends on our great volunteers. Without them we wouldn't be able to offer islanders an opportunity to contribute to a greener, healthier and more environmentally friendly island community through modern waste management practices.

Volunteers make the world a better place for all of us! To find out how you can volunteer at GIRO, check out our **Participate** section.

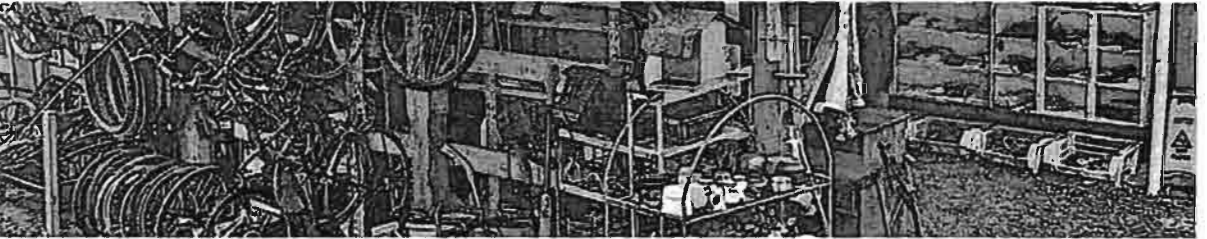
Business Recycling

Do you own a business on Gabriola? Contact Dean Clark, GIRO Recycling Manager, at girodepot@gmail.com or 250-247-9257 to arrange convenient, customized pick-up of recyclable and reusable materials.



62

Gabriola Island Recycling Organization



[Home](#)

[About Us](#)

[Reuse](#)

[Recycle](#)

[Community](#)

How Much Does Giro Recycle?

In 2011 GIRO collected and recycled:

- 46 metric tons of cardboard
- 7 metric tons of newsprint
- 10 metric tons of glass
- 7 metric tons of glue-bound books
- 15 metric tons of mixed waste paper
- 3 metric tons of various plastics
- 2.2 metric tons of milk jugs
- 68 metric tons of ferrous metals
- 1.13 metric tons of non-ferrous metals
- 130 car batteries
- 25 skids of TVs, computers and monitors (does not include TVs too big to fit on skid)
- 10 skids of electronic peripherals (scanners, VCRs, DVD players, printers, faxes, phones, etc.)

About GIRO

Policy

Gabriola Island Recycling Organization (GIRO) was founded in 1990 by a group of civic-minded Gabriola residents. Our constitution and bylaws are [here](#).

Board

GIRO is guided by a **board of directors**, elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). (S

Minutes f

Annual

President - Susan Brown
Secretary - Nancy Hetherington Peirce
Treasurer - Peter Dzierzawa
Director - Neila Coe
Director - Peter Joyes
Director - Kees Langerels
Director - Barry Loescher
Director - Margaret St. Denis
Director - Lynn Stefanson

[GIRO Annual Financial Statement for 2013](#)

[GIRO Annual Financial Statement for 2014](#)

Staff

GIRO services are managed by four **people**, who are assisted by other staff and volunteers.



REMEMBER: RETHINK, REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

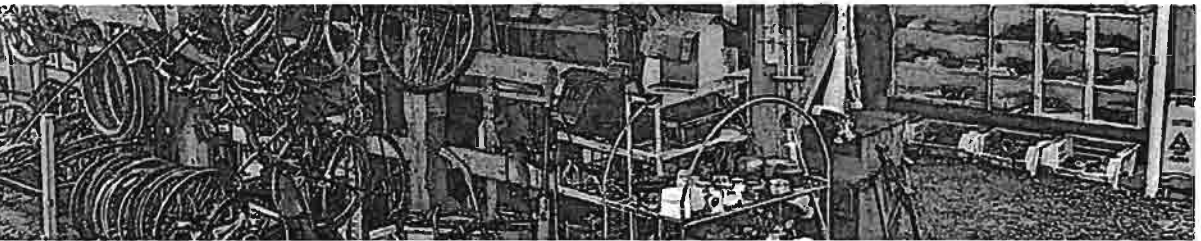
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GIRO ■ 700 Tin Can Alley ■ Gabriola BC V0R 1X3 ■ Tel: 250-247-9257 ■ girodepot@gmail.com

This page was last modified on Thursday 17 September 2015 at 18:06:38 hours EDT.



Gabriola Island Recycling Organization



Home

About Us

Reuse

Recycle

Community

Reuse

Donations to the GIRO Resale Store

All items donated for reuse should be clean, dry and reusable. A GIRO staff member or volunteer will receive your donations during depot hours on Wednesdays and Saturdays and let you know if there are any that we are unable to accept.

Re-Store

Twice a week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, GIRO's resale store is the place where you are most likely to run into friends and neighbours. Promoting the "reuse" part of our "Rethink/Reduce/Reuse/Recycle" mantra, our Re-Store offers an opportunity to rediscover the truth of the saying, "one man's trash is another man's treasure."



Clothing Depot, Verena MacQuarrie



ReStore Manager, Janice Ursalak

Community donated items are for sale at very affordable prices. These include kitchenware, small appliances, furniture, books, toys, building and garden supplies, tools, linens and clothing for all members of the family. Selected items are sold through a silent auction to give more people an opportunity to buy them.

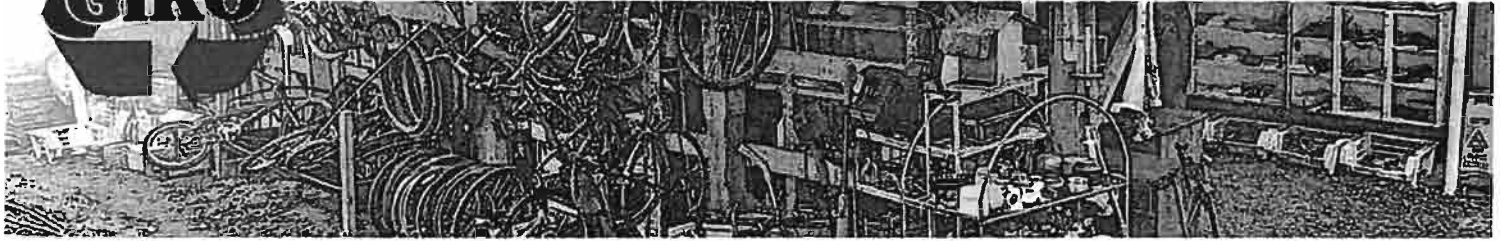
Proceeds from resale help fund additional recycling projects. With no landfill facility on the island, all garbage must be trucked to the RDN landfill in Cedar. By taking reusable and recyclable items to GIRO and by shopping at the GIRO Re-Store, you are helping to make our community more self-sustaining.



604



Gabriola Island Recycling Organization



[Home](#)

[About Us](#)

[Reuse](#)

[Recycle](#)

[Community](#)

Business Recycling

Do you own a business on Gabriola? Contact Dean Clark, GIRO Recycling Manager, at 250-247-9257 or girodepot@gmail.com to arrange convenient, customized pick-up of recyclable and reusable materials from your business site.

Recycle

- Please see staff before dropping off anything.
- Preferably no drop offs accepted after 3:00 pm on depot days and never when we are closed.
- We are closed during power outages and on statutory holidays.



GIRO Recycling Depot Manager, Dean Clark, can answer any of your recycling questions.



For a printable copy of these guidelines, [click here.](#)



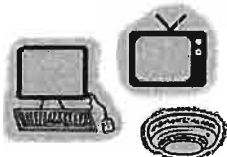
Paper Products (clean and dry)

- Cardboard
- Flyers | Envelopes | Office Paper
- Magazines | Catalogues
- Newsprint Paper
- Bags
- NO** Gift Wrap
- NO** Tissue Paper



Household Containers (please rinse)

- Refundable beverage containers
- Glass jars and bottles, including lids
- Milk jugs | Milk cartons | Other waxed cartons
- All plastics with the ♻️ symbol, numbers 1-7
- Metal & tin cans (flatten cans, remove labels)
- Aluminum cans | trays | foil (flatten cans, remove labels)
- Metal and plastic lids and caps
- Wine boxes with bags
- Recyclable plastic bags
- NO** broken dishes/glassware
- NO** soup Tetra boxes
- NO** biodegradable or compostable plastic bags



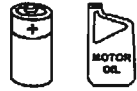
Electronics & Small Appliances

- Computers & peripherals (hard drives are destroyed)
- TVs and other electronics in working order or not
- Smoke alarms | CO₂ alarms



Lighting **65**

Most bulbs and light fixtures (for a complete list, go to www.lightrecycle.ca/consumers/accepted-products)



Motor Oil & Batteries (all kinds)

Hazardous Materials



Paints, Pesticides, Flammables & Aerosols

(For a complete list, go to www.productcare.org/BC-Products-Accepted)



Scrap Metal & Major Appliances

Copper, brass, aluminum, steel, etc. Reusable scrap metal is available for sale. Unusable scrap metal is tossed in the metal bin for a small fee. Major appliances accepted for a \$5.00 drop-off fee.



Styrofoam

GIRO does **NOT** currently take styrofoam.
Nanaimo Recycling Exchange at 2214 McCullough Road, Nanaimo, BC, 250-758-7777, will take it.
Some stores (e.g., London Drugs) will accept their packing foam.



REMEMBER: RETHINK, REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

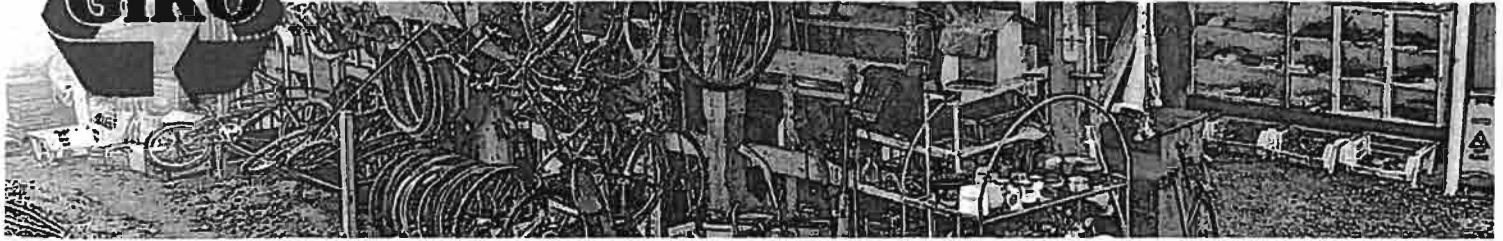
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GIRO ■ 700 Tin Can Alley ■ Gabriola BC V0R 1X3 ■ Tel: 250-247-9257 ■ girodepot@gmail.com

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Gabriola Island Recycling Organization


[Home](#)
[About Us](#)
[Reuse](#)
[Recycle](#)
[Community](#)

Board of Directors

Board Meetings

Typically, the board of directors meets once per month. According to Board policy, "Members and the general public are welcome to attend scheduled monthly Board of Directors meetings, either by invitation from the Board or by request from members or general public. Requests to attend a Board meeting must be made one week in advance of the meeting by contacting the Board (via e-mailing the **GIRO Secretary**).

Instructions for obtaining the date and time of the next Board meeting, and minutes of past Board meetings, are available at **Board of Directors**.

Participate

Membership

We invite you to join us as a GIRO member. Through your membership you will be supporting one of the island's longest running non-profit organizations, whose mandate is to educate Gabriolans about reducing, reusing and recycling consumer waste and to advocate for responsible consumer and waste management practices.

As a member in good standing you will be notified of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) as well as any special meetings. You will receive annual financial reports and be eligible to vote in Board of Director elections. Who knows; you might even consider putting your name forward for a position on the Board!

Membership dues are only \$2 per person per year. We'll send you a reminder just before the AGM in April. Pick up a membership form at the GIRO Depot or [click here to download](#) and print the form.

Volunteering

The dedicated and hard working staff at the GIRO Depot could not provide such a wide range of recycling and reuse services without the help of our regular volunteers.

And we can always use more volunteers! Volunteer opportunities include working on days when the Depot is open (Wednesdays and Saturdays) or on days when it is closed to the public. You can volunteer on a weekly, biweekly or monthly basis for a minimum of 3 hours up to a full day.

Being a GIRO volunteer is a great way to meet people and to help out your community by actively contributing to the preservation of our natural environment. To fill out a volunteer request form, just speak to any of the GIRO staff.

Community

The G.I.R.O. Community has been involved in two separate initiatives in the fall of 2013. The first was a survey of users, to which some 400 people responded. The second was a community planning session at which about 80 participants voiced their concerns and desires for the GIRO Depot.

[Please click here to see the results of the survey and the community planning session](#)

