

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO****WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE****AGENDA**

Thursday, February 10, 2022

<b><u>PAGE NO.</u></b>		<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
	<b><u>CALL TO ORDER</u></b>	
	<b><u>AGENDA</u></b> – February 10, 2022	Approve
	<b><u>SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA</u></b>	Receive
	<b><u>MINUTES</u></b>	
3-6	Waste Management Committee Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2022	Approve
	<b><u>COMMITTEE ADVOCACY</u></b>	
	Verbal Update – Youth Member Recruitment	
	<b><u>SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE</u></b>	
	Verbal Update - Recruitment	
	<b><u>POLICY REVIEW</u></b>	
	None	
	<b><u>DIVERSION &amp; RECYCLING</u></b>	
7-14	CleanFarms – Agricultural Plastics Pilot 2021 Update Report	Receive
	Verbal Update – Recycling Depot Supply Challenges	
	Discussion Item – Expanding Recycling Depot Programs	
	<b><u>OPERATIONS UPDATE</u></b>	
	Verbal Update – Knockholt Capacity Update – Waste Re-Routing Plan	
15	Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services - Air Curtain Burner – Received	Receive
	Verbal Update – Department Activity	

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

None

### **FUTURE MEETING TOPICS**

- **Metal Salvage Discussion – March 2022**
- **Revenue vs. Diversion Discussion Including Airspace & Development Costs – March 2022**
- **Legacy Projects – Funding Request Updates – March 2022**
- **Wood Waste Operations Update – April 2022**
- **Cost Recovery Plan – Review and Update – April 2022**
- **Disposal Fee Bylaw Changes – April 2022**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO****WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING****Thursday, January 13, 2022**

**PRESENT:** Chair Mark Fisher– via Zoom

Directors Gladys Atrill – via Zoom  
Shane Brienen – via Zoom  
Jerry Petersen  
Michael Riis-Christianson  
Gerry Thiessen

Director Absent Chris Newell, Electoral Area “G” (Houston Rural)

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer  
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services  
Janette Derksen, Waste Diversion Supervisor  
Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services  
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

Others Annette Morgan, Village of Telkwa – via Zoom  
Clint Lambert, Electoral Area “E” (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)  
Ken Nielsen, General Manager, Chinook Community Forest – via Zoom  
Mark Parker, Electoral Area “D” (Fraser Lake Rural)

Media Eddie Huband, LD News – left at 2:21 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Fisher called the meeting to order at 1:49 p.m.

**AGENDA**Moved by Director Brienen  
Seconded by Director Atrill**WMC.2022-1-1**

“That the Waste Management Committee Agenda for January 13, 2022 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY****MINUTES****Waste Management  
Committee Meeting Minutes  
December 16, 2021**Moved by Director Brienen  
Seconded by Director Petersen**WMC.2022-1-2**

“That the Minutes of the Waste Management Committee for December 16, 2021 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **COMMUNITY ADVOCACY**

### **Verbal Update – Chair Fisher – Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Meeting – December 20, 2021**

Chair Fisher spoke of the following:

- Follow up meeting from 2021 Union of B.C. Municipalities Convention
- Met with Bob MacDonald, Director, Extended Producer Responsibility, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
  - o Topics discussed:
    - Developing an ICI Pilot project
    - Circular economy
    - ICI data collection will be released in 2022
    - Densification
      - MoE suggested focusing on densification
      - Coast Waste Management Association a resource
- No progress moving forward
- Ministry of Environment and Climate Change has indicated that in discussions with Stewardships there is no a desire to make changes.

### **Meeting with Coast Waste Management Association**

- Island and rural communities sub working group
- Discussed emergency management
  - o Impacts from facility closures and road closures
  - o Rerouting of waste and recycling during an emergency event.

### **Northern BC Solid Waste Management Forum 2021 Resource Package**

Moved by Director Atrill  
 Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

WMC.2022-1-3

“That the Committee receive the Northern BC Solid Waste Management Forum 2021 Resource Package.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC) UPDATE**

Verbal Report re: Recruitment

Alex Eriksen commented that Environmental Services has received minimal uptake for the SWAC and advocating for members is a priority.

## **POLICY REVIEW**

None

## **DIVERSION & RECYCLING**

### **Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Canada -Single-Use Plastics Prohibition Regulations**

Moved by Director Lambert  
 Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

WMC.2022-1-4

“That the Committee receive the Correspondence from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Canada – Single-Use Plastics Prohibition Regulations.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **DIVERSION & RECYCLING (CONT'D)**

### Verbal Report – Recycle BC Depot Challenges

Mr. Eriksen provided a brief overview of the Recycle BC Depot challenges due to the flooding in southern B.C. in November and December 2021.

The following was discussed:

- RDBN Recycling facilities experiencing resource issues
  - o Minor short-term closures
  - o Staff has received concerns from residents
- Concerns regarding residents' ability to recycle
- Staff in contact with Recycle BC to address supply issues
- Staff are providing public notification regarding the issue
  - o RDBN website
  - o Bulkley Nechako Public Alerts
  - o Social media posts
  - o Signage at RDBN Recycling Depots
- Stockpiling recyclables at RDBN Recycling Depots challenging
  - o Lack of space
  - o Lack of enclosed storage space
- RDBN back up supplies have been diminished
- Recycle BC correspondence regarding impacts across the province from supply issues.

### Write a Letter to Recycle BC

Moved by Director Petersen  
 Seconded by Director Atrill

### WMC.2022-1-5

“That the Committee recommend that the Board write a letter to Recycle BC providing an outline of the current supply issues RDBN Recycling Depots are experiencing and what is required to address the issue; and further, that the letter be cc'd to Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, Green for Life Environmental Inc., John Rustad, MLA Nechako Lakes and Nathan Cullen, MLA Bulkley Stikine.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **OPERATIONS UPDATE**

### Knockholt Landfill Update -Waste Re-routing Plan

Moved by Director Brienon  
 Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

### WMC.2022-1-6

“That the Committee receive the Director of Environmental Services' Knockholt Landfill Update – Waste Re-routing Plan memorandum.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Eriksen provided an update regarding the Knockholt Landfill Waste Re-routing Plan. He indicated the time frame has been extended two months. The Rerouting Plan is currently in stage 1 and 2 and is not impacting commercial haulers. Mr. Eriksen indicated that staff continuously evaluate the Knockholt Landfill capacity.

### **OPERATIONS UPDATE (CONT'D)**

Discussion took place regarding:

- Pipeline construction waste and rates paid for Construction and Demolition waste for pipeline construction
- Review of Solid Waste Management Facility user fees during budget process
- Challenges conducting construction works for the Knockholt Landfill expansion during winter months.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

None

### **FUTURE MEETING TOPICS**

- Environmental Services Department Structure Update – January 2022
- Agricultural Plastics Pilot Program Update – February 2022
- Metal Salvage Discussion – March 2022
- Revenue vs. Diversion Discussion Including Airspace & Development Costs-March 2022
- Legacy Projects – Funding Request Updates – March 2022
- Wood waste discussion (focus on diversion and airshed issues).

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Director Brien  
 Seconded by Director Atrill

WMC.2022-1-7

“That the meeting be adjourned at 2:35 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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Mark Fisher, Chair

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Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services



# Agricultural Plastics Pilot 2021 Update Report

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

2021-Q4 Update



## RDBN Update Report – January 27, 2022

Pilots in RDBN were officially launched with press release in June 2021. Initial material accumulation indicates very quick up-take in the pilot. High volumes of material are expected to accumulate over the next quarter.

A first load of material has been collected and will be sent for further processing at DBS Environmental in Lethbridge, Alberta in early 2022. This will give a good sense of the quality of material that has been collected so far.

### Collection Sites

Seven collection sites are currently available under the pilot:

1. Fort St. James Transfer Station
2. Smithers/Telkwa Transfer Station
3. Southside Transfer Station
4. Burns Lake Transfer Station
5. Vanderhoof Transfer station
6. Area “D” (Fraser Lake) Transfer Station
7. Knockholt Landfill

All seven sites are open to collect twine, bale wrap and silage plastics. Two sites have received the highest volume of material so far: Smithers/Telkwa and Vanderhoof. With the onset of winter feeding season these sites have seen an increase in material accumulation.

High volumes of bale wrap in particular are quickly filling up stall space. In the future it may be necessary to increase the space available for drop off of this material, particularly during peak winter seasons.

RDBN staff have shared that since the start of the pilot, some stalls have been relocated to be more in eyesight of site staff or to accommodate site space needs. Also crows pecking at bags are a noticeable issue at one site, and another is seeing twine disappear after bags have been dropped-off. Someone is likely using this for reuse.

### Ag Collection Bags

Two shipments of bags have delivered to RDBN since the start of the pilot. Another order will be placed in the next quarter to account for anticipated use during “spring clean-ups” on farm.

Ag collection bags are currently clear, 39x60 inches and 3.5mil thick with a minimum of 25% Post-Consumer Recycled (PCR) content. Initial informal farmer feedback indicates that collection bags may be small for large scale producers.

RDBN staff and farmers have indicated that mini-bulk bags are often used on-farm to store material before bringing it back for disposal or recycling because they are larger and more



convenient, however they are challenging to manage through the pilot program because of the size and weight of the bags, requiring additional handling and equipment to move them. Feedback about the bag size and convenience provides us with useful information for future program planning.

## Tonnage Collected

Collection volumes have been very strong for the start of a pilot program. In 2021, 60 bags of silage plastic, 56 bags of bale wrap, and 16 bags of twine have been picked up by GFL. This represents collection from three sites (Burns Lake, Vanderhoof and Smithers/Telkwa), and approximately half of the material that had been dropped off by farmers at time of collection. Another collection is planned for early 2022.

This material will be sent to DBS Environmental in Lethbridge, Alberta for further sorting, baling and assessment before being sent to end markets. Total tonnage will be provided after this time. This will give a good first indication of the overall quality of the material being collected. Cleanfarms continues to search for a suitable consolidation and baling facility in or near the RDBN.

## Financial Report

The following tables show the program financials from May to December 2021. Table 1 represents the RDBN contribution to the program (50% funding), and Table 2 represents the total project cost to-date. Year-to-date costs are within the budgeted amount for the first six months of the program.

*Table 1 – May-December 2021; 50% RDBN contribution*

<b>RDBN Contribution</b>	<b>May-Sep. 30, 2021</b>	<b>Oct-Dec 31, 2021</b>	<b>Total YTD Dec. 31, 2021</b>	<b>% Budget Spent</b>	<b>Total Contribution Budget</b>
<b>Collection Sites Costs</b>					
- Baling costs	-	-			
- Material consolidation	\$26.75	\$1,697.88			
- Transport to end market	-	-			
- Collection bags	\$2,373.10	\$3,700.67			
<b>Total Collection Sites</b>	<b>\$2,399.85</b>	<b>\$5,398.55</b>	<b>\$7,798.40</b>		
<b>Communication</b>	<b>\$3,616.74</b>	-	<b>\$3,616.74</b>		
<b>Administration</b>	<b>\$2,776.75</b>	<b>\$2,776.75</b>	<b>\$5,553.50</b>		
<b>Revenue</b>	-	-	-		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,793.34</b>	<b>\$8,175.30</b>	<b>\$16,968.64</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>\$96,501.50</b>



Table 2 – May-December 2021; Total project cost

Project Total	Total YTD Dec. 31, 2021	% Budget Spent	Total Project Budget
<b>Collection Sites Costs</b>			
- Baling costs			
- Material consolidation	\$3,449.26		
- Transport to end market	-		
- Collection bags	\$12,147.54		
Total Collection Sites	\$15,596.80		
<b>Communication</b>	\$7,233.48		
<b>Administration</b>	\$11,107.00		
<b>Revenue</b>	-		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$33,937.28</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>\$193,003.00</b>

Financial updates will be provided on a quarterly basis.

## Communication Activities

A [press release](#) was issued in June 2021 to announce the official launch of the pilot.

Site signs were delivered prior to the launch of the program and are available for display at all collection sites. Early conversations with farmers indicate that the signs are useful in spreading the word about the pilot – farmers are learning about the pilot through the site signage as they bring in other materials to the sites.

Pilot information has been distributed through the Region’s “Growing Opportunities” newsletter multiple times and subsequently through the Region’s Cattlemen’s association. Cleanfarms has heard directly from farmers as a result of this outreach.

Rack cards and posters (Appendix A) have been made available for distribution. Cleanfarms recognizes and appreciates the work of RDBN staff in circulating these materials at relevant locations. These communication materials direct participants to the dedicated space on the Cleanfarms website: [BC Pilot Webpage](#).

## Key Challenges and Learnings

Although the pilot program is still new, there have been a few key challenges and learnings of note:

### Contractor Development

Collection logistics for this type of pilot program are unique and often require the development of new service providers, especially in the early stages of a pilot program when collection volumes are low. Cleanfarms has been working to develop relationships with collection contractors and baling contractors in Northern BC for servicing the pilots. Multiple delays occurred to servicing the pilots in the fall and winter 2021 which Cleanfarms is seeking to remedy in 2022.



### On-site Consolidation/Compaction

In August 2021 the Cleanfarms coordinator, Carly Fraser, visited the Vanderhoof Transfer Station to trial a manual compactor/press to determine if materials can be volume-reduced at the point of collection for efficient transportation. It was determined that the provided press is not yet appropriate for collection site usage. The press did not work well with material that is returned in collection bags, and preparing the material in an alternate manner would require additional time on the part of site staff, which is not feasible at this time. Cleanfarms is planning to work with a local farmer to trial the use of the press on-farm in the future. A photo of the press can be found in Appendix B.

## Other Activities and Updates

### Market Development

Recycling markets for agricultural film plastics and twine in North America remain limited, however recent policy announcements in Canada and the US signal a positive outlook for the development of new market opportunities in the near future. New Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation has been passed in Quebec which includes all agricultural plastic products, and several states in the US have tabled or passed EPR bills for the first time. Additionally, minimum recycled content legislation is beginning to emerge in the US, with the first bill requiring new packaging to include a minimum of 15% recycled content by 2024. All of these regulatory changes should spur the development of recycling infrastructure and benefit the entire recycling industry in North America.

Today, silage film is recycled at recycling facilities in Quebec and Virginia, and twine is recycled at a facility in Minnesota.

### Communications

Cleanfarms was invited to present at the BC Northern Waste Forum in October 2021. Cleanfarms discussed the development process of the pilots occurring across the country, including the RDBN pilot.

As a result of the presentation in October and other communications activities, other Regional Districts in BC have reached out to Cleanfarms with interest in taking part in the pilot program in the future. It is encouraging to hear that there is interest throughout the province, and this shows the need to continue to develop best practices over the life of the pilot.

Cleanfarms continues to share updates on all pilot projects included as part of the “Building a Zero Plastic Waste Strategy for Agriculture” initiative through project newsletters and a dedicated [project page](#).



## Appendix A – Rack Card & Poster



### Get ready to recycle

#### Twine, bale wrap, silage bags and bunker covers

Pick up a collection bag from participating collection sites then follow these steps to ensure your material can be collected and recycled!



#### Shake or sweep

Shake or sweep out your material, removing as much debris, dirt or ice/snow as possible.

#### Bag

Use a Cleanfarms collection bag and bag each material separately.



- Bale wrap should be rolled up and placed in the bag
- Pieces of silage bags/covers should be placed in the bag
- Large pieces of silage plastic should be rolled tightly and secured with twine



Secure a full bag closed with twine or a zip tie.

#### Return

Return bags of material to your local collection site.

For more information contact Cleanfarms at 1-877-622-4460 or visit [Cleanfarms.ca](http://Cleanfarms.ca)



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### Find your collection site

Always check operating hours ahead of time.

#### Fort St. James Transfer Station

1521 Necoslie Road, Fort St. James  
Monday to Friday & Sunday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm;  
Saturday 8:00 am – 6:00 pm

#### Smithers/Telkwa Transfer Station

6150 Donaldson Road, Smithers  
Monday to Friday 8:00 am – 6:00 pm;  
Saturday & Sunday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

#### Southside Transfer Station

36007 Eakin Settlement Road, Southbank  
Sunday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm;  
Closed Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

#### Burns Lake Transfer Station

4410 Babine Lake Road, Burns Lake  
Monday to Friday 8:00 am – 6:00 pm;  
Saturday & Sunday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

#### Vanderhoof Transfer Station

650 Dump Road, Vanderhoof  
Monday to Friday 8:00 am – 6:00 pm;  
Saturday & Sunday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

#### Fraser Lake (Area D) Transfer Station

3366 Fraser Lake Airport Road, Fraser Lake  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8:00 am – 6:00 pm;  
Saturday & Sunday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

#### Knockholt Landfill

8072 Aitken Road, Houston  
Monday – Sunday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

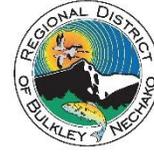
#### Repeat

Don't forget to  
take another bag  
home with you!



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## PILOT PROJECT: RECYCLING AGRICULTURAL PLASTICS

**BALE WRAP**



**TWINE**



**BUNKER COVER**



**SILAGE BAGS**



**Pick-up ag collection bags,  
fill & bring back to these locations:**

**Fort St. James Transfer Station**, 1521 Necoslie Rd., Fort St James  
**Smithers/Telkwa Transfer Station**, 6150 Donaldson Rd., Smithers  
**Southside Transfer Station**, 36007 Eakin Settlement Rd., Southbank  
**Burns Lake Transfer Station**, 4410 Babine Lake Rd., Burns Lake  
**Vanderhoof Transfer Station**, 650 Dump Rd., Vanderhoof  
**Fraser Lake (Area D) Transfer Station**, 3366 Fraser Lake Airport Rd., Fraser Lake  
**Knockholt Landfill**, 8072 Aitken Rd., Houston

**cleanfarms.ca | info@cleanfarms.ca**



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## Appendix B – Manual Press



In December 2021, an [instructional video](#) for this press was made possible with funding from the Dairy Farmers of Canada, through the "Here for Tomorrow" program. To learn more about this program, please visit [HereForTomorrow.ca](http://HereForTomorrow.ca).



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO  
MEMORANDUM**

To: Chair Fisher and Waste Management Committee  
From: Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services  
Date: February 10, 2022  
Subject: Air Curtain Burner - Received

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**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board receive this memo.

**AIR CURTAIN BURNER RECEIVED FEBRUARY 1, 2022.**



Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alex Eriksen".

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Alex Eriksen  
Director of Environmental Services

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