



REGIONAL DISTRICT of Fraser-Fort George

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REPORT FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

TO: Chair and Members, Environment and Parks Standing Committee File No.: RECY 1.23

FROM: Laura Zapotichny, General Manager of Environmental Services

DATE: February 12, 2025

SUBJECT: Recycle BC Offer Update

SUMMARY: Purpose: For Information

Attachments:

1. Letter dated February 12, 2025 - Recycle BC Depot Onboarding Letter
2. Letter dated November 14, 2024 to Recycle BC regarding Consideration of Principal Depot Locations in 2025

Previous Reports:

1. Item No. 5.1, August 2024
2. Item No. 5.1, April 2024
3. Item No. 6.3, February 2024

RECOMMENDATION(S):

THAT the report dated February 12, 2025 regarding "Recycle BC Offer Update" be received for information.

ENTITLEMENT	HOW VOTE COUNTED
All 1 Director/1 vote	Majority

ISSUE(S):

On November 14, 2024, Environmental Services administration sent a letter to Recycle BC asking for four additional principal depots: Cummings Road Regional Transfer Station, McBride Regional Transfer Station, Vanway Regional Transfer Station, and Foothills Boulevard Regional Landfill. On February 12, 2025, Recycle BC responded to the letter and offered to onboard the Vanway Regional Transfer Station as a principal depot and the McBride Regional Transfer Station as a satellite depot.

Residents in the west end of Prince George and Electoral Area C and the residents of electoral area H outside of Valemount as well as residents in McBride, will benefit from enhanced recycling services including a convenient option for printed paper and packaging recycling, and including glass, Styrofoam, soft plastics and cartons and containers.

The Committee is not being asked to make any decisions at this time. Environmental Services Administration will be in attendance to answer questions.

RELEVANT POLICIES:

1. *Environmental Management Act*
 - establishes the requirement for regional districts to undertake solid waste management planning; and
 - provides authority for the Minister to regulate extended producer responsibility (product stewardship) initiatives.
2. *Recycling Regulation 449/2004*
 - establishes implementation of extended producer responsibility (product stewardship) programs in British Columbia.

3. 2015 Regional Solid Waste Management Plan
 - establishes stewardship programs as waste management tool; and
 - maintain multi-material drop depots as residential recycling services.
4. Policy RD-23-22: Extended Producer Responsibility Programs
 - establishes a framework that defines the Regional District's role in providing waste diversion collection services for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs.
5. Waste Reduction Services Establishment Bylaw No. 2901, 2014
 - establishes the sub-regional service which supports the delivery of the multi-material recycling program.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES ALIGNMENT:

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous and Intergovernmental Partnerships | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Strength and Adaptability | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality Community Services | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Stewardship and Climate Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Awareness and Engagement | <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory or Routine Business | | |

SERVICE RELEVANCE:

The Regional District provides solid waste services for the entire Regional District of Fraser-Fort George including waste diversion opportunities and is committed to supporting waste diversion strategies outlined in the *2015 Regional Solid Waste Management Plan* including the opportunity to receive funding through designated EPR organizations.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

The printed paper and packaging program is funded from the Solid Waste (3305) and Waste Reduction (3307) budgets.

Expenditures required to facilitate the Recycle BC program as well as to provide fibre only bins at nine rural transfer stations is reflected in the 3305 and 3307 budgets for the 2025 year.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

Residents in Electoral Area D – Tabor Lake and Stone Creek, serviced by the Cummings Road and Buckhorn Regional Transfer Stations would not have enhanced recycling services. However, there are plans to return a fibre collection bin to each of these sites.

Residents in Electoral Area A – Salmon River - Lakes, along with these who live in the north end of Prince George would be required to utilize the already established Recycle BC Depot at the Hart Return It Bottle Depot. The Chief Lake Regional Transfer Station is on the list to receive a fibre bin.

Recycle BC has indicated that the Foothills Boulevard Regional Landfill could be considered for depot service in 2026.

DECISION OPTIONS:

1. Approve recommendation.
 - The report will be received for information.

COMMENTS:

The McBride Regional Transfer Station and the Vanway Regional Transfer Station meet all eligibility requirements under both the current Recycle BC program plan as well as the proposed Recycle BC 2022 draft stewardship plan that is still under review by the Province.

Recycle BC has provided new Master Service Agreements and Statements of Work that will be presented to the Board for consideration at the March 2025 meeting and will include the following sites as principal depots: the Valemount Regional Transfer Station, Mackenzie Regional Transfer Station, Quinn Street Regional Recycling Depot and the Vanway Regional Transfer Station. The McBride Regional Transfer Station will be included as a satellite depot.

Respectfully submitted,

“Laura Zapotichny”

Laura Zapotichny
General Manager of Environmental Services

LZ:jt



405-221 West Esplanade
North Vancouver, BC V7M 3J3

February 12, 2025

RE: Recycle BC 2025 Depot Onboarding Letter

Laura Zapotichny
General Manager of Environmental Services
Fraser-Fort George Regional District
155 George Street
Prince George, BC V2L 1P8

Via Email

Dear Laura,

Recycle BC has completed its 2025 provincial depot system analysis and has determined that the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George (RDFFG) is eligible for additional depot services in the region.

Recycle BC is a not-for profit organization responsible for residential packaging and paper product recycling throughout British Columbia (BC), servicing close to 2 million households or over 99% of BC through curbside, multi-family and/or depot services. At present there are over 230 depots collecting residential packaging and paper product under the Recycle BC program.

The analysis that has recently concluded reviewed rural and remote, as well as urban communities in BC, and considered factors such as population, the inclusion of other relevant services, distance to a larger service center and distance to an existing Recycle BC depot.

Recycle BC has concluded that the RDFFG is approved for Recycle BC depots in 2025 at the following locations, provided that all program requirements and collection standards are met:

- Vanway Regional Transfer Station, Principal Depot
- McBride Regional Transfer Station, Satellite Depot

Such depots must be staffed, secure during non-operating hours, accept all applicable categories of packaging and paper products, have the capacity to ensure only material from residential sources is collected under the Recycle BC program, and meet all other Recycle BC depot requirements.



If the RDFFG is interested in adding these locations to its Recycle BC Statement of Work or if you require further information please reach out at your earliest convenience. Note that Recycle BC requires a minimum of 90 days from agreement signature to service commencement. We look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you,



Martin Dickson
Collection Specialist, Collection, Recycle BC

Cc:
Brendan McShane, Director, Collection, Recycle BC
Carmen Fennell, Manager, Collection, Recycle BC



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Municipalities:

McBride
Mackenzie
Prince George
Valemount

Electoral Areas:

Chilako River-Nechako
Crooked River-Parsnip
Robson Valley-Canoe
Salmon River-Lakes
Tabor Lake-Stone Creek
Willow River-Upper Fraser
Woodpecker-Hixon

November 14, 2024

RECY 1.29

To: Martin Dickson
Collections Specialist, Collection, Interior & North

SENT VIA EMAIL: mt dickson@recyclebc.ca

**Re: Consideration of Principal Depot Locations
in the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George in 2025**

In spring of 2024, the Board for the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George (RDFFG) voted in favour of signing an offer letter from Recycle BC to partner with the agency to provide expanded services within the region for residential packaging and paper product recycling. The offer from Recycle BC was to provide three principal depots at the Valemount Regional Transfer Station, the Mackenzie Regional Transfer Station and the Quinn Street Regional Recycling Depot located in Prince George. The service became operational on September 16, 2024, with residents reporting a high degree of satisfaction with the expanded recycling services offered.

The RDFFG is located in the central interior of British Columbia, with seven electoral areas and four member municipalities (Prince George, Valemount, McBride and Mackenzie). The land area is over 50,000 square kilometres, with the RDFFG operating an extensive transfer station network to service this large area.

With the three principal depots now operational, residents in Mackenzie and Valemount saw a return of recycling services. However, there remains areas that are not serviced by a local depot, including the Village of McBride, as well as rural areas adjacent to the Prince George hub.

The RDFFG is asking for four additional principal depots and to operate them at already established transfer stations within the RDFFG solid waste network.

The four locations are all staffed, gated, fenced and have hours of operations. Each location serves as a hub for the rural populations that utilize these sites for solid waste and recycling services.

The RDFFG has provided the 2021 Canada Census numbers for residents that would be serviced by depots at these locations:

1. Cummings Road Regional Transfer Station
 - A principal depot in this location would serve residents located in Electoral Area D (Tabor Lake – Stone Creek), residents in Electoral Area F (Willow River – Upper Fraser) and residents in Electoral Area E (Hixon – Woodpecker).
 - Electoral Area D population: 4,375
 - Electoral Area F population: 1,249
 - Electoral Area E population: 533
 - i. Total population served: 6,157
2. McBride Regional Transfer Station
 - A principal depot in this location would serve the residents of the village of McBride, but also residents located in Electoral Area H (Robson Valley – Canoe) not including those located in Tete Jaune and Valemount
 - McBride Population: 588
 - Electoral Area H (does not include Valemount): 1,589
 - i. Total population served: 2,177
3. Vanway Regional Transfer Station (located on the west end of Prince George)
 - A principal depot in this location would serve the residents of Prince George who do not qualify for curbside collection and residents in Electoral Area C (Chilako River – Nechako).
 - Electoral Area C population: 3,603

- i. Total rural population served: 3,603*
- 4. Foothills Boulevard Regional Landfill (located on the north end of Prince George)
 - A principal depot in this location would service residents of Prince George who do not qualify for curbside collection and residents in Electoral Area A (Salmon River – Lakes) and Electoral Area G (Crooked River – Parsnip).
 - Electoral Area A population: 3,471
 - Electoral Area G population: 365
 - i. Total rural population served: 3,836*

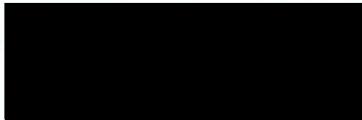
These four locations are some of the busiest sites within the RDFFG transfer station network. With the Recycle BC program now available at three locations, many residents have been asking when the program will be coming to other sites.

The RDFFG is committed to working on reducing the amount of waste going to landfills, including providing access to stewardship programs to as many residents as possible under the Extended Producer Responsibility model in British Columbia.

A key objective in the approved 2015 Regional Solid Waste Management Plan was the on-going improvement of waste diversion. One of the issues that the Plan identified was that the residential recycling services currently provided in the RDFFG transfer station network does not receive funding through designated EPR organizations like Recycle BC (formally Multi-Material BC) and consequently consumers pay for recycling twice through the purchase of products and again through their taxes (used by the RDFFG to fund their multi-material recycling program). Adding four more principal depots to the RDFFG transfer station network would significantly increase the access, residents in this region have, to residential packaging and printed paper recycling.

If these four locations were approved as principal depots, along with the three principal depots already in operation, all member municipalities and all electoral areas within the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George would be serviced by Recycle BC.

Yours truly,



Laura Zapotichny
General Manager of Environmental Services

Telephone: 250-960-4400

LZ:jt