



Alberni Valley & Bamfield Services Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 23, 2023

Zoom/Board Room (Hybrid) – 3008 Fifth Avenue, Port Alberni, BC

10:00 AM

Regular Agenda

Watch the meeting live at <https://www.acrd.bc.ca/events/23-8-2023/>

Register to participate via Zoom Webinar at: https://acrd-bc-ca.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DMf8i3uXTIa6v5rzFDxR9g

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|---|---------------|
| 1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u> | |
| Recognition of Territories. | |
| Notice to attendees and delegates that this meeting is being recorded and livestreamed to YouTube on the Regional District Website. | |
| Introductions - Committee Members and Staff present in the Boardroom. | |
| 2. <u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</u>
<i>(motion to approve, including late items requires 2/3 majority vote)</i> | |
| 3. <u>MINUTES</u> | |
| a. Alberni Valley & Bamfield Services Committee Meeting held May 18, 2023 | 3-5 |
| <i>THAT the minutes of the Alberni Valley & Bamfield Committee meeting held on May 18, 2023 be received.</i> | |
| 4. <u>PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS (10-minute maximum)</u> | |
| a. Victor Copetti, Transit Planner, BC Transit regarding Regional Transit Project Plan. | |
| 5. <u>REQUEST FOR DECISIONS</u> | |
| a. REQUEST FOR DECISION
ACRD/TFN Equitable Employment MOU | 6-11 |

THAT the Alberni Valley and Bamfield Services Committee recommend that the ACRD Board of Directors enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between the Tseshaht First Nation and the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District regarding the development of Equitable Employment Initiatives.

- b. **REQUEST FOR DECISION** **12-13**
 Establishment of a Bamfield Area Committee

THAT the Alberni Valley and Bamfield Services Committee recommend that the ACRD Board of Directors approve the creation of a Bamfield Area Committee and direct staff to bring forward a terms of reference to the ACRD Board for consideration and approval.

- c. **REQUEST FOR DECISION** **14-19**
 Results of the 2023 Tipping Fee Review for the Alberni Valley Sort'nGo Centre

THAT the Alberni Valley and Bamfield Services Committee recommend that the ACRD Board of Directors support the adoption of an amendment of Bylaw R1029, Alberni Tipping Fee and Regulation to reflect the results and recommendations of the 2023 Tipping Fee Review for the Alberni Valley Sort'nGo Centre.

6. **LATE BUSINESS**

7. **QUESTION PERIOD**

Questions/Comments from the public:

- Participating in Person in the Board Room
- Participating in the Zoom meeting
- Emailed to the ACRD at responses@acrd.bc.ca

8. **ADJOURN**



Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

MINUTES OF THE ALBERNI VALLEY & BAMFIELD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023, 10:00 AM

Hybrid - Zoom/Board Room, 3008 Fifth Avenue, Port Alberni, BC

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Deb Haggard, Chairperson, Councillor, City of Port Alberni
Bob Beckett, Director, Electoral Area "A" (Bamfield)
Fred Boyko, Director, Electoral Area "B" (Beaufort)
Penny Cote, Director, Electoral Area "D" (Sproat Lake)
Susan Roth, Director, Electoral Area "E" (Beaver Creek)
Mike Sparrow, Director, Electoral Area "F" (Cherry Creek)
Sharie Minions, Mayor, City of Port Alberni

REGRETS: John Jack, Councillor, Huu-ay-aht First Nation
Wilfred Cootes, Councillor, Uchucklesaht Tribe Government

STAFF PRESENT: Daniel Sailland, Chief Administrative Officer
Teri Fong, Chief Financial Officer
Mike Irg, General Manager of Planning & Development
Paulo Eichelberger, Manager of Solid Waste
Jenny Brunn, General Manager of Community Services
Wendy Thomson, General Manager of Administrative Services

The meeting can be viewed on the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District website at <https://www.acrd.bc.ca/events/18-5-2023/>

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

The Chairperson recognized this meeting is being held throughout the Nuu-chah-nulth territories.

The Chairperson reported this meeting is being recorded and livestreamed to YouTube on the Regional District website.

Introductions - Committee Members and Staff present in the Boardroom.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED: Director Boyko

SECONDED: Director Sparrow

THAT the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. MINUTES

a. Alberni Valley & Bamfield Services Committee Minutes – February 23, 2023

MOVED: Director Boyko

SECONDED: Director Sparrow

THAT the minutes of the Alberni Valley and Bamfield Services Committee meeting held on February 23, 2023 be received.

CARRIED

4. PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

a. Trevor Michalchuk and Erik Krogh, Applied Environmental Research Laboratories, Department of Chemistry, Vancouver Island University, regarding the Alberni Valley Landfill Gas Monitoring Project.

Dr. Erik Krogh and Trevor Michalchuk presented the Alberni Valley Landfill Gas and Air Quality Monitoring Project.

Director Minions entered the meeting at 10:10 am.
Director Cote entered the meeting at 10:25 am.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

6. REQUEST FOR DECISIONS

a. Request for Decision regarding R1029-6 Alberni Valley Landfill Tipping Fee Bylaw Amendment

MOVED: Director Sparrow

SECONDED: Director Haggard

THAT the Alberni Valley and Bamfield Services Committee recommend that the ACRD Board of Directors give three readings and adoption to Bylaw R1029-6, Alberni Valley Tipping Fee and Regulation Amendment, 2023.

CARRIED

Directors Boyko and Roth voted against the motion.

7. REPORTS

a. 2022 Alberni Valley Sort'nGo Centre (formerly Landfill) Annual Reports – P. Eichelberger, Solid Waste Manager

- b. **Mattress Recycling Celebration and Re-Store Pilot – P. Eichelberger, Solid Waste Manager**
- c. **Sort’n Go – How Recycling works in the ACRD (verbal report) – P. Eichelberger, Solid Waste Manager**

MOVED: Director Boyko

SECONDED: Director Roth

THAT the Alberni Valley & Bamfield Services Committee receives reports a-c.

8. QUESTION PERIOD

Questions/Comments from the public. The Corporate Officer advised there were no questions or comments respecting an agenda topic from public:

- Participating in Person in the ACRD Board Room
- Participating in the Zoom webinar
- Submissions received by email at responses@acrd.bc.ca.

9. ADJOURN

MOVED: Director Boyko

SECONDED: Director Sparrow

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 11:45 am.

CARRIED

Certified Correct:

Debbie Haggard

Debbie Haggard,
Chairperson

Wendy Thomson

Wendy Thomson,
General Manager of Administrative Services



To: Alberni Valley and Bamfield Services Committee
From: Jenny Brunn, GM of Community Services
Meeting Date: August 23, 2023
Subject: ACRD/TFN Equitable Employment MOU

Recommendation:

THAT the Alberni Valley and Bamfield Services Committee recommend that the ACRD Board of Directors enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between the Tseshaht First Nation and the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District regarding the development of Equitable Employment Initiatives.

Desired Outcome:

To collaborate with Tseshaht First Nation (TFN) on the development of equitable employment initiatives to support job opportunities and employment of indigenous people in local government in our region.

Background:

As outlined in the *Update on TFN/ACRD Landfill Monitoring Group Report* brought to the Alberni Valley and Bamfield Services Committee (AVBSC) on February 23, 2023, TFN and ACRD have been meeting since early 2022 to discuss a number of concerns and opportunities for improvement related to the impact of the landfill on the Tseshaht Community. One of the items of mutual interest arising from those discussions is exploring employment/shared management opportunities for operation and monitoring activities of the landfill.

Separate follow-up meetings on this topic have taken place to discuss the current challenges/barriers as well as the possible opportunities for increased employment of local indigenous people for positions at both organizations. Based on collective experience, simple solutions such as increased promotion of job opportunities within the community are not resulting in increased recruitment and real progress will require the creation of policies, programs, outreach, mentoring, apprenticeships and other long-term initiatives. As a result of these discussions, TFN and ACRD staff recognize that there will be significant time and effort required from each organization in order to make real progress on such an initiative.

Staff are presenting the attached draft MOU to the Committee for consideration. If supported, this would commit the ACRD to partnering with the Tseshaht First Nation on the development of equitable employment initiatives to support job opportunities and employment of indigenous people in local government in our region.

This initiative aligns and builds on the language in the current Government to Government Accord between the TFN and ACRD entered into in 2018. This protocol agreement identifies capacity building as a key joint interest and staff envision that the equitable employment working group would report to the TFN/ACRD working group at its quarterly meetings.

Staff see this MOU and working group as the first step towards building a successful initiative for the entire region that includes all members/communities. The value in starting with just two organizations will be that challenges and solutions will be easier to overcome with limited factors/unique considerations and multiple parties to coordinate. TFN is well positioned to work on this project and are currently taking a number of steps to build capacity within their organization including the creation of an Employment and Training Coordinator and Human Resources support. It is our hope that after some progress has been made, the MOU would be expanded to include additional organizations which can then build on the momentum, success and knowledge from this initial partnership.

Time and Financial Requirements – Staff & Elected Officials:

If the Committee supports proceeding, staff from each organization will work to finalize the draft MOU, take to the TFN Chief and Council for support and then to the Board for approval to enter into the agreement. Following adoption of the MOU, staff from both groups will meet on a regular basis. As the ACRD does not currently have dedicated Human Resource (HR) staff, the use of contracted HR may be utilized for implementing future initiatives. For MOU adoption, approximately 20 hours of ACRD staff time is anticipated with a yearly commitment of approximately 70 hours for regular meetings, research and reporting anticipated. It is important to note that this initial time estimate only covers the time to meet and discuss possible initiatives, not undertake them. The development of any policies, programs, outreach or apprenticeships is expected to result in significant additional staff time commitment for development and undertaking grant funding. Any specific actions or recommendations that come from the working group that will require additional staff time commitment or financial support will be brought to Committee/Board for consideration.

Strategic Plan Implications:

This aligns with strategic objective 5.2 – First Nations Protocol Agreements to support reconciliation and partnering efforts. However, this is a new initiative and not on the current work plan. Adding this project to the ACRD work plan will have an impact on other work plan initiatives as staff resources are dedicated to this project.

Options Considered:

- 1) Work on equitable employment and capacity building through the existing ACRD/TFN Working Group. This group is an excellent avenue for information sharing but may not be the best fit for developing specific initiatives and projects that will require significant staff time and coordination.
- 2) Do not proceed with developing an MOU on Equitable Employment with TFN at this time or set a future date for this initiative to proceed.

Prepared by: Jenny Brunn
Jenny Brunn, GM of Community Services

Reviewed by: Wendy Thomson
Wendy Thomson, General Manager of Administrative Services

Approved by: Daniel Sailland
Daniel Sailland, MBA, Chief Administrative Officer

Memorandum of Understanding

BETWEEN:

ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT

3008 Fifth Avenue
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 2E3
Fax No. 250-723-1327

(hereinafter called the "ACRD")

OF THE FIRST PART

AND:

TSESHAHT FIRST NATION

5091 Tsuma-as Drive
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 8X9

(hereinafter called the "TFN")

OF THE SECOND PART

*This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) shall be known as the "TFN/ACRD **Equitable Employment MOU.**"*

WHEREAS:

The Alberni Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) would like to have its workforce reflect the population of the community it serves.

The Tseshaht First Nation (TFN) would like to increase the number of staff working in their organization that are members of their Nation.

Both Parties would like to support job opportunities for indigenous people in local government.

The TFN and ACRD wish to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to work together collaboratively on developing equitable employment initiatives.

NOW THEREFORE:

The Parties enter into this Agreement with the intention and desire to partner on projects that will increase employment of local First Nations within the two organizations.

Objectives:

To meet and work together on the following:

- 1. Identifying the barriers to employment of First Nations and development of long-term solutions for consideration of the prospective organizations to increase employment.*

2. *Creation of policies and programs that will support successful recruitment and retention*
3. *Implementation of outreach, apprenticeship, mentoring and other programs to increase the available workforce in the long-run.*

Principles of Cooperation:

The principle of respect (?iisaak) underlies the relationship between the parties ensuring respect for each other and for their respective cultures and traditional values.

The principle of taking care of (uu-a-thluk) will guide the program development and approach to supporting people in having successful careers in local government in their communities.

The principle that everything is one and connected (hisuk?is cawaak) will underpin all decision making.

Working Group

Each party will provide a minimum of 3 staff and alternates to be part of the working group. Each party will report back on the progress of the working group to their perspective political bodies.

Timeline/schedule:

The working group will meet approximately 4 times per year.

Term

This MOU shall come into effect as of the date of the signatures and will remain in effect for three years or as renegotiated in written agreement.

This MOU will be reviewed each year on it’s anniversary by all the parties involved.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have duly executed this MOU as of the date first written above.

Executed on behalf of the ACRD by its authorized signatories on this ___ day of _____, ____.

Signature

Signature

Print Name

Print Name

Title

Title

Date

Date

Executed on behalf of the First Nation by its authorized signatories on this ____ day of _____, ____.

Signature

Signature

Print Name

Print Name

Title

Title

Date

Date

DRAFT



To: Alberni Valley and Bamfield Services Committee

From: Jenny Brunn, GM of Community Services

Meeting Date: August 23, 2023

Subject: Establishment of a Bamfield Area Committee

Recommendation:

THAT the Alberni Valley and Bamfield Services Committee recommend that the ACRD Board of Directors approve the creation of a Bamfield Area Committee and direct staff to bring forward a terms of reference to the ACRD Board for consideration and approval.

Desired Outcome:

To establish a Committee in the Bamfield area including the Huu-ay-aht First Nation and Uchucklesaht Tribe Government that would improve information sharing between the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD), and the communities of Bamfield, Huu-ay-aht and Uchucklesaht, providing an opportunity for local input in decision making and recommendations to the ACRD Board.

Summary:

There are currently multiple Committees that have various responsibility to consider issues and make recommendation to the Board on Bamfield specific services and issues. The Bamfield Water Advisory Committee is responsible for the Bamfield Water System and the Alberni Valley and the Bamfield Services Committee is responsible for Bamfield Waste Management.

Regional District staff recommend the ACRD Board of Directors consider creating a Bamfield Area Committee to consider issues and make recommendations to the ACRD Board pertaining to services or potential services paid for by one or more of the following areas: Electoral Area "A" (Bamfield), Huu-ay-aht First Nation and Uchucklesaht Tribe Government.

Background:

As per the *Local Government Act*, the Board may establish standing committees for matters they consider would be better dealt with by a committee and may appoint persons to those committees. At least one member of each standing committee must be a Director of the Regional District Board.

The Bamfield Area Committee would be similar to the West Coast Committee. This structure has been successful on the West Coast, allowing local community members to provide input on their services and helps to inform the Directors on items that then go to the Board for discussion.

This proposed Committee would include the following services: Bamfield Water System, Bamfield Waste Management, Bamfield Community Parks, Bamfield Fire Department and Bamfield Emergency Planning. The Committee can also explore, consider and make recommendations to the Board on possible futures services within the Bamfield, Huu-ah-aht and Uchucklesaht areas.

The current Bamfield Water Advisory Committee is expected to be replaced by this Committee, although existing members would be encouraged to become members of the new Committee. Staff are proposing that Building Inspection, Planning and Development, Regional Library, Community Works Funding and EA administration issues pertaining to Bamfield still be managed through the EA Committee.

If supported by the Committee, staff would develop a Terms of Reference for the new Committee and update the existing Alberni Valley and the Bamfield Services Committee Terms of Reference accordingly. Staff will also be seeking input and support from the Bamfield Water Advisory Committee on this transition prior to bringing to the Board.

Time Requirements – Staff & Elected Officials:

There is an expected 30 hours of staff time anticipated to create and update the two terms of reference documents, solicit potential committee members, and create this new committee. It is anticipated that the earliest a new committee could start would be January 2024.

Financial:

This administration of this committee would be funded through General Government Services, minimal impact on budgets is anticipated by the creation of this Committee.

Strategic Plan Implications:

n/a

Policy or Legislation:

The *Local Government Act* provides the designated authority for Regional District Boards to create standing committees.

Prepared by: Jenny Brunn
Jenny Brunn, GM of Community Services

Reviewed by: Wendy Thomson
Wendy Thomson, General Manager of Administrative Services

Approved by: Daniel Sailland
Daniel Sailland, MBA, Chief Administrative Officer



To: Alberni Valley and Bamfield Services Committee

From: Paulo Eichelberger – Solid Waste Manager
Brenda Sauve – Solid Waste Coordinator

Meeting Date: Aug 23, 2023

Subject: Results of the 2023 Tipping Fee Review for the Alberni Valley Sort'nGo Centre

Recommendation:

THAT the Alberni Valley and Bamfield Services Committee recommend that the ACRD Board of Directors support the adoption of an amendment of Bylaw R1029, Alberni Tipping Fee and Regulation to reflect the results and recommendations of the 2023 Tipping Fee Review for the Alberni Valley Sort'nGo Centre.

Desired Outcome:

To amend tipping fees and their structure to encourage waste diversion ensure that adequate funding is available to sustainably manage the region's waste footprint.

Summary:

Staff conducted a rate review of tipping fees vs costs of management of waste materials and recommend the following tipping fee rate adjustments:

Solid Waste	Current Tipping Fee	Recommended Tipping Fee
Loads of 83 kg or greater	\$140 per tonne / \$15 min.	<i>no change</i>
Loads < 83 kg	\$3 per bag / \$6 min.	<i>\$5 per bag / \$5 min. for unweighed loads</i>
Recreational Vehicle	\$240 per tonne / \$300 min.	<i>\$280 per tonne / \$500 min.</i>

Recyclable Materials	Current Tipping Fee	Recommended Tipping Fee
Commercial Cardboard/Mixed Recycling	\$350 per tonne / \$15 min.	<i>no change</i>
Gypsum	\$250 per tonne / \$10 min.	<i>\$260 per tonne / \$10 min.</i>
Clean Wood Waste	\$120 per tonne / \$10 min.	<i>\$130 per tonne / \$10 min.</i>
Organics	\$115.00 per tonne / \$5 min.	<i>\$115 per tonne / \$5 min. \$5 per 20 L bucket</i>
Residential Branches	\$5.00 per load	<i>\$10/Load</i>

Commercial Branches	\$120.00 per tonne/ \$10 min.	<i>Delete</i>
Grass and Leaves Material	No charge	<i>Included in Organics.</i>

Controlled Waste	Current Tipping Fee	Recommended Tipping Fee
Construction Demolition	\$175 per tonne / \$15 min.	<i>no change</i>
Medical Facility Waste	\$132 per tonne	<i>\$150 per tonne</i>
Coastal Clean-up Waste (NEW)	\$175/tonne (pilot program)	<i>\$175 per tonne (official rate)</i>

Solid Waste - Current definition	Solid Waste - new definition	Rate
Surcharge for loads containing Recyclable Materials or Controlled Waste	Surcharge for loads containing Recyclable Materials; Controlled Waste; or Organic Waste	<i>double the standard fee</i>

Background:

This document is intended to provide an overview of the results of a tipping fee review under taken in July 2023 for the Alberni Valley Sort'nGo Centre (Centre), previously known as the Alberni Valley Landfill. The primary objective is to compare fees with the costs associated with managing each waste stream, including recently amended fees up to May 2023. To achieve this, staff has analyzed and compared fees from neighboring regional districts, namely the Regional District of Nanaimo, Comox Valley RD, and Cowichan Valley RD. The purpose of this comparison is to ensure that waste from outside the region does not significantly impact our landfill footprint. The review aims to achieve two main goals:

- Ensure that the expenses related to operating our solid waste systems and maintaining our assets are adequately covered.
- Build reserves for capital projects, including future closure or post-closure activities of the Centre, while minimizing the impact on taxpayers.

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW): [Current Rates \$3/bag with \$6 minimum, and \$140/tonne, with \$15 minimum]

In August 2019, a review of tipping fees for solid waste resulted in an increase from \$120/tonne to \$130/tonne for weighed loads and an increase from \$2/bag to \$3/bag for small loads (under 83 kg). Increasing this rate to align with neighbouring Regional Districts (RDs) was intended to reduce importing of waste and has proven successful. The tipping fee has since been increased in 2022 to \$140/tonne. A review of the current operating, capital, and closure costs show that the overall cost per tonne is still covered by this per tonne tipping fee with a small buffer that can be used to offset or subsidize other diversion stream costs that are not full-cost recovery.

A \$6 minimum fee for small loads was also implemented in an effort to minimize unnecessary traffic at the site and compare with the minimum rates at neighbouring RDs. Initial feedback from some residents has shown frustration with the minimum rate, stating that it encourages people to produce more waste as people try to use up the perceived 2 bag minimum amount that they will be paying for.

Staff have reviewed the waste data for bagged garbage and note that:

- Traffic for small loads coming into the centre has not been reduced – 32,000 annually (34,500 in 2022).
- Top three areas where customers come from are the City of Port Alberni, Sproat Lake, and Beaver Creek.
- Neighbouring RDs charge flat rates of \$7-10 to a minimum weight level (50 -100 kg) and the ACRD is unique in its per bag rate as shown in the table below:

Regional District	\$MSW/tonne	Minimum	Comments
Nanaimo	\$140	\$8	Loads under 50 kg are charged minimum
Comox Valley	\$145	\$10	Loads under 100 kg are charged minimum
Cowichan Valley	\$192	\$7	Minimum fee charged for 2 standard garbage bags or one 120L tote under 50 kg
ACRD Weighed	\$140	\$15	Applied for unbagged or loads over 83 kg
ACRD Bagged	\$3/bag	\$6	This has resulted in a perceived 2 bag minimum

Although the ACRD's minimum rate of \$6 is currently lower than other RDs, there is value in having an option to charge by the bag so that customers with small loads can reduce the number of times they cross the scale. The ACRD has one scale in comparison to other landfills that have both inbound and outbound. Staff recommend moving to \$5/bag rate with \$5 minimum charge for unweighed loads and maintaining the \$15 minimum charge for weighed garbage.

Residential self-haul requires significant staff time at the landfill to run each load through the scale, monitor and assist individuals while they are at the tipping area and provide onsite education. The rate of \$5 per bag will recover the cost to receive the waste at the public tipping area, the proportional landfill operational, capital and closure costs for the waste itself, as well as the indirect administration and management costs.

Alternatively, the bagged rate could be eliminated, and the minimum weighed rate reduced to \$7. This isn't recommended as it is anticipated to result in increased waiting times for both residential and commercial haulers at the landfill as all traffic is required to take multiple trips over the scale.

Recreational Vehicle: [Current Rate \$240/tonne with \$300 minimum]

Recreational Vehicles (RV's) are a combination of waste and recyclable materials: as a result, the rate historically is double the regular waste tipping fee. To encourage recycling of these units and align with the recent increase in MSW to \$140 per tonne, it is recommended that RV's be increased to \$280/tonne with a \$500 minimum.

Commercial Cardboard/Mixed Recycling: [Current Rate \$350/tonne with \$15 minimum]

Installed as a diversion option for small local businesses in 2020, this has become a popular diversion stream at the landfill. The recent increases in tipping rate from \$200/tonne to \$350/tonne with minimum \$15 is expected to make this service full cost recovery and no further change is recommended at this time.

Gypsum (Drywall): [Current Rate \$250/tonne with \$10 minimum]

The cost for diverting and recycling drywall has been increasing as a result of inflation pressures on hauling costs and processing fees at New West Gypsum on the Lower Mainland. There are currently no alternative recycling options for this material. In order to maintain cost recovery for managing this

material, staff recommend increasing the rate to \$260/tonne with a \$10 minimum. This compares with the RDN at \$260/tonne.

Clean Wood Waste: [Current Rate \$120/tonne with \$10 minimum]

The costs for processing wood waste have also increased, due to rises in grinding and hauling costs. Staff anticipate total incoming tonnages to increase as a result of the recent closure of a privately operated drop-off facility in the valley. Neighbouring RD rates range between \$120/tonne to \$260/tonne. Staff recommend increasing the rate to \$130/tonne with \$10 minimum. This will continue to encourage diversion as it is below garbage and construction/demo rates.

Construction/Demolition Waste [Current Rate \$175/tonne with \$15 minimum]

Construction Demolition waste was recently increased from \$160/tonne to \$175/tonne and compares with Neighbouring RDs charging between \$145/tonne and \$330/tonne. This rate is cost recovery and does not require adjustment.

Medical Facility Waste: [Current Rate \$132/tonne]

This material is typically treated as a controlled waste, coming from hospitals, veterinarians, and other medical facilities. Rates for controlled waste in other RDs range between \$140/tonne and \$260/tonne. Staff are recommending this rate be increased to \$150/tonne.

Coastal Clean-up Waste: [Current Pilot Rate - \$175/tonne]

The ACRD has been running a pilot project with Coastal Restoration Society (CRS) to support coastal clean-up efforts and removal of derelict vessels and ghost gear in the Alberni, Barkley and Nootka Sound. This project has run for 3 years which has allowed time for CRS to establish appropriate processes to be developed to support and effectively manage coastal clean-up material at the Centre, as well as the West Coast Landfill. 403 tonnes of material were collected in 2021 and 2022 and landfilled at the Centre, with an additional 122 tonnes of material diverted/recycled. As this project has been successful with minimal impact to costs it is recommended Ocean Debris @ \$175/tonne be included as an official rate for any users.

Solid Waste: [Surcharge for loads containing Recyclable Materials or Controlled Waste @ twice the standard fee]

As organics diversion is now available in the Alberni Valley, the surcharge of double the standard tipping fee will now apply to regular Solid Waste loads containing recyclables, controlled waste and organics. This requires a minor update to the definition in the bylaw.

Organics: [Current Rate \$115/tonne]/[Grass & Leaves Free]

In 2022, a total of 2,663 tonnes of organic material, encompassing grass, leaves, branches, and food waste, were brought to the facility. This included 22% self-hauled (581 tonnes) and 78% of curbside material (2,082 tonnes) collected through the City's curbside collection program. Both curbside and self-hauled organic material is taken to Earth Land and Sea for feedstock in the composting process, however, self-hauled grass and leaves, which make up 200 tonnes of organics, have historically been collected free of charge. As all of this material is hauled and processed at significant expense, staff are recommending that self-hauled grass and leaves are no longer exempt from tipping fees and incorporated under the Organic rates within the bylaw. Combining these materials under the same rate structure will result in cost recovery of processing organic material.

Neighboring RDs levy charges ranging from \$110 to \$135 per tonne for leaves and grass with minimum

fees of \$7 to \$10 for drop-off.

The rate of \$115 per tonne for organic material currently covers the costs to transport and tip this material at the local processing facility. Staff are also proposing the addition of a per bucket rate for smaller unweighed loads of food waste to reduce the number of times a vehicle must go over the scale. This would allow a resident who has a bag of garbage (up to 3 bags), one or more buckets of compost (\$5 per 20 L) and recycling to go over the scale once, pay the flat rate charges, drop off materials at the appropriate locations and then leave the landfill.

Residential Branches [Current Rate \$5/load] & Commercial Branches/Land Clearing Debris [Current Rate \$120/tonne]

Residential branches, commercial branches and land clearing debris are charged at separate rates although these materials cost the same for transport and tipping at the local organics processing facility. The aggregate cost of this work is \$110/tonne.

The per tonne rate for commercial branches, which is also the same as land clearing debris, is currently operating at cost recovery. However, residential branches are not recovering the costs to process this material. Because of its low-density properties, this material's weight is not tracked coming into the site but is part of the self-hauled organics waste weighed as it leaves the site, combined with leaves and grass material to be processed as composting feedstock. The tonnage received in 2022 is estimated at 350 tonnes with a total revenue of \$11,235, resulting in a per tonne revenue of approximately \$32.25 per tonne. By comparison, organics revenue is \$115/tonne (see above). Neighbouring RD's minimum flat rate is \$7-\$10 for branches, higher than our current rate.

To streamline these rates and remain comparative with neighbouring RD's, the following changes are recommended: The commercial branches category be deleted and included under land clearing debris with no increase to this rate at \$120/tonne. Increase fees for residential branches from \$5/load to \$10/load.

Time Requirements – Staff & Elected Officials:

If the Committee and Board supports these bylaw amendments, staff will update the website and provide notice to the community of the changes to the rates in early Fall prior to their effective date of January 1, 2024. Approximately 10 hours of staff time is expected to prepare operators, issue communications to the public and implement the bylaw amendment.

Financial:

Efficient landfill operations demand a balanced approach to costs, revenues, and community impact. Managing landfill costs, including capital and closure expenses, is essential for long-term sustainability. Revenues from the landfill not only support daily operations but also fund community diversion efforts including education, recycling collection and recycling depots.

Strategic Plan Implications:

This initiative supports the ACRD's Strategic Objective 3.2 (Solid Waste Management Plan Implementation) to improve recycling and diversion programs throughout the region.

Policy or Legislation:

As per the Solid Waste Management Plan and Bylaw No. R1029 Alberni Valley Landfill Tipping Fee and Regulation Amendment, 2023.

Submitted by: *Jenny Brunn*
Jenny Brunn, General Manager of Community Services

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