

# ACRD Solid Waste Management Plan



**Phase 2**

Fall 2024

# Our Solid Waste Management Plan

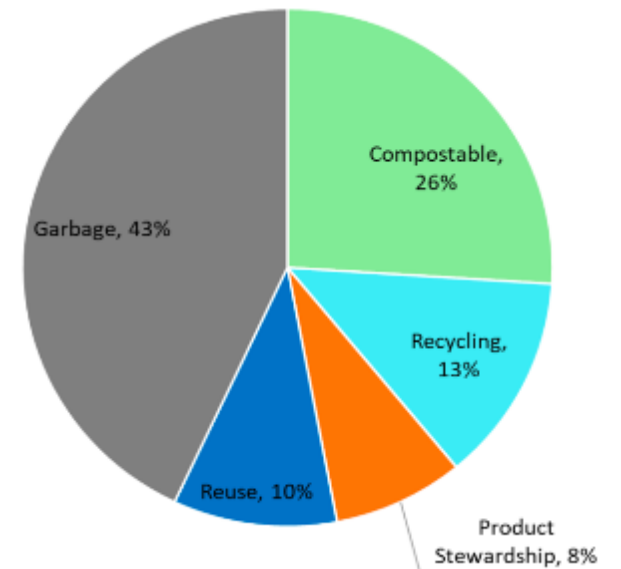
- ▶ The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District is updating their Solid Waste Management Plan, a long-term plan that will outline how we reduce waste throughout the region for the next 10 years.
- ▶ This plan includes municipalities, electoral areas and First Nations communities.



# Why do we need a Solid Waste Management Plan?

- ✓ It outlines how a regional district will manage solid waste (including reduction and diversion) for the next 10 years
- ✓ It identifies the programs and infrastructure we need to reduce the amount of waste we send to landfill and optimize system efficiency to manage costs over time
- ✓ The Province of BC's Environmental Management Act mandates solid waste management plans for all regional districts in BC

## What's in our garbage?



57% of what goes in the garbage could be reused, recycled or composted



# Process/Timeline

## 2023

SPRING/SUMMER 2023 – SWMP Initiated Meeting

SEPTEMBER 2023 – Project Kick Off and PAC Introduction Meeting

OCTOBER 2023 – PAC Meeting #2: System Overview & Guiding Principles, Public Survey #1: Managing Your Waste

NOVEMBER 2023 – PAC Meeting #3: Survey Results, Options Brainstorm, Guiding Principles

## 2024

FEBRUARY 2024 – PAC Meeting #4: Guiding Principles  
PAC Meeting #5: Options, Best Practices

SPRING/SUMMER 2024 – PAC Meeting #6: Options and Evaluation PAC Meeting #7: Target and Goal Setting by Strategy

FALL 2024 – PAC Meeting #8: Target and Goal Setting Finalization and Engagement Planning Public Engagement on Draft Strategies and Actions

## 2025

WINTER 2024/2025 – Draft Plan Developed

WINTER 2024/2025 – Public Engagement - Draft Plan Review

SPRING 2025 – Draft Plan submitted to Province



# Key Milestones



**GUIDING PRINCIPLES:** The advisory committee created meaningful principles to guide decisions and planning.



**GOALS AND TARGETS:** The advisory committee set goals and targets to support the guiding principles.



**ENGAGEMENT:** The public has engaged and provided feedback that has helped guide the process.



**STRATEGIES:** Eight draft strategies have been developed to guide solid waste management planning ahead.



# Guiding Principles

The ACRD guiding principles use the Nuuchah-nulth Sacred Principles as a framework for addressing respect, taking care, and recognizing everything is one for people and the land.

## ʔiisaak (iisaak)

1

### Utmost Respect

Personal and collective respect for the community and its people, traditional knowledge, the natural world, the metaphysical world, and other peoples and communities.

- a. We are responsible and accountable for how we make, consume, and dispose of things in a fiscally responsible way.
- b. We are leaders in how we provide solutions to address waste reduction, diversion and solid waste management strategies.
- c. We protect and regenerate the natural environment, lands and natural systems.

## ʔuuʔaafuk (uu-a-thluk)

2

### Taking Care of

In this context, this is about taking care of present and future generations, as well as taking care of self and the resources provided by the land and the natural world.

- a. We are creating a community that prioritizes using the waste prevention hierarchy to manage materials and products – through system and behaviour changes that set norms and habits and add convenience.
- b. We support circular economy and low carbon footprint approaches for rethinking and redesigning products for durability, reuse and recycling.
- c. We ensure the costs and benefits of change are distributed equitably among communities and across generations.

## hišuk ʔiš ʕawaak (Hish-uk ish ts'a-walk)

3

### Everything is One

A notion of the interconnected, interdependent, and reciprocal relationship between the people, the land and the wider world(s) in a physical, spiritual and social sense.

- a. We think across systems, places and generations to deliver accessible, equitable and inclusive outcomes.
- b. We recognize the connections between wasting valuable resources disposed of as garbage and other environmental, social and economic issues, including climate change and biodiversity.
- c. We use a collaborative approach for education and advocacy to work across generations and build trust.
- d. We recognize the wide range of social situations, geography and other factors that influence perspective and should inform how education offerings and programs may need to be adapted.



# Goals & Targets



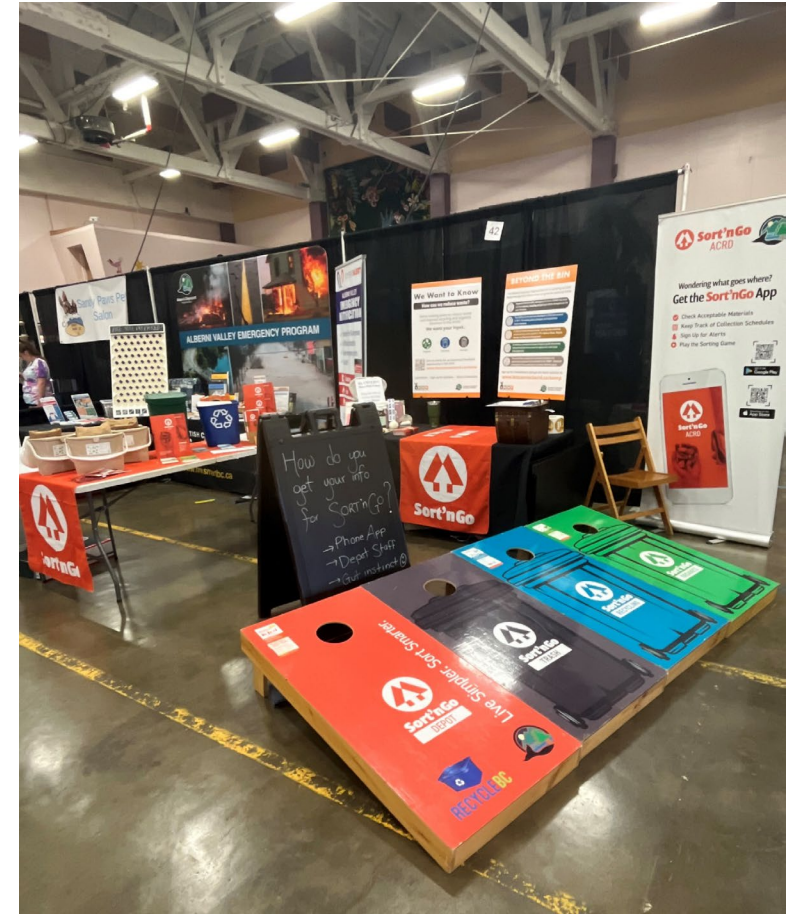
The ACRD goals and targets for the plan support the guiding principles and measure plan success.

## Goals

- 1. Social Equity and Local Economy:** Provide inclusive (equitable and accessible) opportunities across all solid waste systems and programs in ways that provide local economic benefits through social procurement.
- 2. Environmental:** Avoid impacts from solid waste collection and disposal facilities that negatively impact local ecosystems.
- 3. Education:** Create effective and accessible education to all audience types to promote waste reduction and diversion services and programs.
- 4. Economic:** Make financially responsible decisions using waste reduction and diversion initiatives to offset more costly disposal systems over time.

## Targets

- The ACRD aims to take care of people and the land by using resources wisely. The ACRD encourages community members to reduce, reuse and recycle to get the most out of their products and reduce their carbon footprint.
- To measure progress towards goals, the ACRD disposal target is 350kg per person per year to landfill by 2035, which aligns with the provincial disposal rate target.



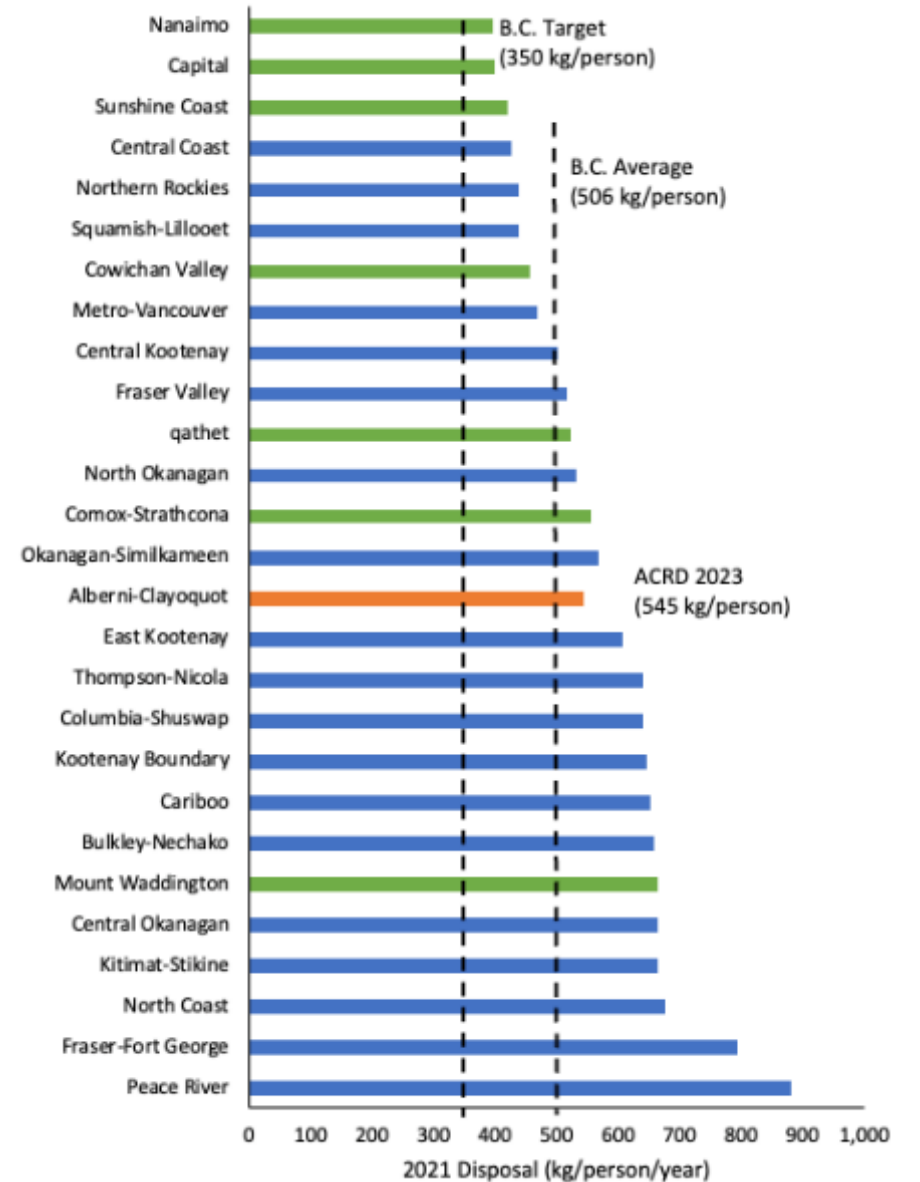
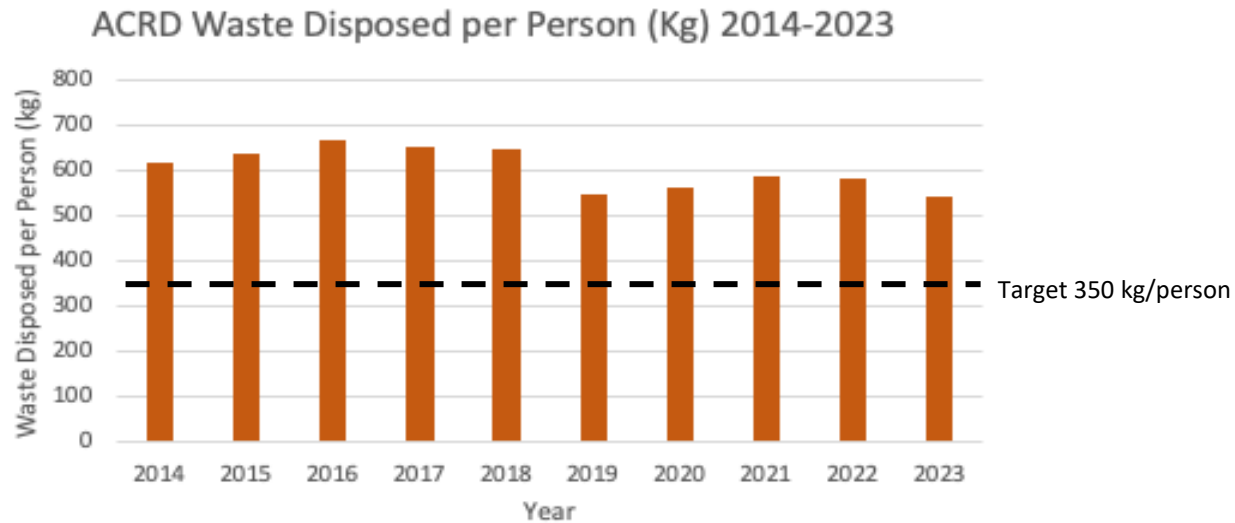
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ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT  
REGIONAL DISTRICT

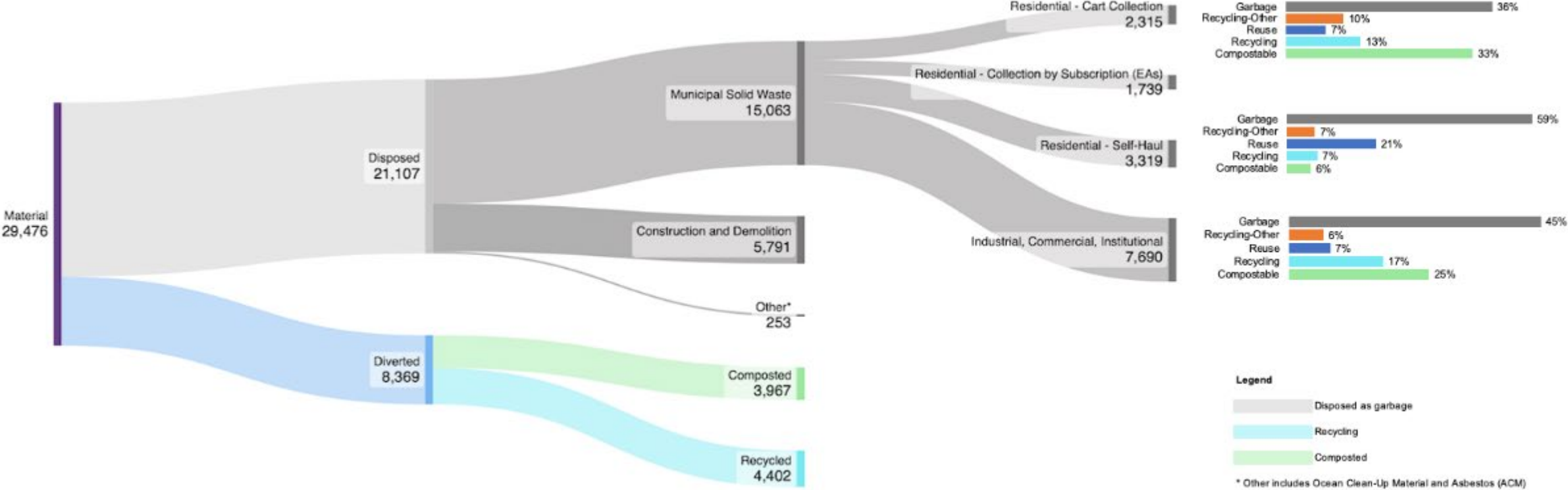
# Targets: Per Person Disposal

- ACRD: 545 kg/person/year (2023)
- BC Average: 506 kg/person/year
- BC Target: 350 kg/person/year





# What waste goes where



# Strategies

With the foundations of guiding principles and public priorities to guide them, the Advisory Committee has identified eight proposed strategies, with suggested actions.

1

Foundational Strategy  
– Plan and Implement  
Education and  
Behaviour Change  
Program Across  
Strategies 2-8

2

Establish/Expand  
Resource Recovery  
Centres and Eco-Depots

3

Develop Business and  
Organization Zero  
Waste Program

4

Establish Organics  
Management  
Infrastructure and  
Operations in Remote  
and Indigenous  
Communities

5

Establish Multi-Stream  
Diversion Programs

6

Reduce, Reuse  
and Divert Construction  
and Demolition  
(C&D) Material  
(Built Environment)

7

Expand Other Material  
and Product End of Life  
Management

8

Ensure Proper  
Residual Management



# 1 Foundational Strategy – Plan and Implement Education and Behaviour Change Programs Across Strategies 2-8

All strategies require strong education and behaviour change programming across sectors. Educational materials and engagement are the foundational building blocks for changing attitudes and shifting behaviours. The ACRD will engage partners in the strategy development including municipalities, First Nations, business and tourist associations, School District 70 and others as identified.



## ISSUE/OPPORTUNITY

We can work together to make best use of our existing and new programs, including reuse and repair. Over 45% of our carbon footprint is from the stuff we use. Setting new norms and habits ensures we make the most of our reduction and diversion programs.



## ACTIONS

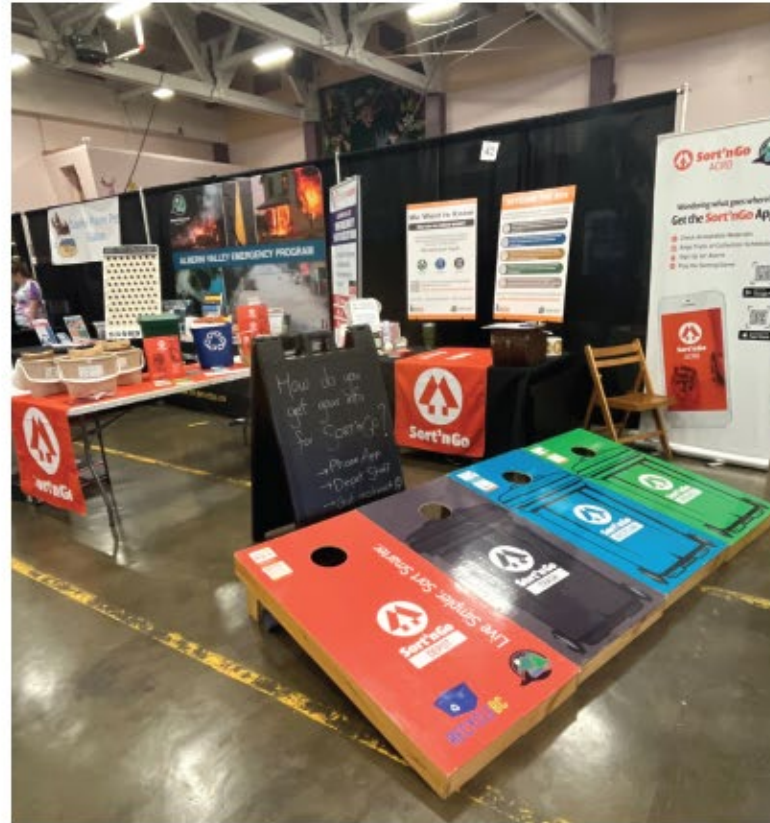
**Develop an Education and Behaviour Change Strategy and Implementation Plan**

Include actions across sectors over time with dedicated resources.

**Implement Waste Reduction and Diversion Education and Behaviour Change Program**

Programs to support reuse, repair, food waste prevention and diversion program participation across existing and new programs.

Engaging community champions within First Nations and other communities across sectors.



## DIVERSION POTENTIAL

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Critical to support using programs

## OPERATIONAL IMPACTS

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Staff oversight

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Plan development (\$50,000), education contracts per current norms (\$100,000)



## 2 Establish/Expand Resource Recovery Centres and Eco-Depots

We will build upon and align re-use and recycling services in each watershed (Re-Everythingery Mall, accessible depots), including education centres at each primary watershed site, while maintaining existing infrastructure and services over time.



### ISSUE/OPPORTUNITY

We can improve the number and range of products diverted from the waste stream while making re-use and recycling more accessible to people in urban, remote, rural and Indigenous communities.



### ACTIONS

#### Establish West Coast Infrastructure and Services

Establish a 're-everythingery' one-stop, drop and shop to optimize waste reduction and diversion. Factor in land needs, operations and infrastructure upgrades, and highest and best use of materials to meet the above goals.

#### Expand Alberni Valley Infrastructure and Services

Maintain and build upon Sort'nGo Centre, 3rd Avenue Depot and other potential new space to support reduction and diversion.



### ACTIONS (cont.)

#### Expand Bamfield and Salmon Beach Infrastructure and Services (Remote)

One-stop, drop and shop transfer station including organics drop off and processing.

#### Support Indigenous Eco-Depots

Support additional development and access where depot and transfer sites are not already in place.



### DIVERSION POTENTIAL

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Varies, higher for larger facilities, all add access to diversion

### OPERATIONAL IMPACTS

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Staff project management and support

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Varies, new facilities will require grant funding, existing facility priority capital costs are budgeted through ACRD 2024-2028 Adopted Financial Plan



### 3 Develop Business and Organization Zero Waste Program

Use education, policy and community partnerships to develop a zero-waste program for the business sector; civic partners will lead by example with waste minimization and diversion practices.

#### ISSUE/OPPORTUNITY

More than 60% of the waste stream is from commercial and institutional sources.

#### ACTIONS

Develop and Implement Policy Tools to Minimize and Divert Waste

- Consider disposal bans and mandatory waste source separation bylaws.
- Education haulers, businesses and public sector.
- Advocate for senior government policy change.

Create Education Materials, Business Recognition and Engagement Events

- Turnkey education signage and how-to toolkits by subsector.
- Highlight success online by business, consider an annual awards event per best practice examples (e.g., Banff).
- Engage key collaborators periodically for waste reduction-related events.

#### ACTIONS (cont.)

Initiate Training and Mentoring Support for Businesses and Organizations

Offer site visits for waste audits, system setup, and periodic monitoring at businesses and institutions.

Provide Zero Waste Innovation Grants and Incentives

Small grants programs to create initiatives.

Expand Initiatives to Minimize and Divert Civic Waste

Optimize systems to minimize waste and promote diversion across regional district buildings – with ongoing measurement against targets. Collaborate with municipal and First Nations to offer initiatives across public spaces in the region.



#### DIVERSION POTENTIAL



- Diverts high percentage of remaining waste stream

#### OPERATIONAL IMPACTS



- Staff oversight

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS



- Annual mini-grant funding (\$30,000), one-time program and policy launch support (\$50,000) and materials development (\$50,000)



# 4

## Establish Organics Management Infrastructure and Operations in Remote and Indigenous Communities

Establish a food scraps drop-off and in-vessel onsite composting for accessible organics management across the region.



### ISSUE/OPPORTUNITY

More than 33% of residential garbage could be composted. We can reduce landfill methane (a greenhouse gas 28 times more potent than carbon dioxide) and improve access to food scraps recovery.



### ACTIONS

#### Establish Bamfield and Salmon Beach Transfer Station Organics Management

Establish a food scraps drop-off and in-vessel onsite composting. Seek ways to use finished compost in garden demonstration area or for other local uses.

#### Expand Indigenous Organics Management

Support additional food scrap drop-off and in-vessel onsite composting in partnership with interested Indigenous communities.



### DIVERSION POTENTIAL



- Supports equitable access to diversion

### OPERATIONAL IMPACTS



- Staff support

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS



- Bamfield and Salmon Beach sites are budgeted through ACRD 2024-2028 Adopted Financial Plan



# 5 Establish Multi-Stream Diversion Programs

Establish or improve the baseline of diversion programs for rural single-family homes and multi-family homes, outdoor public spaces; reinforce with mandatory source separation requirements.

## ISSUE/OPPORTUNITY

Increase diversion and access to recycling and food scraps programs

## ACTIONS

**Expand Rural Single Family Diversion Opportunities**  
Evaluate best options to expand diversion access for rural communities as the ACRD moves to source separation requirements.

**Develop Multi-Family Recycling and Food Scraps Program**  
Add multi-family recycling and food scraps collection, pursue Recycle BC incentive.

## ACTIONS (cont.)

**Establish Public Space Multi-Stream Recycling**  
Outdoor public space recycling with partners (e.g., Parks Canada, municipalities, First Nations).

**Support Zero Waste Events**  
Support event zero waste practices through education and policy.



### DIVERSION POTENTIAL



- Supports equitable access to diversion

### OPERATIONAL IMPACTS



- Staff coordination

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS



- Varies, funding needed will depend on how actions are implemented (rural single family) and partner contributions (for public space and zero waste events). ACRD will support municipal-led multi-family with education support (\$10,000)



## 6

## Reduce, Reuse and Divert Construction and Demolition (C&D) Material (Built Environment)

Support ways to reduce, reuse and recycle built environment materials during construction, renovation and demolition phases.



### ISSUE/OPPORTUNITY

Reduce emissions, extend landfill life and lower our carbon footprint. Avoid and divert waste through design and foster re-use of materials



### ACTIONS

Promote 'Resource Smart' Building Design, Deconstruction and Home Relocation

Support education and programs for low carbon building practices (e.g., modular structures, green building products).

Support education and programs for reuse including incorporating recovered materials and home moving.

Support Policy for C&D Materials Management – Onsite Construction

Initiatives and regulatory tools e.g., deconstruction and building permit bylaws requiring waste separation.



### ACTIONS (cont.)

Expand Infrastructure and Services for C&D Materials Management – ACRD Solid Waste Management Facilities

Increase capture for existing construction items, explore other items to reuse and/or divert.



### DIVERSION POTENTIAL

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Diverts high percentage of remaining waste stream

### OPERATIONAL IMPACTS

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Staff oversight

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- One-time promotion (\$10,000), capital costs to be funded through Strategy 2





# 7 Expand Other Material and Product End of Life Management

Seek ways to responsibly manage hazardous materials (not in existing Extended Producer Responsibility [EPR] programs), bulky items, ongoing and new EPR products, disaster debris, illegal dumping and ocean plastics for highest and best use and utilizing safe disposal practices

## ISSUE/OPPORTUNITY

Keep hazardous and bulky items out of the landfill. Minimize pollution in the watershed. Prepare for disaster debris and enhance use of new and existing hazardous materials recovery programs.

## ACTIONS

- Expand Hazardous Materials Collection (Non-Extended Producer Responsibility [EPR] Items)**  
Collect hazardous materials not currently captured through EPR programs.
- Incentivize Large Item Management**  
Add incentive and support for collecting large items via self-haul or periodic collection.
- Enhance EPR Program Access and Usage**  
Augment EPR access and usage for existing and new programs.

## ACTIONS (cont.)

- Develop Disaster Debris Management Plan**  
Create a management plan for disaster debris.
- Mitigate Illegal Dumping and Support Oceans Plastic Management**  
Continue to support efforts to mitigate illegal dumping and collect oceans plastic.



## DIVERSION POTENTIAL



- Priority products for keeping out of landfill (e.g., hazardous and large/bulky items)

## OPERATIONAL IMPACTS



- Staff oversight

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS



- Low overall, occasional large item event (\$10,000)
- Medium for hazardous materials given disposal setup (\$150,000) and annual hauling (estimated \$150,000) at two sites



## 8 Ensure Proper Residual Management

Manage residuals responsibly for each wasteshed.

### ISSUE/OPPORTUNITY

Extend landfill life and develop long-term disposal options (Alberni Valley - in collaboration with Tseshaht First Nations), including reducing environmental impact.

### ACTIONS

**Develop Long Term Disposal Options (Alberni Valley)**  
Seek long term Alberni Valley disposal options in collaboration with Tseshaht First Nation.

**Complete Landfill Capital Projects**  
Several initiatives are being pursued to maintain, monitor and close landfill spaces to ensure compliance with provincial regulations.

#### Complete Landfill Capital Projects AV

- Phase 1 closure NE portion Stage 1, 2025-2030
- Phase 1 closure NE portion Stage 2, after 2030

### ACTIONS (cont.)

#### Complete Landfill Capital Projects WC

- Include leachate system upgrades with provincial regulation compliance.
- Phased progressive closure N, 2029-2035
- Leachate system upgrades, 2026-2028
- Organics processing facility (Phase 2)



### DIVERSION POTENTIAL

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Not applicable

### OPERATIONAL IMPACTS

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Staff oversight

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Capital costs are budgeted through ACRD 2024-2028 Adopted Financial Plan



# Share your Feedback

## Attend an Open House



### Port Alberni Athletic Hall

Thurs, Oct. 17, Public Session: 5 – 7 pm



### Ucluelet Community Hall

Mon, Oct. 28, Resident Session: 5 – 7 pm Business Session: 8:30 – 10:30 am



### Tofino: Tues. Oct. 29

Community Hall: Resident Session: 5 – 7 pm  
Tofino Legion: Business Session: 9 – 11 am



### Beaver Creek Community Hall

Wed. Nov. 6, 5 – 7 pm



### Sproat Lake Community Hall

Thurs. Nov. 7, 5 – 7 pm



### Cherry Creek Community Hall

Wed. Nov. 13, 5 – 7 pm

## Complete the survey: [letsconnectacrd.ca/swmp](https://letsconnectacrd.ca/swmp)

- Open to November 20
- Enter to win one of three \$50 gift certificates

Learn more at  
[letsconnectacrd.ca/swmp](https://letsconnectacrd.ca/swmp)  
or call 250-720-2700



# Next Steps

## FALL 2024

After the Phase 2 Engagement period ends, we will summarize your feedback and report back to the Solid Waste Public Advisory Committee. Results will be available at [letsconnectacrd.ca/swmp](https://letsconnectacrd.ca/swmp)

## WINTER 2024/2025

The Committee will consider your feedback this winter as they develop a draft plan.

## WINTER 2024/2025

The draft plan will be reviewed and brought to the community for another round of engagement and go to the ACRD for approval.

## SPRING 2025

The ACRD's draft Solid Waste Management Plan will be submitted to the Province.





# Thank you

[letsconnectacrd.ca/swmp](https://letsconnectacrd.ca/swmp)

