



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ACRD updating garbage goals for the Region with new plan

The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) is updating its Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) to help set goals for reducing waste in the coming years.

Regional districts throughout the province are required to have an SWMP in place that maps out how solid waste – garbage – will be reduced over a 10- to 15-year period. The ACRD's current SWMP was drafted in 2007 and reviewed in 2017.

“Solid waste management plans are proven tools to reducing the amount of landfill waste in the region, and we're proud to say that we've achieved all the goals set out in our current plan. It's time to set our sights further and keep up the momentum that's been started,” said Debbie Haggard, vice-chair for the ACRD.

The SWMP update is getting started now with a focus first on establishing the process for the work ahead. Key to any SWMP is the guidance of a Public Advisory Committee (PAC), whose members play an integral role receiving and reviewing information, providing feedback, asking questions, and engaging in discussion to help set a path forward.

Recruitment efforts are now underway to seek PAC members – candidates can be actively involved in waste management or can be interested members of the general public. The ACRD will seek representation from a diverse group of interest and sectors.

“We're inviting those who are interested in solid waste, and how we'll manage it moving forward, to consider applying to be a member of the PAC. By having active committee members, we can ensure that feedback and community input is considered in the plan as it is created,” said Jodie Frank, solid waste project coordinator.

The SWMP process will include rounds of public engagement at a few key stages of the two-year draft development process. The first is expected in fall 2023 – watch for more information about how the public will be invited to weigh in.

For more updates on the plan and next steps, follow along at letsconnectacrd.ca/swmp

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