

**CCRD Governance & Service Delivery Study
Fact Sheets
September 2016**

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

► What service is provided?

Solid waste management consists of:

- Establishing and operating a waste transfer station for household, commercial and institutional garbage at Thorsen Creek Waste and Recycling Centre;
- Landfill operations at Thorsen Creek Waste and Recycling Centre;
- Recycling depot operations at Thorsen Creek Waste and Recycling Centre;
- Solid waste management planning.

The CCRD leases the Thorsen Creek Waste and Recycling Centre site; the current lease expires in 2022.

Landfill Operation

The CCRD operates the Thorsen Creek Landfill. The landfill operates two days a week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, from 8:30 to 5:30.

The landfill does not accept:

- Cardboard
- Batteries
- Larger metals
- Wood and yard waste
- Appliances and electronics
- Liquid waste
- Waste containing asbestos
- Biomedical and radioactive wastes
- Paint and paint cans
- Used oil or antifreeze
- Tires
- Propane tanks or pressurized tanks

Items must be separated from household and commercial garbage, and taken to the correct recycling or disposal area.

Recycling Operation

The Thorsen Creek Recycling Depot accepts more than 30 different types of recyclable materials, and acts as a drop-off facility for many provincial product stewardship programs.

Recyclables are shipped to the Lower Mainland for processing. Materials are accepted for free.

Solid Waste Management Planning

The CCRD provides solid waste management planning for the region. Solid waste management includes preparation of the region's solid waste plan. The plan is mandatory for all regional districts, and provides a long-term vision for solid waste management, including waste diversion targets and disposal plans. The service also includes public education, annual reporting, and long term planning for site closure or new waste facility sites. The CCRD's solid waste management plan is in the midst of being updated, and is slated for completion in 2017.

Aside from the solid waste management plan, the Central Coast Regional District only provides solid waste or recycling services within the Bella Coola valley. The Heiltsuk Nation (Bella Bella) pays user fees to dispose of solid waste at the Mount Waddington Regional District facility at the 7 Mile Landfill and Recycling Centre located between Port McNeill and Port Hardy on Vancouver Island. Shearwater Marine provides a solid waste landfill and some recycling service to Denny Island residents. Solid waste services are provided to Ocean Falls residents through the Ocean Falls Improvement District.

► Who makes decisions?

Decisions on the solid waste service, including operational decisions as well as those on budget

matters, financial plan, and regulatory bylaws are made by the Board of Directors.

➤ **Who delivers the service?**

CCRD’s Public Works Manager oversees the landfill and recycling operations, and provides solid waste planning to the Region. The CCRD is required to complete a Solid Waste Management Plan, and to undertake long-term solid waste facility planning on behalf of the region. The region is currently updating its plan with the assistance of Maura Walker & Associates and Carey McIver and Associates.

The operation of the landfill is conducted by a landfill contractor, Don Nygaard & Son Ltd. The initial contract concluded at the end of 2015, but had the option to be renewed for three additional one-year terms. The base contract is \$7,450 per month with a 2% increase in 2016, and an allowance for some additional site development work.

The landfill has one part-time attendant who is contracted, and the recycling operation is staffed by one part-time CCRD employee.

In addition to the regional solid waste and recycling services, some non-government companies and agencies provide some recycling and waste collection services, including the Encorp Return-It centre in Bella Coola, which accepts beverage containers, electronics, small appliances, and paint and hazardous wastes, and Shearwater Marine recycles glass, plastic bottles and used oil for the resort and Denny Island residents.

➤ **What is spent by the CCRD on the service?**

The total cost of solid waste management services that impact are shown in Figure 1, and can be broken down into:

- 2016 budgeted cost of operating the Thorsen Creek waste and recycling centre, including the operational costs and the capital costs of the recycling centre projects in 2016;
- 2016 budgeted cost of the capital works to expand the Thorsen Creek waste and recycling centre, including preparing the site and constructing the recycling building.

- 2016 budgeted cost of the CCRD for the solid waste management plan update.

The amounts in Figure 1 represent the total cost of these services, including transfers to asset replacement and landfill closure reserves. The amount shown is therefore not the portion that residents pay for through user fees or taxes. Furthermore, while the amounts are shown for the waste and recycling centre expansion, as well as the solid waste management plan, these items were not funded through the solid waste service, but rather through the Community Works Fund (gas tax). That fund, and how it is spent, is explained and referenced in further detail in the *Administration Fact Sheet*.

Service Component	Cost ¹
TC Waste & Recycling Centre Operations	\$380,616
TC Waste & Recycling Centre Capital Works ²	\$667,351
Solid Waste Management Planning ²	\$40,000
Total	\$1,087,967

1 Costs are from 2016-2020 financial plan
2 The TC Waste & Recycling Centre capital works and solid waste management plan were both funded through the Community Works Fund (gas tax). This fund is explained in greater detail in the *Administration Fact Sheet*.

The cost of operating the waste and recycling centre represents \$380,616 (35%) of the 2016 costs. In 2016 the site preparation and construction of a new recycling building and transfer station is planned, which involves significant one-time capital costs.

In addition to the service costs, there are also reserve accounts created for long-term asset replacement and capital projects, as well as accumulated surplus, which is used to fund subsequent years’ operations. Reserve and surplus totals are included in Figure 2. The amounts shown are the contributions from (and allocated to) the solid waste service. The Landfill Post Closure reserve was created in 2014, to plan for the eventual closure of the landfill, and post-closure care of the site. It is difficult to estimate the life span of the landfill, given the Ministry of

Environment's recently released new landfill criteria, as well as the potential to increase future diversion rates. The new criteria will be used to conduct a review of the region's landfill, and enable the preparation of an operating and closure plan.

**Figure 2
Reserve and Surplus Totals
2015**

Fund	Total ¹
Asset Replacement Fund ²	\$8,380
Accumulated Surplus - Solid Waste	\$78,001
Landfill Post Closure Fund	\$60,000

1 Reserve totals are as at the end of 2015.

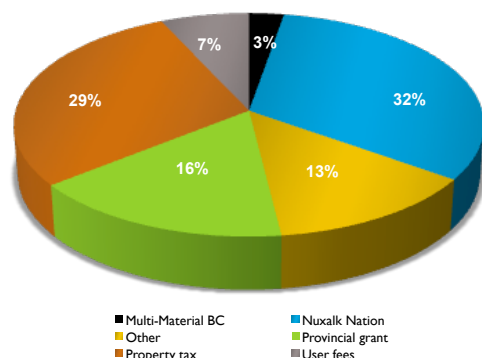
2 Amount represents the solid waste portion of the reserve, not the entire fund.

► How are the costs recovered?

Landfill Operations

The cost of operating the Thorsen Creek waste and recycling centre is currently recovered through a combination of contributions from the Nuxalk First Nation, grants from the provincial government and Multi-Material BC (non-profit organization that provides incentives to local governments to collect materials and operate recycling depots), tipping fees and user fees for the landfill, and property taxes levied in Areas C, D and E. A breakdown of the revenue sources from 2015 is shown in Figure 3. The majority of the revenues are generated through the Nuxalk Nation contribution and property taxes. Tipping fees for non-household garbage accounted for about 7% of the revenue for

**Figure 3
2015 Solid Waste Revenues**



the service. The cost of the capital works involved with the recycling centre site preparation and construction are recovered through the Community Works Fund (gas tax) allocated to the CCRD.

Solid Waste Management Planning

Solid waste management planning is not a separate CCRD service. The update of the solid waste management plan is being funded through the region-wide Community Works Fund (gas tax), which is a grant allocated to the region based on population. The Community Works Fund can only be spent on specific types of projects, including solid waste. For more information on that fund, refer to the *Administration Fact Sheet*.

► What is the cost to a typical residence?

The net cost of the CCRD solid waste service is recovered from Area C, D, and E taxpayers on the basis of property assessments, as well as through user fees. Capital projects and the solid waste management plan are paid for through grant money (Community Works Fund). The members of the Nuxalk Nation pay a lump sum contribution that is calculated based roughly on an equal split between the resident contributions from Nuxalk and non-First Nations residents within areas C, D and E, based in part on the acknowledgement that the landfill services both populations.

Figure 4 shows the 2016 tax impact of solid waste services on a house assessed at a value of \$150,000 within Areas C, D and E. A residence assessed at \$150,000 paid approximately \$105 in taxes 2016 for the solid waste service. Additional landfill tipping fees depend upon frequency of use and size of load, so will differ for each resident.

**Figure 4
Cost Impact on Typical Residence¹
2016**

Service	Tax Req. ²	Res. Rate	Owing ³
Solid Waste	\$94,239	0.7328	\$110
Total			\$110

1 Electoral Areas C, D and E only

2 Tax requisition amount excludes 5.25% Surveyor of Taxes fee

3 Impact is calculated on a home assessed at \$150,000