



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
AGENDA**

Thursday, September 4, 2025

8:30 a.m.

Woodhaven Board Room
1450 K.L.O. Road, Kelowna, BC

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ireland to call the Committee of the Whole meeting to order.

As an open meeting, a live audio-visual feed is being broadcast and recorded on rdco.com

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The RDCO acknowledges our presence on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded tm̓xʷúlaʔxʷ (land) of the syilx / Okanagan people who have resided here since time immemorial. We recognize, honour, and respect the syilx / Okanagan lands upon which we live, work, and play.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

To adopt the September 4, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting agenda.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1 - 3

To adopt the June 19, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting minutes.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Recycle BC Transition Update

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4 - 23

To provide an update on the region's upcoming transition to direct curbside recycling service by Recycle BC, taking effect May 1, 2026.

6. ADJOURN



Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, June 19, 2025, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Woodhaven Board Room
1450 K.L.O. Road, Kelowna, BC

Directors:

- L. Wooldridge, Chairperson (City of Kelowna)
- B. Ireland, Vice-Chairperson (District of Lake Country)
- W. Carson (Central Okanagan West Electoral Area)
- T. Dyas (City of Kelowna)
- M. DeHart (City of Kelowna)
- C. Hodge (City of Kelowna)
- K. Kraft, (Central Okanagan East Electoral Area)
- G. Milsom (City of West Kelowna)
- L. Stack (City of Kelowna) *
- R. Webber (City of Kelowna)
- K. Thom (Alternate Director, District of Peachland)
- J. Coble (Westbank First Nation)

Directors (Absent):

- P. Van Minsel (District of Peachland)
- S. Johnston (City of West Kelowna)

Staff:

- S. Ginter, Chief Administrative Officer
- C. Griffiths, Corporate Officer/ Deputy CAO
- S. Ballan-Brown, Legislative Assistant
- J. Foster, Director of Communications & Information Services
- T. McCabe, Director of Financial Services
- M. Walroth, Director of Protective Services
- T. Kendel, Associate Director of Engineering Services
- J. Reay, Associate Director of Human Resources
- M. VanZerr, Manager of Planning

Guest: Julia Bahen, City Spaces

* denotes partial attendance

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Wooldridge called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and noted as an open meeting, a live audio-visual feed is being broadcast and recorded on rdco.com.

2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair acknowledged our presence on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded $\text{tr}\acute{\text{h}}\text{x}^{\text{w}}\text{ú}\text{l}\text{a}\text{?x}^{\text{w}}$ (land) of the syilx / Okanagan people who have resided here since time immemorial. We recognize, honour, and respect the syilx / Okanagan lands upon which we live, work, and play.

The Chair acknowledged National Indigenous Peoples Day Saturday June 21, 2025.

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

HODGE/ IRELAND

THAT the June 19, 2025 Committee of the Whole Agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

KRAFT/ IRELAND

THAT the January 30 2025 Committee of the Whole minutes be adopted.

CARRIED

5. **DELEGATIONS**

5.1 Accessible Public Spaces - Rick Hansen

Rick Hansen, Canadian Paralympian and founder of the Rick Hansen Foundation, shared his personal journey and emphasized the importance of creating accessible public spaces. He also introduced the Rick Hansen

Foundation Accessibility Certification (RHFAC) Program, a national rating system that helps organizations assess and improve the accessibility of buildings and answered questions from the Committee.

HODGE/ CARSON

THAT the Committee of the Whole receive the report Accessible Public Spaces from the Chief Administrative Officer dated June 19, 2025, for information.

CARRIED

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Regional Housing Needs Summary

Director Stack joined the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

RDCO Staff and City Spaces consultant Julia Bohen, presented a PowerPoint to present the results of the Regional Housing Needs Summary and answered questions from the Committee.

IRELAND/ THOM

THAT the Committee of the Whole receives the Regional Housing Needs Summary report from the Director of Development and Engineering services dated June 19, 2025, for information.

CARRIED

7. ADJOURN

The June 19, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at 10:15a.m.

L. Wooldridge, Chairperson

C. Griffiths, Corporate Officer



Standing Committee Report Committee of the Whole

To: Committee of the Whole
From: Travis Kendel, Associate Director of Engineering
Date: September 4, 2025
Subject: Recycle BC Direct Service Transition Update

Objective: To provide an update on the region's upcoming transition to direct curbside recycling service by Recycle BC, taking effect May 1, 2026.

Background:

Since 2014, the responsibility of residential paper and packaging recycling in BC has rested with producers under the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework. The provincial EPR framework shifts responsibility for managing the environmental impacts of products, especially at their end of life, from consumers and governments to producers themselves. EPR is designed to reduce waste, promote a circular economy, encourage sustainable product design, improve recycling systems, and access and drive innovation and accountability. Recycle BC, a non-profit organization, manages the paper and packaging EPR program in BC, and is funded entirely by producers.

Currently, the RDCO and member municipalities under agreement with Recycle BC, collect curbside recyclables on behalf of Recycle BC. Environmental 360 Solutions (E360S) is subcontracted by each Municipality and the RDCO to collect curbside recyclables. Recycle BC pays municipalities and the RDCO a per household fee to collect recyclables on their behalf, and the RDCO receives additional funding for education and administration. The agreement with Recycle BC defines which items are accepted curbside and which must go to a recycling depot. Recycle BC sets a 3% contamination target, and financial penalties exist for excessive contamination.

An alternative approach to recycling collection, referred to as the direct service model, was available for consideration by the RDCO and regional municipalities prior to the renewal of the Recycle BC collection agreement in 2022. In this direct service model, Recycle BC would assume responsibility for delivering curbside recycling services to residents across all municipalities, including directly contracting with collection haulers and managing customer service. Furthermore, this model would remove the risk of financial penalties associated with recycling contamination being imposed on municipalities.

Following Board direction to consult with municipal members regarding the regional Recycle BC partnership, and following municipal member support, the Board resolved on June 27, 2022:

THAT the Regional Board requests Recycle BC undertake direct curbside recycling services within the Electoral Areas of the Regional District of Central Okanagan commencing April 30, 2026;

AND THAT the Regional Board authorizes the Chair to submit a letter on behalf of the RDCO encouraging the use of a multi-stream cart service and curbside glass collection, and to acknowledge and agree to the Recycle BC Requirements as outlined within the Recycle BC Direct Service Transition Process document dated June 22, 2018, as attached to the Report of the Director of Engineering Services dated May 30, 2022;

AND FURTHER THAT the Regional Board directs staff to work with Recycle BC to extend the current partnership agreement to align with the commencement of Direct Service through Recycle BC.

Current Status:

The 2023-2026 Strategic Priorities include the following Regional Action:

Expand the range of recyclables accepted, reduce contamination and control costs by completing the transfer of the delivery of curbside collection to Recycle BC.

RDCO staff worked closely with Recycle BC to leverage this service transition to also include improved service levels for residents, and were successful with the following proposed program deliverables:

- Avoid financial penalties (since 2022, municipalities have been fined \$100,000 for contamination)
- Expand curbside recycling services for residents to include glass and flexible plastics
- Maintain current bi-weekly collection schedules and existing cart program
- Pre-negotiate new garbage and yard waste curbside rates (excluding recycling services) with E360S with all municipal partners.

With the transition to a direct service model, the 2026-2030 Financial Plan will reflect a decrease in the waste reduction budget related to curbside recycling. The Waste Reduction Office will continue implementing and monitoring Solid Waste Management Plan initiatives to support waste reduction in local communities while is preparing to shift focus from contamination management (to avoid fines) to activities that enhance services and extend landfill lifespan.

Changes for Residents with Curbside Collection (Effective May 1, 2026):

New curbside items

- Grey boxes will be provided for non-deposit curbside glass collection.
- Pink boxes will be provided for curbside flexible plastics collection.

Customer service

- After May 1, residents with curbside collection will contact Recycle BC or their contractor (not the local government) for missed recycling collections and box or cart replacement.
- The Recycle BC app and Recycle BC website will provide recycling schedules and accepted recyclables information. RDCO and local government websites will direct residents to the Recycle BC website.

Collection schedule

- Some schedule adjustments may need to occur as service improvements are rolled out. These changes will be communicated in advance to impacted residents.

The following services will have ‘no changes’ and will continue as normal:

- Curbside Garbage and Yard Waste collection services

- RDCO Recycling Depots
- RDCO Transfer Stations

Next Steps - Communications and Transition Plan:

Recycle BC has a dedicated planning team overseeing the Central Okanagan's transition to direct service. Regular planning meetings are underway with RDCO staff to ensure a smooth transition. Recycle BC, with input from RDCO staff, has developed a multi-phase communications plan. Through the Solid Waste Technical Advisory Committee, municipal staff are kept updated and enabled to provide direct input.

Phase 1 (May 2025 – Sept 2025)

Phase 1 includes the preparation of the communications plan, development of Recycle BC website, a toolkit, FAQs, graphics, and overall content development. Regional data is being provided to Recycle BC with the assistance of municipalities and RDCO staff. Recycle BC is working closely with their hauler (E360s) to prepare collection scheduling, grey and pink box delivery times, etc.

Phase 2 (Oct 2025 – Jan 2026)

Recycle BC will actively communicate to residents about the upcoming changes via direct mail, social media teasers, video tutorials, and educational packages. The RDCO will leverage existing networks and share this messaging in partnership with municipal partners.

Phase 3 (Feb 2026 – May 2026)

A press release will be issued in February prior to new pink and grey boxes being delivered to residents, which will occur from February 2026 to mid-April 2026. Recycling guides will be mailed out, and a focused advertising campaign will be initiated.

Phase 4 (May 2026 – ongoing)

Program rollout will commence and Recycle BC will monitor the program, adjust messaging and education as needed, and continue the advertising campaign.

Throughout all phases of this initiative the RDCO Waste Reduction Office will continue to leverage existing partner and municipal communication networks and provide feedback to Recycle BC to support continued curbside recycling success.

With the upcoming implementation of direct curbside service, the Central Okanagan will be one of three communities in British Columbia with access to curbside collection for flexible plastics and will be joining many communities across the province who have access to curbside glass collection.

These changes have been made possible through regional collaboration and an emphasis on consistent service across municipal partners without additional costs. Beginning in May 2026, residents will have the option to recycle the most common materials at the curb, except for styrofoam and food waste, thereby diverting these items from landfill. The improvement aligns with the Board's strategic priorities by standardizing services, sharing resources, and encouraging cooperation among partner communities.

It is important that this information be presented to local councils to ensure elected officials are fully informed of the scope, benefits, and implications of the Recycle BC Direct Service transition. Councils play a key role in shaping community expectations and supporting public engagement efforts. By understanding the operational changes, service enhancements, and communication strategies, councils can better respond to resident inquiries, reinforce consistent messaging, and advocate for continued improvements in waste reduction and recycling. Early and transparent engagement with

councils also strengthens regional collaboration and ensures alignment with strategic priorities across all municipal partners.

Recommendation(s):

THAT the Committee of the Whole receives the Recycle BC Direct Service Update Report from the Associate Director of Engineering dated September 4, 2025 for information.

AND THAT the Committee of the Whole directs staff to offer to present on the pending Recycle BC Direct Service Transition to all participating local partners Council's in advance of the May 1, 2026 service change.

AND FURTHER THAT staff report back to the Board once all presentations are complete.

Respectfully submitted by: Cynthia Coates, Solid Waste Supervisor

Report Approved by: Travis Kendel, Associate Director of Engineering Services

Approved for Agenda: Sally Ginter, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment(s): 1. Recycle BC Direct Service Transition Update – PowerPoint Presentation

Recycle BC Direct Service Transition Update

Committee of the Whole

September 4, 2025

1450 K.L.O. Road
Kelowna, BC, V1W 3Z4
rdco.com



Agenda

- Purpose
- Background
- Timeline leading to Direct Service
- Current status
- What's new for residents
- What's staying the same
- Next Steps - Communications plan



Purpose

- To update the Committee of the Whole on the region's transition to Direct Service, where Recycle BC will oversee curbside recycling in the Central Okanagan



RECYCLEBCTM

Background



Recycle BC Partnership

Municipalities collect recyclables (E360s)
RDCO provides education and administration
Recycle BC funds collection and education



June 2022: the RDCO and member municipalities requested Recycle BC assume full responsibility of curbside residential recycling, effective May 1, 2026

Timeline leading to Direct Service

April 25, 2022

Board advised of July 1, 2022 deadline to request direct service



May 2022

RDCO staff conducted consultation with municipal councils



May 30, 2022

Board presented with consultation results and direct service recommendation. Board deferred decision



June 20, 2022

City of Kelowna council resolved to request direct service



June 28 – 29, 2022

West Kelowna, Lake Country and Peachland Councils resolved to request direct service



June 27, 2022

Regional Board resolved to request direct service

Transition to Direct Service

- As of May 1, 2026 – Recycle BC will assume full responsibility for curbside recycling collection in the Central Okanagan



Current Status (2023-2026 Strategic Priority)

Regional District of
Central Okanagan

Regional Board Strategic Priorities 2023-2026

- Expand range of recyclables accepted, reduce contamination, and control costs by completing the transfer of delivery of curbside collection to Recycle BC.



Current Status



Elimination of financial risk (\$100,000 in penalties since 2022)



Expanded curbside services (glass and flexible plastics)



Maintain bi-weekly collection using existing carts for paper and containers



Pre-negotiated new curbside rates (excluding recycling services) with E360S with all municipal partners (2026-2029)



Waste Reduction Office preparing to shift attention from contamination management to more impactful waste reduction activities

What's new for Residents – May 1, 2026



What's New for Residents – May 1, 2026



New customer service number for:

Missed recycling collection
Recycling cart replacement
Box replacement
Recycling collection scheduling



Recycle BC App for recycling schedule and what goes where



Some schedule adjustments may occur

What's staying the same

- Garbage and Yard Waste Collection
- RDCO Recycling Depots
- RDCO Transfer Stations



Communications Plan

- Phase 1 – now
 - Content Development
- Phase 2 (Oct 2025- Jan 2026)
 - Recycle BC – Active communication regarding changes



Communications Plan Con't

- Phase 3 – (Feb 2026 – May 2026)
 - Delivery of new collection boxes
- Phase 4 – Beyond May 2026
 - Monitoring program
 - Continued education



Next Steps – Council Presentations

Offer to present to all participating local partners Council's regarding the Recycle BC Transition is important as it:

- Ensures officials are fully informed of service changes
- Supports consistent messaging and access to information
- Enables effective responses to resident inquiries
- Strengthens regional alignment and service consistency
- Advances Board strategic priorities
- Promotes transparency and proactive communication

Recommendation

THAT the Committee of the Whole receives the Recycle BC Direct Service Update Report from the Associate Director of Engineering dated September 4, 2025 for information.

AND THAT the Committee of the Whole directs staff to offer to present on the pending Recycle BC Direct Service Transition to all participating local partners Council's in advance of the May 1, 2026 service change.

AND FURTHER THAT staff report back to the Board once all presentations are complete.



Thank you