

Waste Reduction

Curbside Recycling - Recycle BC Partnership

May 30, 2022

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



Consultation Completed

- April 25 – RDCO Board – Motion to consult member municipalities
 - May 2: City of Kelowna
 - May 3: District of Lake Country
 - May 10: Peachland
 - May 17: City of West Kelowna



Background and Review

What are our options?

Q: Do we want Recycle BC to undertake curbside recycling directly in our community?



or



There are many other related decisions that can occur independently of the option selected.

Province
Maintains Recycling Regulation, assigns responsibilities to Producers to collect Packaging and Paper Products



Packaging and Paper Producers
Create an Agency (Recycle BC) to collect Packaging and Paper Products as per regulation



Recycle BC
Distributes incentives and services to collect Packaging and Paper Products



Recycle BC contracts Local Government to Educate, Administer and collect PPP



Local Governments sub-contracts to collect PPP

**Current
Partnership**



Province

Maintains Recycling Regulation, assigns responsibilities to Producers to collect Packaging and Paper Products



Packaging and Paper Producers

Create an Agency (Recycle BC) to collect Packaging and Paper Products as per regulation



Recycle BC

Distributes incentives and services to collect Packaging and Paper Products



Recycle BC contracts Local Government to collect curbside PPP



Recycle BC contracts with Recycling Collector to collect PPP

Direct Service

Curbside Services

Services impacted by today's decision



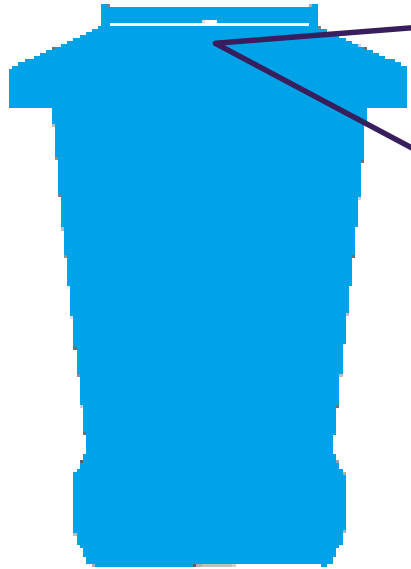
Paper

- Cardboard and boxboard
- Paper
- Newspaper
- Flyers, magazines, catalogues
- Shredded Paper

Containers

- Tin and Aluminum cans
- Spiral wound paper cans
- Empty aerosol cans
- Disposable paper cups
- Plastic Containers
- Plastic garden pots and trays
- Frozen food packaging

Curbside Services – Current



Paper

- Cardboard and boxboard
- Paper
- Newspaper
- Flyers, magazines, catalogues
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Containers

- Tin and Aluminum cans
- Spiral wound paper cans
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+\$2,500,000

-\$2,500,000

~\$0



Max Penalty:
-\$780,000

- Recycle BC pays us to collect recyclables and provide education, under contract.
- Recycle BC may penalize us for contamination
- Local Government pays sub-contractor to undertake collection.

Curbside Services – Direct Service



Paper

- Cardboard and boxboard
- Paper
- Newspaper
- Flyers, magazines, catalogues
- Shredded Paper



Containers

- Tin and Aluminum cans
- Spiral wound paper cans
- Empty aerosol cans
- Disposable paper cups
- Plastic Containers
- Plastic garden pots and trays
- Frozen food packaging



Glass?



+\$0

-\$0

\$0



Max Penalty:

-\$0

- Recycle BC is responsible for service and education.
- No penalties to residents or local governments.
- Other curbside services continue as normal (current and future)



Consultation

Common Themes

- What will Recycle BC Direct Service look like?
- How will this decision impact other curbside services?
- What can we learn from other communities?
- What happens if Central Okanagan Local Governments make different decisions?
- How will the cart type impact animals, windblown debris, etc?
- Will this improve waste diversion and reduce contamination?
- How does this decision impact existing contracts?

What will Recycle BC Direct Service look like?



Source: City of Quesnel



Source: CIF, Ontario Pilot

- **Minimum service level**
 - Same materials that are collected now
 - Same frequency that they are collected now
 - In two curbside boxes
 - One for Paper / Cardboard
 - One for Containers
- **We do not know if Recycle BC will go beyond this, they may:**
 - include weekly recycling pick-up
 - include glass collection
 - maintain the curbside co-mingled container

What can we learn from other communities?

- **Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO)**
 - Direct Service – Multi-stream
 - Positive comments regarding Direct Service
 - RDNO staff more focused on waste reduction initiatives
- **Capital Regional District (CRD)**
 - Partnership – Multi-stream
 - Contract timing made Direct Service unacceptable
- **Recycle BC Collectors Group (multiple communities)**
 - Some communities considering transition to Direct Service
 - Similar concerns: Contamination and Risks

What happens if Central Okanagan local governments make different decisions?

- If Recycle BC Direct Service is selected
 - No financial risks or additional expenses
 - Education and communication during service transition will be challenging
- If Recycle BC Partnership is selected
 - Recycle BC pays normal incentive
 - Reduced economy of scale
 - If local governments choose different options, this will likely increase overall service expense for those that do not choose Direct Service.

How will the cart type impact animals, wind blown litter, and other environmental factors?

- Box and container type services successfully used throughout British Columbia
 - Including areas with significant precipitation, harsh winter conditions, wildlife.
- Recyclable materials are less attractive than garbage and organics
 - Properly cleaned recyclables are not an attractant
- Multi-stream boxes can be stacked to consolidate boxes and reduce potential for weather impacts
- Carts with lids are more capable of resisting weather and environmental impacts

How will the cart type impact animals, wind blown litter, and other environmental factors?



Source: haltonrecycles.wordpress.com



Source: www.ktti.org

How will this improve waste reduction and reduce contamination?



Items found in Curbside Recycling Collection (co-mingled)

- **Multi-stream recycling services**
 - average approximately 4% contamination across British Columbia
- **Co-mingled recycling services**
 - average approximately 8% contamination across British Columbia

How will this decision impact other curbside services?

- Recycling makes up 28% of our current curbside collection service
 - Requires significant contractor resources beyond normal waste collection
 - Recycling Collection and cart management
 - Contamination management and reporting
 - Compliance letters
 - A reduction in annual pick-ups by 28% will **influence an increase** in expense for other curbside services.
 - A reduction in complexity by removing the most complicated curbside service will **influence a decrease** in expense for other curbside services.
- This decision does not noticeable impact 'future' or 'potential' curbside service improvements. However, future curbside service improvements could reduce cost intensity.

How does this decision impact existing contracts?

- Open to request Recycle BC provide Direct Service any date after January 1, 2025.
 - If requesting Direct Service:
 - Align the Recycle BC contract with the curbside collection contract – April 30, 2026
 - Request incentive payments (partnership) continue to April 30, 2026 to bridge transition



Recommendation and Next Steps

SWTAC Recommendation

- Request Recycle BC to directly undertake curbside recycling services in the Central Okanagan commencing on April 30, 2026

SWTAC Recommendation Justification

- removes all financial risk and allows the SWTAC, RDCO, and member municipalities to refocus on regional waste reduction.
- will likely improve services through the inclusion of curbside glass collection at no cost to residents.
- does not conflict with any future initiatives or programs
- will likely reduce landfill bound waste through contamination reduction.
- will result, as a minimum, in the collection of the same material, at the same frequency as is collected now.

SWTAC Recommendation Justification

- aligns with feedback from other municipalities, which suggests with overall net positive outcomes with direct Recycle BC service.
- uploads responsibility of curbside recycling completely to the provincial established EPR program and removes the need for local government subsidization and risk.
- enables current recycling carts to be repurposed and reused to support other curbside collection programs.
- will educate residents on the role of Recycle BC in the management of paper and packaging

Letter of Acknowledgement

1. Recycle BC has sole discretion to determine service levels.
2. Existing containers will be left with properties.
3. Recycle BC will be provided with all reasonable assistance and cooperation during the transition period.
4. After the transition, Recycle BC will be provided with quarterly updates on households counts; and
5. All reasonable efforts will be made to collaborate with Recycle BC on the joint establishment of collection schedules and routes.

Next Steps

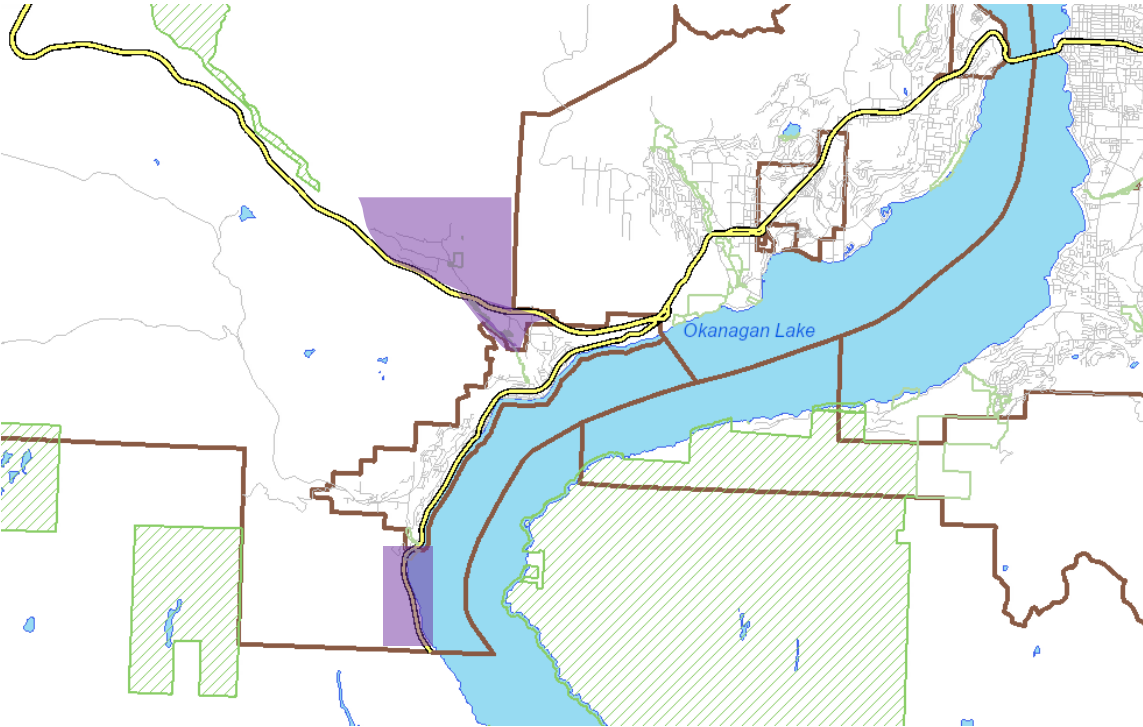
- If transitioning to Direct Service by Recycle BC:
 - Inform Recycle BC of the decision
 - Adjust contract
- If maintaining existing partnership with Recycle BC:
 - Inform Recycle BC of the decision
- Regardless of decision:
 - Continue to undertake Solid Waste Management Plan
 - Work to maximize material types collected at curbside

Recommendation

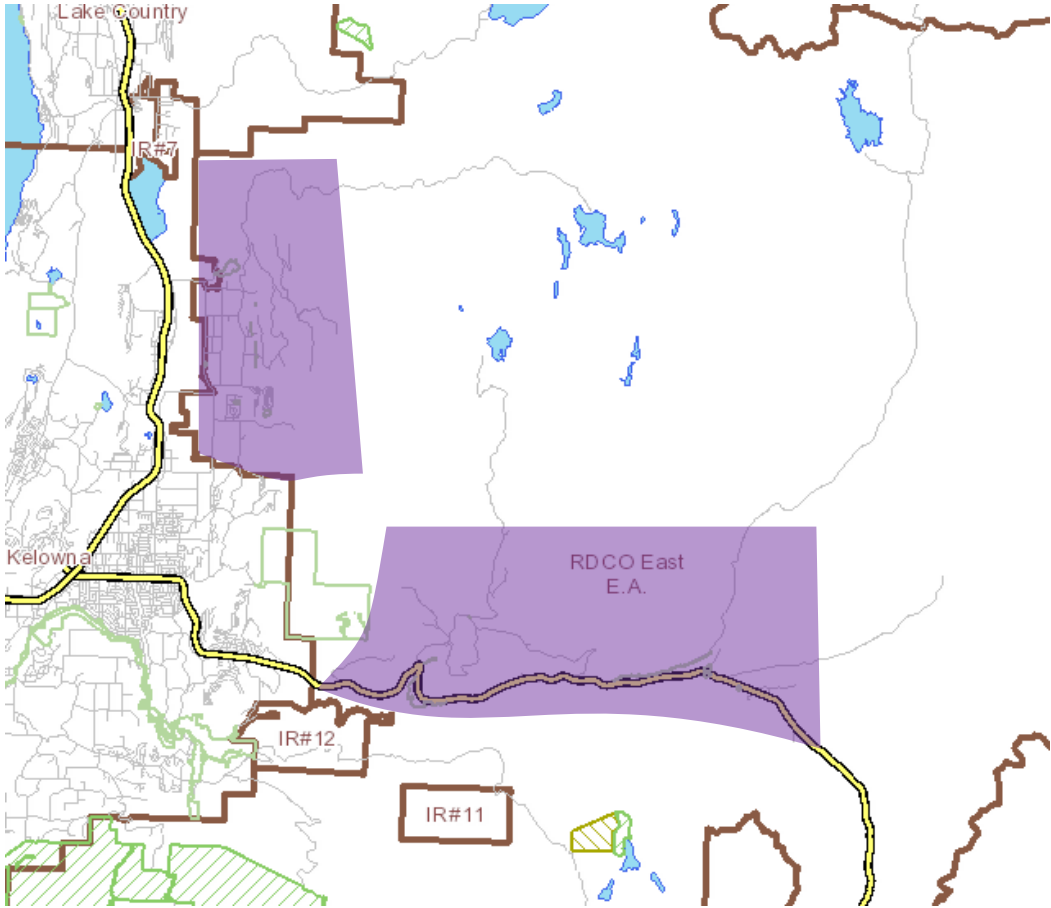
- **THAT** the RDCO advise Recycle BC to undertake direct curbside recycling services within the Regional District Electoral Areas commencing April 30, 2026.
- **AND THAT** the Regional Board authorizes the Chair to submit a letter on behalf of the RDCO to acknowledge and agree to the Recycle BC Requirements 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.

Electoral Areas with Curbside

EA West – Brent Road, Trepanier, Star Place

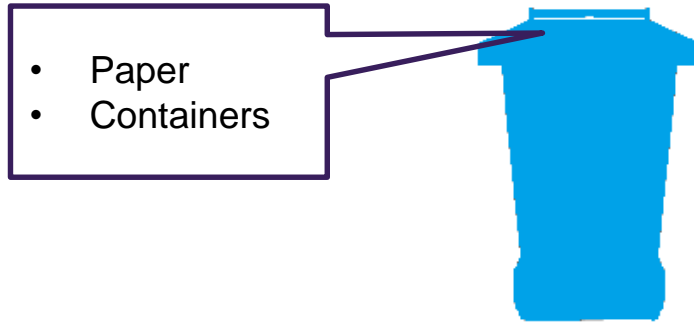


EA East – Ellison and Joe Rich



End of Presentation - Summary

Partnership



Financial:

- Revenue covers expenses, for now
- Risk of cost escalation beyond revenue
- Risk of financial penalties

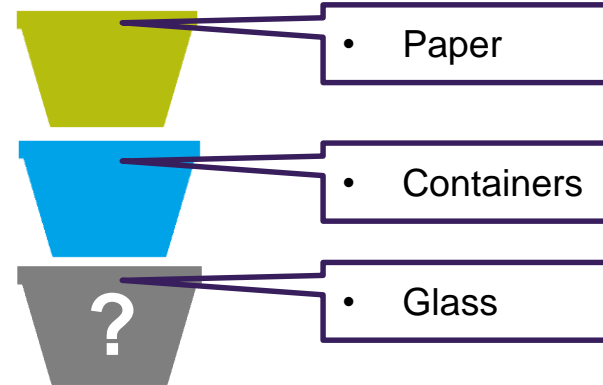
Operational:

- Continue with single co-mingled cart, our choice to change
- Customer issues resolved by Local Government and Contractor
- Continued emphasis on 'contamination reduction'

Contractual:

- Next opportunity to change Recycle BC relationship in 2029

Direct Service



Financial:

- No expenses or revenue
- No financial risks

Operational:

- Transition to multi-stream likely, Recycle BCs decision
- Would likely include 'no cost' glass recycling
- Customer issues resolved by Recycle BC & Contractor

Contractual:

- Work to align contracts for April 30, 2026