

Open house schedule announced for planning for the future of our garbage

Not many people spend time thinking about what happens to our garbage and recycling, but a dedicated group of residents from around the Powell River Regional District have been doing just that. The Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Advisory Committee has spent the last year and a half devising a new plan for our community's waste, including recommendations on how to reduce the amount of waste created, ways of improving the recycling system, suggestions for managing our organic waste, and alternatives for handling our leftover garbage. Waste is an important issue in our community, and the committee is hoping for good support of its proposed plan.

This Plan will provide direction for managing the region's waste for the next ten to twenty years. It is an update to the existing Regional Solid Waste Management Plan, which was adopted in 1996. The update focuses more on increasing opportunities for waste reduction and recycling by homes and businesses.

"It's time to talk trash in the Powell River Regional District," said Director Patrick Brabazon, the Regional Board's representative on the Advisory Committee "We invite residents and businesses to learn more about the proposed plan and to provide comments on the future of garbage and recycling programs in our community. Please join us at open houses being held in Gillies Bay on October 19 and in Powell River on October 20. The feedback we collect will shape the programs to be included in our Regional Solid Waste Management Plan and will help set waste reduction goals for the future."

Committee members and the consultant will be at the open houses to answer your questions and to hear your comments. You will also have an opportunity to complete a survey about the proposed plan. We encourage people to attend!

If you can't attend an open house there are several other ways to get more information and to have your say. An information newsletter explaining the draft plan will be circulated to all households. Those who participate in Canada Post's Consumer Choice (no junk mail) program can pick up copies at the Rec Centre, City Library, City Hall, PRRD office, Sliammon Band office, rural post offices, and Black Point Store after October 13th. You can also review the draft plan online at www.powellriverrd.bc.ca.

After the open houses, the survey will also be mailed to all households, and will be available on the PRRD's website and at the same locations as the newsletter. Comments can also be sent by email to solidwaste@powellriverrd.bc.ca, or faxed to 604-483-2229.

"We hope that residents and businesses will take the time to offer their thoughts on the various options being proposed," adds Director Brabazon. "We'll be taking

feedback until November 16th of this year to ensure everyone has time to have their say on managing our waste now, and for future generations.”

OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Date	Location
October 19, 2009 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Texada Community Hall, Gillies Bay <i>Presentation of Plan Overview at 7:15</i>
October 20, 2009 4:30 – 9:00 pm	Town Centre Hotel – Georgia Room Powell River <i>Presentation of Plan Overview at 5:30 and 7:30</i>

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