

## News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 18, 2023

### **CVRD Receives Funding for Residential Organics Curbside Collection and Modernization of Bings Creek Waste Management Centre**

**DUNCAN, BC** – The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) is pleased to share the recent announcements of the Province's CleanBC Organic Infrastructure and Collection Program (OICP) providing nearly \$1.9 million to the CVRD to help fund residential organics curbside collection in Electoral Areas A through I, and the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Strategic Priorities Fund (SPF) providing \$6 million for the CVRD's Modernization of Bings Creek Solid Waste Management Centre (SWMC).

The SPF funding will allow for the expansion of the existing recycling building at the SWMC. This building is currently too small to host the growing number of recycling programs that require dry storage. The SPF grant will also allow the construction of a new organics transfer building that will be used to consolidate organic waste material from current and future Municipal, First Nation and Electoral Area curbside collection programs. Ensuring that there is sufficient capacity to manage organic waste materials is an important step in modernizing the Municipality of North Cowichan's curbside program and also provides Electoral Area residents with organics curbside service.

The electoral area curbside organics service is expected to roll out in 2025 and is one of several steps that will be taken to support the diversion of organics waste from landfill. When the three-stream curbside project is completed, the CVRD will be working with other jurisdictions to make sure that multi-family residents, institutions and business have similar waste diversion opportunities.

"For some time now, all Cowichan Valley municipalities, some of the regional First Nations and many semi-rural regional districts have provided their residents with the convenience of three-stream curbside collection (i.e., garbage, recycling and organic material)" said Ilse Sarady, Manager of Recycling and Waste Management. "The CVRD is working to make sure that all our residents in the Electoral Areas also receive access to this service".

"Both grants support the district's solid waste management plan, which aims to establish mandatory organics collection across the region," said Aaron Stone, board chair, Cowichan Valley Regional District. We are just about to embark on the second phase of our public engagement for the electoral area curbside collection program, and we welcome the news about funding to support this important program for our communities."

Public consultation on electoral area curbside collection service begins on April 24, 2023. During this time, the CVRD will be seeking input on the proposed curbside collection options to be rolled out in 2025. As part of the OICP funding, the organic waste collection will include bear-resistant curbside collection totes. To learn more and to provide input, visit:

[www.planyourcowichan.ca/curbside-collection](http://www.planyourcowichan.ca/curbside-collection)

For more information on OICP grant, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/food-and-organic-waste/organic-waste-diversion/cleanbc-organic-infrastructure-and-collection-program>

For more information on CVRD Recycling & Waste Management, visit:  
<https://cvrd.ca/78/Garbage-Recycling>

For more information on Canada Community-Building Fund, visit:  
<https://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/plan/gtf-fte-eng.html>

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