



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

CVRD Breaks Ground for State-of-the-Art Recycling Centre

Duncan, B.C. – Renewal and expansion of the Cowichan Valley Regional District's (CVRD) Zero Waste Recycling Centre in Ladysmith is now underway with today's ground breaking at the Peerless Road site.

"Providing residents with convenient, local access to all of the available recycling options is an important part of our Zero Waste mandate," said CVRD Board Chair Rob Hutchins. "The new site layout is designed to reduce traffic congestion while the expanded facility will offer the broadest range of recycling options in the province."

The project, which has received \$1.7 million in federal gas tax funding, also addresses a potential environmental concern with the excavation and enclosure of 45,000 cubic metres of old incinerator ash within an on-site, engineered cell. The ash will be re-purposed as a form of fully contained, structural fill behind new lock-block walls and under special sealed liners and aggregate before being capped with impermeable asphalt to form the base of the new centre.

Other examples of innovative green features include: bio-swales for storm water treatment, passive solar heating technology, and native plant landscaping. The project also demonstrates the full recycling loop with compost from locally processed food waste used in landscaped areas; metals which have been long buried in the accumulated ash field recovered and transformed into rebar; and curbside plastics made into dimensional lumber for onsite benches and fencing. Further, the 1970's steel building that formerly housed the waste incinerator will be reused to act as the heart of the new recycling centre.

"This wonderful project really highlights the CVRD's commitment to the concept of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle," said Will Burrows, Executive Director, Coast Waste Management Association. "By ensuring residents have access to comprehensive recycling programs like the one at Peerless Road, the CVRD continues to enhance its Zero Waste mandate."

Phase 1 of the project involves extensive earth-works, as well as construction of a lock-block retaining wall for 'entombing' the ash in the engineered cell. Phase 2, which focuses on building construction, will likely commence in mid-July, with project completion expected in the late fall.



During the upgrades the existing Peerless site will be closed temporarily. Beginning April 17th, a temporary drop-off depot will be located at the old Saltair Recycling yard located around the corner at 4142 Thicke Road.

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