



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

A G E N D A
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

June 25, 2009
7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. LATE ITEMS

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

4. MINUTES

- (1) Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting, May 28, 2009 Pg. 1 – 4

5. OLD BUSINESS

- (1) From the May 28, 2009 Environmental Advisory Committee meeting

(a) Work Plan

- (i) Sub-committees and How They Relate to the 2009 – 2011 Strategic Plan

- (ii) Work Plan Finalization

- (b) Presentation to Municipality to Highlight Pesticide Free Initiatives

- (c) Anti-Idling Awareness

- (d) Composting

- (e) Update on Gorge Discovery Centre

- (f) Provincial Government Community Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory for Esquimalt – 2007 Pg. 5 – 7

6. NEW BUSINESS

- (1) Buccaneer Days Report

- (2) Pesticide Use Reduction Bylaw – Education / Enforcement

- (3) World Climate Action Day

7. REPORT FROM STAFF LIAISON

8. COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) Letter from the Recycling Council of British Columbia, dated November 3, 2009, Re: Plastic Bags Pg. 8 – 12
- (2) Letter from the Polaris Institute and Toxic Free Canada, received June 3, 2009, Re: Encouraging the Consumption of Tap Water Over Bottle Water Pg. 13 – 15

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS / REPORTS

10. ADJOURNMENT



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 28, 2009
7:15 p.m.
Wurtele Room, Municipal Hall

PRESENT: Edwin Hubert – Chair
Mark Salter – Vice-Chair
Councillor Randall Garrison
Eileen Palmer
Jo-Lee Bertrand (Departed at 9:17 p.m.)
Larry Dill
Beth Sobieszczyk

STAFF: Marlene Lagoa – Manager of Communications and Sustainability (Staff Liaison)
Deborah Liske – Recording Secretary

REGRETS: Councillor Lynda Hundley

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hubert called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

2. LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Larry Dill, seconded by Jo-Lee Bertrand, that the agenda of the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting of May 28, 2009 be approved as presented.
The motion **CARRIED**.

4. MINUTES

Moved by Eileen Palmer, seconded by Jo-Lee Bertrand, that the minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting of March 19, 2009 be approved as presented.
The motion **CARRIED**.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- (1) From the April 23, 2009 Environmental Advisory Committee meeting
 - (a) 2008 Year End Final Report

The committee reviewed and discussed the 2008 year end final report of the Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by Eileen Palmer, seconded by Beth Sobieszczyk, that the Environmental Advisory Committee 2008 year end final report be received and presented to Council.
The motion **CARRIED**.

(b) Curb Paint

The Manager of Communications and Sustainability provided the committee with information about the paint utilized by the municipality for curb markings. It was noted that the municipality has utilized an environmentally friendly latex product in the past and discontinued its use due to the product being inferior and more expensive. The current alkyd product utilized has a longer lifespan and is more reasonably priced. It was further noted that the procedures involved in the cleanup of paint scrapings has been addressed.

Committee members discussed longevity differences between latex and alkyd paints and whether alternatives other than paint exist for marking curbs. Committee members also discussed the need to determine/develop more environmentally and sustainable alternatives to current practices.

Moved by Jo-Lee Bertrand, seconded by Mark Salter, that the Environmental Advisory Committee recommends that:

1. The Township of Esquimalt develop and implement an ethical sustainable procurement and disposal policy, and
2. The Environmental Advisory Committee be provided with the opportunity to provide input in to the development of the policy.

The motion **CARRIED**.

(c) Work Plan

(i) Sub-Committees and How They Relate to the 2009 – 2011 Strategic Plan

The committee discussed how the sub-committees related to the 2009 – 2011 strategic plan and determined items of focus.

The committee discussed at length the scope and depth of the sub-committees and how committee members wanted to proceed with the development and focus of the work plan.

In the time available, the committee was able to determine that the following subcommittees would focus on the noted items within their subcommittees:

Urban Landscape

- Local Food Security – Community Market (work with pocket market at Recreation Centre)
- Local Food Security – Network with regional food security groups
- Urban Forest Expansion

Pesticide Reduction

- Pesticide Education
- Bylaw Awareness & Compliance

Marine & Shoreline

- Green Boating / Marina's – Prepare report reviewing jurisdiction, environmental standards and compliance of Esquimalt's marina's
- OCP foreshore review
- Communicate with Gorge Waterway Society

Alternative Transportation

- Bus Service – Recommendations to encourage DND to promote carpooling
- Bike Lanes
- Pedestrian Charter – Implementation & safety concerns
- Promote Car Sharing
- Admirals Road

The committee will continue discussions on the development and focus of the remaining work plan subcommittees / items at the next meeting.

The committee discussed sustainability and greenhouse gas reduction initiatives.

The Manager of Communications and Sustainability noted the following:

- Will be reporting to the committee on a regular basis on the progress and actions of the municipality on corporate sustainability and greenhouse gas reduction initiatives.
- The provincial government has developed a community energy and greenhouse gas reduction emissions inventory and will provide a copy of the inventory at the next meeting.
- Is currently working on the development of a corporate greenhouse gas emissions inventory; will report back at a future meeting on the progress of the inventory development.

The committee discussed highlighting the great work of the municipal parks department in developing and implementing pesticide free initiatives in municipal parks. It was suggested that the committee present a certificate of achievement for creating pesticide free parks and green spaces within the Township of Esquimalt. It was further suggested that the presentation take place at the July 6th meeting of Council to coincide with the complete phase-in of the pesticide bylaw.

Councillor Garrison reported that the cross-town bus route along Bay Street into Esquimalt has been approved by BC Transit and will be implemented. It was also noted that the #14 Craigflower bus service and the UVIC route has also been increased.

This item will be discussed further at the next meeting.

(ii) Work Plan Finalization

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS

(1) Buccaneer Days Planning

Committee members discussed preparations for the committee booth at Buccaneer days.

Mark Salter suggested that the municipality determine a day in October to host a waste free Wednesday.

Jo-Lee Bertrand departed the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

The committee continued discussion for the committee booth.

(2) Anti-Idling Awareness

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

(3) Composting

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

(4) Update on Gorge Discovery Centre

This item was deferred to the next meeting for discussion during update from subcommittees.

7. **REPORT FROM STAFF LIAISON**

No report.

8. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- (1) Letter from the Recycling Council of British Columbia, dated November 3, 2009, Re: Plastic Bags

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

9. **COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS / REPORTS**

Councillor Garrison reported that discussions are taking place on how to proceed with the development of the E & N trail. Councillor Garrison also reported that Council has determined that there will be no additional garbage collection for homes with secondary suites other than is currently allowed under the bylaw.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Edwin Hubert, Chair

This day of , 2009

Esquimalt Community Energy & Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory: 2007

This is your local government's draft 2007 Community Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory (CEEI). From March 10th to April 15th 2009, the Province and partners are asking for your review and feedback - <http://www.toolkit.bc.ca/ceei> - on the content, clarity and usefulness of your community's draft 2007 CEEI Report.

What is a CEEI Report?

CEEI Reports are a result of a multi-agency effort to provide a province-wide solution to assist local governments in BC to track and report annual community-wide energy consumption and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. For 2007, the CEEI Reports provide high-level energy and GHG emission estimates in three primary sectors – on-road transportation, buildings and solid waste. As additional information, estimates on land-use change emissions from deforestation are provided at the regional district level. CEEI Reports are one of the many resources available through the Climate Action Toolkit (<http://www.toolkit.bc.ca>), a web-based service provided through the ongoing collaboration between UBCM and the Province.

Why does my local government need a CEEI Report?

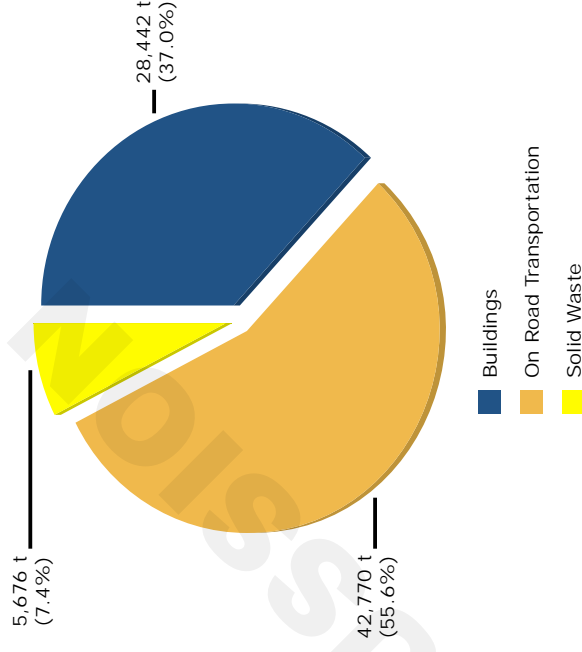
An energy and GHG emissions inventory can be a valuable tool that helps local governments plan and implement GHG and energy management strategies, while at the same time strengthening broader sustainability planning at the local level. CEEI reports have two primary purposes – to fulfill local governments' Climate Action Charter commitment to measure and report their community's GHG emissions profile, and to establish a base year inventory for local governments to consider as they develop targets, policies, and actions related to the Province's new Green Communities Legislation (Bill 27). As an additional benefit, CEEI Reports support BC local government members of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Partners for Climate Protection program to achieve Milestone One of the community stream – a community GHG emissions inventory.

A first in North America!

CEEI is a first in North America, and a first step for BC communities. The 2007 CEEI Reports are based on best available province-wide data. The accuracy and detail of CEEI reports will continue to improve to meet increasing local and provincial government information needs. For example, the CEEI working group is presently pursuing ways to refine community boundary accuracy for a number of BC's smaller communities. Also, local governments may wish to provide additional information to the CEEI and/or enhance their CEEI report (in sectors and/or detail) where interest, capacity and local information sources permit (e.g., provide the CEEI with accurate community-specific solid waste data). For future reports, the CEEI working group will be considering the inclusion of additional components to GHG inventories as advised by emerging international protocols, the information needs of local governments, and the Province's forthcoming Green Communities Incentive Program.

Hyla Environmental Services Ltd. (HES) is providing 2007 CEEI Reports using its Energy and Emissions Monitoring and Reporting System™. HES is also developing a 2007 CEEI Technical Methods and Guidance document, presently scheduled to be available in late March 2009.

CO₂e (tonnes) by Sector *



* In some CEEI Reports, inaccuracy in solid waste data and/or where electricity and natural gas consumption data for buildings has been withheld for confidentiality purposes, the relative percentages of GHGs in each sector as illustrated above may appear disproportionate. For this reason, care should be taken in interpreting these reports, particularly where comparisons with other local government may be of interest.

Please refer to the CEEI User Guide for overviews of each sector (<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/climate/ceei/pdf/ceei-user-guide.pdf>). For answers to Frequently Asked Questions go to <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/climate/ceei/pdf/ceei-faq.pdf>. To explore 'taking action community wide', go to <http://www.toolkit.bc.ca/taking-action/community-wide>. For more information, please contact the Ministry of Environment at CEEIRPT@gov.bc.ca.

Notice to the Reader: This CEEI Report uses information from a variety of sources to estimate GHG emissions. While the methodologies, assumptions and data used are intended to provide reasonable estimates of greenhouse gas emissions, the information presented in this report may not be appropriate for all purposes. The Province of BC, data providers and HES Ltd. do not provide any warranty to the user or guarantee the accuracy or reliability of the data contained in this report. The user accepts responsibility for the ultimate use of such data.

Esquimalt Community Energy & Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory: 2007

BUILDINGS	Consumption By Type					Energy & Emissions Total	
	Type	Connections	Consumption	Energy/Connection	Energy (GJ)	CO ₂ e (t)	CO ₂ e (t)
RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	Electricity	8,079	79,624,152 kWh	9,856 kWh/C	286,647	1,752	358,214
	Natural Gas	1,303	71,567 GJ	55 GJ/C	71,567	3,661	
COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS	Electricity	623	109,638,305 kWh	175,984 kWh/C	394,698	2,412	794,948
	Natural Gas	314	400,250 GJ	1,275 GJ/C	400,250	20,473	
INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS	Electricity	99	6,589,906 kWh	66,565 kWh/C	23,724	145	23,724
SUBTOTAL	Electricity	8,801	195,852,363 kWh		705,069	4,309	1,176,886
	Natural Gas	1,617	471,817 GJ		471,817	24,133	

ON ROAD TRANSPORTATION	Consumption By Type					Energy & Emissions Total	
	Type	Units	Consumption	Litres/Unit	Energy (GJ)	CO ₂ e (t)	CO ₂ e (t)
SMALL PASSENGER CARS	Gasoline	5,855	4,442,750 litres	759 L/U	153,986	11,095	155,579
	Diesel Fuel	71	41,180 litres	580 L/U	1,593	114	
LARGE PASSENGER CARS	Gasoline	1,847	1,842,139 litres	997 L/U	63,849	4,601	64,925
	Diesel Fuel	27	21,310 litres	789 L/U	824	59	
	Mobile Propane	12	9,976 litres	831 L/U	252	15	
LIGHT TRUCKS, VANS, AND SUVs	Gasoline	4,889	7,834,056 litres	1,602 L/U	271,528	19,565	275,697
	Diesel Fuel	37	49,720 litres	1,344 L/U	1,923	138	
	Mobile Propane	58	88,727 litres	1,530 L/U	2,246	135	
COMMERCIAL VEHICLES	Gasoline	565	994,294 litres	1,760 L/U	34,462	2,483	75,488
	Diesel Fuel	226	1,039,335 litres	4,599 L/U	40,201	2,889	



RCBC Backgrounder

Providing information on issues of importance

TOPIC: **Plastic Bags**
DATE: **November 3, 2008**

Council mail
Eniro Comm.
Marlene (public dissem.)

A number of degradable plastic products have emerged in the Canadian marketplace with claims of being more environmentally responsible than traditional plastic. For the most part, consumers are discovering these new plastics in the form of carrier bags from well-known retail, drug and grocery stores which have made the switch from conventional plastic shopping bags.

As the use of degradable plastic increases, so does the confusion surrounding the environmental claims put forward by the degradable bag industry. RCBC has created this backgrounder with the hope of better informing the public, elected officials and the media. This document provides an overview of degradable plastics and outlines some of the principal concerns surrounding the use of oxo-biodegradable plastics, a degradable plastic increasingly being used in disposable carrier bags.

What are degradable plastics?

Much of the confusion surrounding degradable plastics centers on terminology and, more specifically, with the seemingly interchangeable use of the terms "degradable" and "biodegradable". As a start, consumers should be aware that "biodegradable" and "degradable" do not mean the same thing.

The Environment and Plastic Industry Council (EPIC) has carried out considerable research on the use of degradable plastics in Canada. As stated by EPIC, the term 'degradable' broadly describes a material which breaks down into smaller pieces or particles; also referred to as a process of degradation. On the other hand, the term 'biodegradable' refers to the process that takes place after degradation. Biodegradation is the consumption of the smaller pieces or particles by micro-organisms, resulting in water, carbon dioxide and organic matter.

According to EPIC, the degradable plastics available today can be classified into three main categories:

- **Compostable:** materials that are designed to biodegrade in commercial/industrial composting conditions over a period of 180 days into water, carbon dioxide and humus, and which leave no visible, distinguishable or toxic residue.

- Oxo-biodegradable: materials that use a chemical additive to start the degradation process, with the remnants biodegrading over time. These bags oxidize and become brittle in the environment and degrade under the influence of ultraviolet light and heat.
- Water-soluble: materials that degrade in water, usually within a specific temperature range, and then biodegrade through the action of micro-organisms in the sewage treatment system.

For the most part, the degradable carrier bags that have been introduced in B.C. fall into the category of oxo-biodegradable bags. These bags look, feel, and act like a conventional plastic bag since they are similarly composed of petroleum-based plastics such as polyethylene. The difference lies in the chemical additive included in oxo-biodegradable bags which speeds up degradation of the plastic once it comes into contact with oxygen.

A common brand found on these bags is EPI, which claims to be, “the proponent and leader of oxo-biodegradable plastic additive technology” and is the creator of Totally Degradable Plastic Additives technology. Beyond an EPI logo, oxo-biodegradable bags tend to be identifiable by the *claim* of “100% degradable” printed on the bottom of the bag.

Issues of Concern:

Questionable Environmental Claims –

In the past few years, a number of concerns questioning the environmental claims and implications of oxo-biodegradable bags have been voiced. In terms of performance, it has been questioned how long these bags take to biodegrade and if it is possible for the bags to biodegrade in landfill conditions given the lack of aerobic bacteria. More importantly, concerns regarding if toxins remain in the environment after the product has appeared to breakdown continue to arise.

As EPIC has highlighted in relation to degradable bags, the Canadian Standards Association and Competition Bureau recently released a new set of guidelines to prevent businesses from misleading consumers about the green benefits of their products. The new rules require environmental claims to be clear, specific, verified and substantiated with erroneous or broad statements considered unacceptable. Terra Choice, the Canadian environmental marketing agency responsible for Canada’s EcoLogo program, has taken the issue a step further by publishing a document entitled the *Six Sins of Greenwashing*, which some critics may find of relevance to this issue.

Lack of Third-Party Verification –

One way to address and overcome questionable environmental claims is through the development of a certification program that presents third-party verification of a product meeting specified standards. A variety of such certification programs exist for

compostable plastics (e.g. ASTM D6400, ISO 17088, BPI, BNQ 9011-911) however, oxo-biodegradable plastics do not meet these standards and as such would require their own branch of certification. Such a program does not exist at this time.

EPIC is currently in the process of developing a Product Stewardship Guide and Commitment on Degradable Plastics, with plans for release in 2008. The Guide and Commitment is being drafted based on a similar degradable plastics initiative on which the Australian government and Plastics and Chemicals Industry Association partnered.

Unknown Effect on Plastics Recycling Stream –

Beyond concerns about whether degradable bags break down in a timely and clean manner, is the question of how degradable bags may affect the plastics recycling stream. While few municipalities in B.C. currently accept plastic bags for recycling, the introduction of a province-wide stewardship program for packaging could change this dramatically. The B.C. Ministry of the Environment currently has packaging listed as a products category under their list of *New Products Under Consideration*.

In August of 2007, Recyc-Quebec released a study that assessed the potential impact of degradable bags on the recycling of conventional plastic bags. Among the degradable bags evaluated were two types of oxo-biodegradable bags. The study found that while one version was compatible with traditional plastic bag recycling the other was not.

These results suggest that not all oxo-biodegradable bags are created equal and offers additional support for developing clear standards and third-party verification as discussed above. Clearly, more research will be required on the recyclability of oxo-biodegradable bags available in the B.C. marketplace if they are expected to enter the conventional plastic recycling stream.

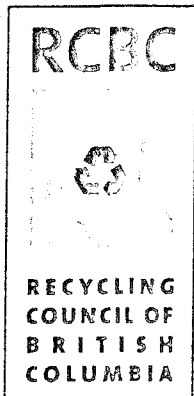
Use of Non-Renewable Resources without Recovery -

A final concern about oxo-biodegradable bags is that the product is composed of non-renewable, fossil fuel-based inputs and there is little difference in regards to energy- and resource-use when compared with conventional disposable plastic grocery bags.

If oxo-biodegradable bags are meant to break down in a landfill environment, as they are largely promoted as doing, the products will not be recovered through recycling, resulting in a loss of resources in the same way these resources are lost through the currently used disposable plastic bags.

The Recycling Council of B.C.
promotes the principles of zero waste through
information services, the exchange of ideas and research.

604-RECYCLE 1-800-667-4321 www.rcbc.bc.ca



Recycling Council of British Columbia
Single-Use Bags Policy

It is the Recycling Council of B.C.'s position that the issue of single-use shopping bags should be addressed through the B.C. Recycling Regulation, which would hold producers responsible for managing these products throughout their entire life cycle.

The objective of this program should be to shift away from single-use shopping bags and encourage reusable options whenever possible, with the remaining quantity of single-use bags collected and recycled through an Extended Producer Responsibility program.

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- An excessive quantity of single-use shopping bags are generated in the province of B.C.
- The extraction and production of the material to manufacture single-use bags acts as another major source of greenhouse gas emissions
- Responsibility has largely fallen upon municipalities and taxpayers to collect and dispose of single-use shopping bags
- Many local governments in B.C. are considering applying bans, taxes and other regulatory tools available to them to reduce the quantity of single-use bags generated within their jurisdictions
- These policies have the potential to drive positive change and encourage senior levels of government and the private sector to tackle the issue of single-use bags
- Many private sector stakeholders have voluntarily agreed to reduce the quantity of single-use bags that are distributed within their stores
- The combination of local government and private sector initiatives, while positive, creates a multi-jurisdictional patchwork of programs that are confusing to both producers and consumers
- Any solution needs to focus on all single-use bags and material types (plastic, paper, biodegradable etc.) and not favor any one material type over the others.

As passed by the Recycling Council of B.C. Board of Directors on December 5, 2008

Subject: Recycling Council info on plastic bags

Dear B.C. Councils and Regional Districts;

This issue of plastic bag bans is continuing to come before councils across B.C. for discussion, so I thought it might be useful for you to have a copy of the Recycling Council's recently developed policy position on single-use shopping bags and also the information backgrounder we produced on so-called biodegradable plastic bags. Our bag policy covers all single-use bags, not just those made of plastic, and will provide you with some information and wording that you may find useful.

If you require any further information or would like to discuss the attached, please do feel free to give me or our Executive Director, Brock Macdonald, a call at 604-683-6009. Brock is at extension 307 and I'm at 305.

Bets regards,
Mairi Welman

Mairi Welman
Director of Communications
Recycling Council of B.C.
604-683-6009 ext.305

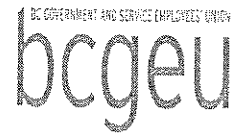
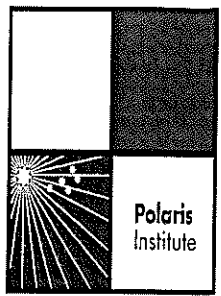
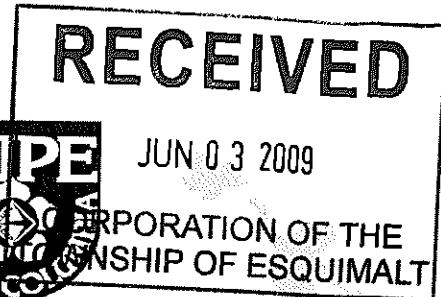
Promoting the principles of zero waste through
information services, the exchange of ideas and research.

604-RECYCLE 1-800-667-4321 www.rcbc.bc.ca

No one can do everything, but everyone can do something.

Laurie

✓ Agenda
✓ c: Marlene



JUN 03 2009

CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ESQUIMALT



British Columbia Teachers' Federation



Dear Mayor and Council:

Over the past year, municipalities throughout the British Columbia region have been actively working on ways to enhance their local environment, to reduce waste and protect their water resources. We urge you to take an important step now to support public water and waste reduction by publicly encouraging the consumption of tap water over bottled water.

The action we urge you to take is fully in line in with the resolution adopted at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities convention in March, which urged "all municipalities to phase out the sale and purchase of bottled water at their own facilities where appropriate and where potable water is available." The FCM represents 1,775 municipalities across Canada.

In British Columbia, our municipal water systems are among the safest and strongest in the world. This year, the quality of water in Metro Vancouver will be even better, as the first of two filtration plants comes on line in September, eliminating any possibility of turbidity and reducing chlorine use.

Meanwhile bottled water, especially single serve water in PET plastic bottles, is leaving an enormous environmental footprint in our communities, including releases of carcinogenic substances to the environment where the plastic is manufactured. Just recently a new report published by Toxic Free Canada (available at <http://www.toxicfreecanada.ca/campaign.asp?c=11>) graphically outlines that toxic footprint, and also highlights the plastic waste being generated by PET-bottled water. According to the report, more than 130 million plastic bottles ended up in B.C. landfills in 2007, a 247 per cent increase since 2002. Of those, an estimated 44 million were PET plastic water bottles, the equivalent of 21,833 full-size pickup truck loads.

Across the country, municipalities, schools and universities, faith-based organizations, restaurants and unions have stood up for Canada's public water services by phasing out the provision and sale of bottled water. In addition, 43 municipalities have already passed legislation to phase out the provision and sale of bottled water on city/town property and promote public municipal water. Many more are currently exploring options for how to "turn on the tap" and phase out the bottle.

Of the many different services that municipalities provide, it is often said that no service is as critical to the health of citizens as the supply of clean water. Phasing out the provision and sale of bottled water on municipal property and committing to promoting clean and accessible public water will demonstrate a commitment to public water.

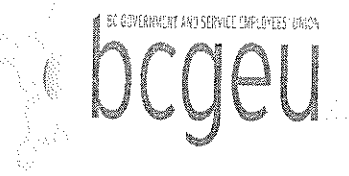
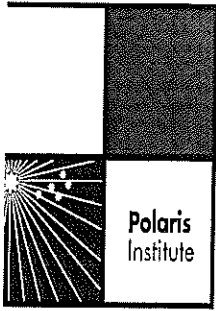
As a network of organizations from across British Columbia we would be pleased to discuss these issues and options in more detail and look forward to hearing from you soon.

With Regards,

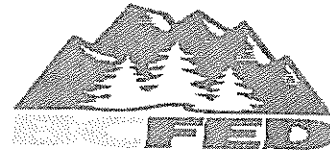
Joe Cressy
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On Behalf of: Polaris Institute; Toxic Free Canada; Canadian Union of Public Employees BC; BC Federation of Labour; Sierra Youth Coalition; BC Government and Service Employees' Union; BC Teachers' Federation; Wilderness Committee



WESTERN CANADA
WILDERNESS
COMMITTEE



Take the Plunge: Bottled Water Municipal Examples

Across Canada municipalities have taken action on bottled water. Here are a just a few examples of municipal actions that limit or end the use of bottled water and promote the consumption of tap water.

- Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) passed a resolution urging “all municipalities to phase out the sale and purchase of bottled water at their own facilities where appropriate”.
- *Metro Vancouver Region, British Columbia:* The board voted to launch a public campaign to support tap water and urge local municipalities and residents to adopt a Tap Water Pledge to use tap water in place of bottled water where possible.
- *City of Vancouver, British Columbia:* Council voted to phase out the provision and sale of bottled water in appropriate city facilities and re-invest in water fountains.
- *London, Ontario:* City Council passed a bottled water motion that prohibited the sale and distribution of bottled water on city owned and operated property and provided alternatives for the provision of accessible tap water.
- *St. John’s, Newfoundland:* City Council banned the use of city money for the purpose of providing bottled water on city property, including during city-hosted events.
- *Altona, Manitoba:* Municipality phased out the provision of water coolers and bottled water in its offices.

Canadian Statistics:

- 48 Municipalities from 8 provinces and 1 Territory have implemented restrictions on bottled water
- 32 Universities and Colleges have created bottled water free zones.

CASE STUDY: CITY OF TORONTO

In December 2008 the City of Toronto passed a comprehensive bottled water motion that banned the sale or distribution of bottled water and provided alternatives for the provision of accessible tap water. Here are the details of the City of Toronto’s approach to bottled water:

- Ban the sale or distribution of bottled water at Civic Centres immediately.
- Direct staff from all City Departments to work together to develop and implement a program that bans the sale and distribution of bottled water at all remaining City facilities, including in vending machines.
- Direct staff from all City Departments to improve accessibility to tap water at all City facilities.
- Launch a public awareness campaign that promotes the consumption of tap water
- Ensure that portable outdoor water trucks/trailers are available for outdoor city hosted and sponsored events.

FCM RESOLUTION – NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – MARCH 7, 2009

**ENV09.1.02
BOTTLED WATER**

WHEREAS bottled water consumes significant amounts of non-renewable fossil fuels to extract, package and transport water creating unnecessary air quality and climate change impacts;

WHEREAS it takes about three litres of water to manufacture a one litre plastic bottle of water;

WHEREAS bottled water companies use municipal water and groundwater sources when a growing percentage of Canadian municipalities have faced water shortages in recent years;

WHEREAS although bottled water creates a container that can be recycled, between 40% and 80% of empty bottles end up as litter and/or are placed directly into the garbage and take up unnecessary space in landfills;

WHEREAS tap water is safe, healthy, highly regulated and accessible to residents, employers, employees and visitors to Canadian municipalities and substantially more sustainable than bottled water; and

WHEREAS some municipalities have enacted by-laws to restrict the sale and purchase of water bottles within their own operations;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities urge all municipalities to phase out the sale and purchase of bottled water at their own facilities where appropriate and where potable water is available; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that municipalities be urged to develop awareness campaigns about the positive benefits and quality of municipal water supplies.