

Cariboo Regional District, BC

PPP EPR Recycling

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Connecticut's Consumer Packaging Task Force

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Management

Cariboo Regional District - Overview

- The Cariboo Regional District (CRD) is a local government that oversees numerous services, including solid waste and recycling, for over 60,000 residents
- The CRD consists of 12 electoral areas and four member municipalities including the Cities of Quesnel and Williams Lake, and the Districts of 100 Mile House and Wells

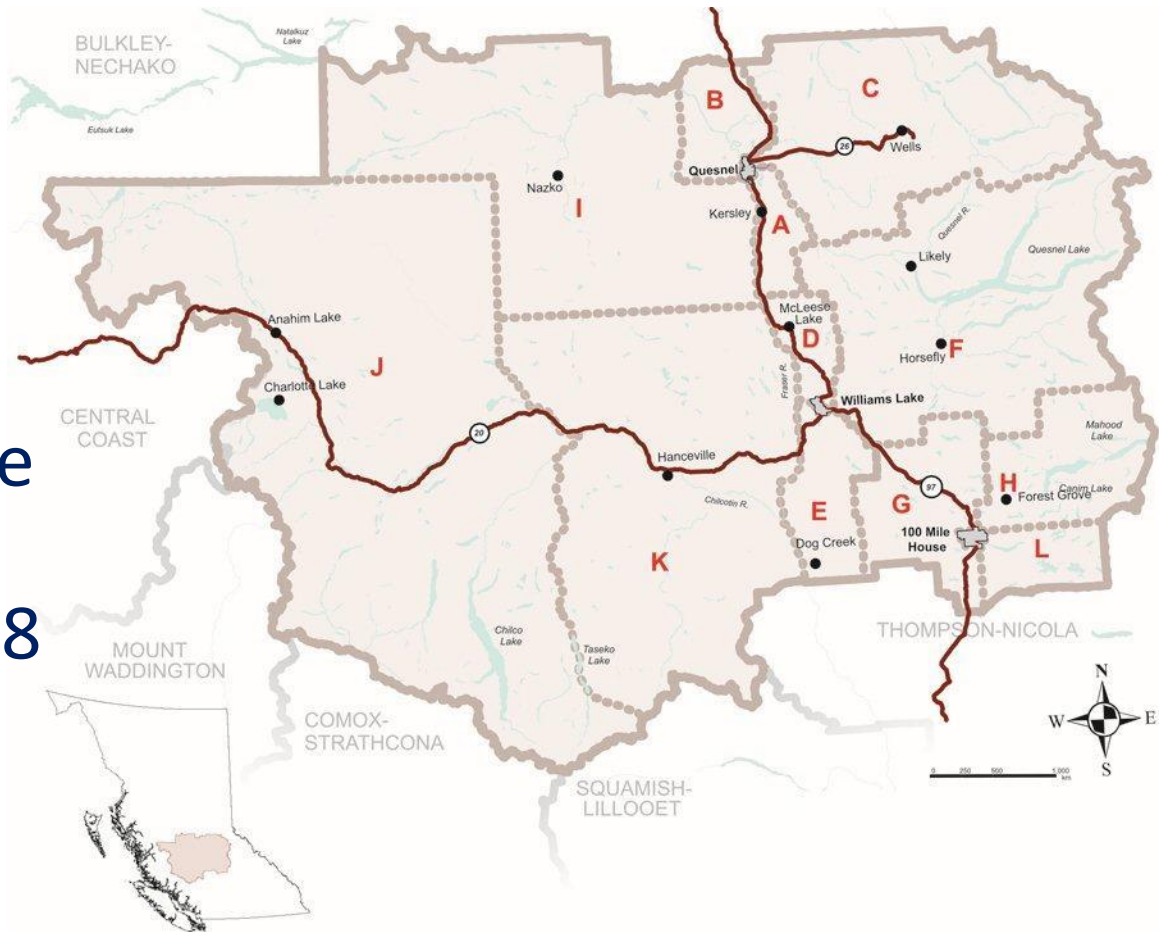
Cariboo Regional District - Overview

- Located in the BC Central Interior, the CRD covers an area of 80,262 square kilometres (30,389 square miles)
- There are 32 refuse sites within the CRD



Cariboo Regional District - Overview

- The major transportation routes service the member municipalities, but the distance to recycling markets is 6 to 8 hours driving time



Cariboo Regional District - Overview

- Solid waste staff for the CRD consist of a Manager, a Supervisor and one Technician
- Annual budget is between 5.5 and 7 M
- The CRD operates 32 refuse sites, only 11 of which are controlled
- The City of Quesnel operates its own landfill
- All member municipalities manage their own curbside garbage collection

Pre-Packaging and Printed Paper EPR

- Before PPP EPR was available to the CRD, there was **very limited access** to household recycling drop off and collection
- The City of Williams Lake (pop. 10,000+) was the only community with curbside recycling pick-up
- One recycling depot was operated in Williams Lake; one privately operated depot was available in 100 Mile House (less than 2,000 people); and four drop off locations were available in Quesnel (pop. 10,000+)

Pre-Packaging and Printed Paper EPR

- The cost of collecting, processing, marketing and transporting household recyclables restricted the CRD's ability to provide curbside and depot recycling services
- Since partnering with Recycle BC the collection and education aspect are the only remaining costs – which are offset by Recycle BC incentives
- The hauling, processing, and marketing logistics and costs are all the responsibility of Recycle BC

New Services

- Since partnering with Recycle BC in May of 2014, the CRD operates:
 - 10 recycling depots at controlled transfer stations
 - 3 remote community recycling depots
 - 1 curbside collection (108 Mile Ranch 1,100 HH)
- Two of the CRD's member municipalities also partnered with Recycle BC, and Recycle BC provided the third with curbside collection
- Recycling tonnes have more than doubled

Does EPR incentives cover all the Costs?

- **No.**
- Before PPP EPR it cost taxpayers:
 - **\$225,000** per year to fund curbside recycling collection in Williams Lake (**weekly collection**)
 - over **\$300** per tonne to operate the Williams Lake depot
- After PPP EPR it costs taxpayers:
 - **\$80,000** per year to fund curbside recycling collection in Williams Lake (**weekly collection**)
 - Approximately **\$100** per tonne to operate the Williams Lake depot

Could EPR incentives cover all the Costs?

- **Possibly**, and **Yes**, if landfill costs (**\$100/tonne**) are considered
- Due to the CRD's large area and sparse population not all CRD refuse sites are controlled
 - We do not charge residents tipping fees or per-bag fees for waste, as this would drive waste to our non controlled sites.
 - **This system does not provide an incentive to recycle**
- The City of Williams Lake could have a more efficient collection system with **bi-weekly** collection
- Controlled transfer stations/recycling depots **have high labour costs** as they are open up to 60 hours per week

Pre-Program Challenges

- Convincing CRD politicians and other local governments to partner with Recycle BC:
 - New EPR program
 - Many unknowns and lots of changes
 - Short decision making timelines
 - Contracts with fines for contamination

Initial-Program Challenges

- Collection methods – mega bags are used, but we had never used them before
- Short timeline to set up on the ground
- Incorporating Recycle BC requirements into collection contracts
- Establishing a new recycling curbside collection, and transitioning to automated garbage collection for the 108 community

Initial-Program Challenges

- Providing PPP storage at depots
- Chain of custody administration
- Allocating PPP Electronic Funds Transfers (EFTs) to the appropriate budgets
- Education for attendants and residents
- Signs

Initial-Program Challenges



Ongoing-Program Challenges

- Recruiting new users
- Contamination curbside:
 - Plastic bags and plastic film
 - Products (non PPP)
 - Polystyrene foam
 - Unsortables
 - Glass
- Contamination depots:
 - Hazardous items



OOPS! RECYCLING
REMINDER

Summary

- As the CRD did not have an established recycling collection program it was relatively easy to transition into the Recycle BC program
- Residents receiving depot services were not “pre-trained”, and were thankful to be receiving access
- Curbside residents required re-training but with consistent messaging they are adapting