



MEETING MINUTES

Solid Waste Resource & Management Plan Monitoring Advisory Committee

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Location: Zoom & SLRD Boardroom

DRAFT Minutes of the SWRMP Monitoring Advisory Committee (PMAC) of the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District held via Electronic Facilities on Tuesday, November 4 at 1:00 PM.

In attendance electronically:

Committee: D. Imbeau; L. Harrison; M. Cossette; S. White; E. de Strake; B. Jones;
A. Cuschieri; L. Caparella; S. Maxwell; S. Friday

Staff: ML. Leblanc (Chair – SLRD Resource Recovery Coordinator);
V. Lafontaine (SLRD Communications & Projects Coordinator)

Public: None

Regrets: S. Kerr; P. Sahota; S. Senger; C. Stacey

1. Call to Order

ML called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.
Welcome and land acknowledgement.

2. Adoption of Agenda and Meeting Notes

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the agenda be approved with proposed amendments.

CARRIED (MOTION 1)

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the April 1, 2025 minutes be approved.

CARRIED (MOTION 2)

3. Members Update

VL The SLRD published a call for volunteers twice on social media, in the Pique Magazine, Lillooet News and Squamish Chief newspaper. The call was also posted on our website. The application form is available on our website. We have not received any applications yet.

Many memberships are expiring in 2026 due to several terms beginning when the committee restarted meeting again.

January 2026 – AWARE, Sue Senger, WCSS, S2S Soils

February 2026 – GFL

May 2026 – Sue Maxwell, PWA, Squamish CAN,

June 2026 – LFCS

If you know anyone that would be good for this committee, please let me know.

We submitted a request to Squamish Nation for a representative via their Squamish Connect Portal. Our Indigenous Relations Advisor is supporting us with extending an invitation to participate to the 6 Northern St’at’imc communities and T’it’q’et.

4. SWRMP Update – RFP Results

ML The Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan (SWRMP) is a 10-year plan. The update process was initiated in 2025 with the goal of submitting the plan for Ministry approval in 2028. Request for Proposals was published in July 2025 and closed in September 2025. KGS was the proponent selected. They have extensive experience with SWMP updates. They are subcontracting Engage Delaney for the public engagement portion of the project. SLRD staff will be touring the waste management facilities in the region, including a tour of the Lil’wat facility.

A separate committee will be created to support the plan update. The PMAC committee will be updated at project milestones.

5. SWRMP Actions Update

Refer to attachment 1 “Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan Progress Report” for updates.

6. BC 5-Year EPR Plan - Mattresses

ML – Extended Producer Responsibility: Is an environmental policy approach in which the producer’s responsibility for reducing environmental impact and managing the product is extended across the whole lifecycle of the product, from selection of materials and design to its end-of-life.

We received a letter from the Ministry informing us that mattresses were removed from the 5-year plan. Mattresses are heavily subsidized in the South of the region and are landfilled in the North of the region. Regional Districts and Municipalities have sent letters to the Ministry requesting that mattresses not be removed. On August 20, 2025 the SLRD sent a letter and received a confirmation receipt in October, 2025.

BJ Lil'wat Nation dismantled mattresses for some time but the labor requirements and cost were too burdensome.

SW The District of Squamish (DOS) is going to pilot dismantling box springs.

SM The Ministry's reasoning for not going through with it at the moment was affordability. There is a misconception as not all EPRs transfer the costs to the consumer. There is no guarantee that the fees would get passed on to the consumer. It is not 1:1, programs charge fees on the products sold but they only cover the costs of the material they collect. It is not always the same person buying the new mattress and the person paying the cost of disposal.

ML The SLRD will keep advocating, the next step is advocating to UBCM.

SW The DOS subsidized \$70,000 in 2024 for mattress disposal.

SM There was an emergency resolution passed at UBCM.

7. SLRD Outreach and Education Update 2025

VL Devine Collection Event – May
Partnership with Tire Stewardship BC
Collected: 177 off rims, 53 on rims tires, and 1 megabag of small appliances and electronics

Pitch-In Week - APRIL

The Board waived fees for Pitch-In branded bags and registered organizations.

The Board made a proclamation.

Many organizations and Municipalities across the SLRD participated.

Social Media posts were made prior to Pitch-In Week.

1 social media post per day during the week with "disposal insights".

Information was also published on the website.

Social media campaign: 7 posts (Views: 3416, Interactions: 12)

Village of Pemberton (VOP), DOS and Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) hosted cleanups.

SLRD hosted a 20-minute staff cleanup.

Make Soil Not Waste in Area C and Pemberton

Workshops: Pemberton Seedy Sunday, Birken Easter event, Slow Food Cycle, Grizzly Art Show

Campaign: 10 weekly posts (Views: 6790, Interactions: 35)

Earned media: 4 shared posts or original content published, adding to the campaign.

Pop-Up depots in BB & FC: May - September

10 total - 5 in each community.

Joined by WildSafe Coordinator twice.

Collected:

- 20.5 45 Gal bags flexible plastics
- 6 45 Gal bags of foam
- 4.5 liters of household batteries + the April and November curbside collection of household batteries (addition of portable electronics in November).

Curbside Audits in BB & FC: May - September

Total of 10 audit:

- 9 recycling audits total - 623 totes were checked (56% champion)
- 1 organics audit (77% champion)

Implemented a rejection process in partnership with GFL for totes found to be containing hazardous or oversized items in August, 2025

No totes turned around for Hazardous waste in 2025 – could be the result of good community awareness of the new process.

Diversion Ambassadors (North and South)

North:

Attended 7 Farmers Markets, Apricot Festival and scheduled to host low waste gift wrapping tables at holiday events.

South:

Pop-Up Depots

Canada Day Celebration, Brackendale Fall Fair

Hosted the SIWMA Conference in Squamish in September

Gathered regional districts from the Interior, including RMOW and DOS

EPR programs present: Call2recycle (household batteries), Product Care (Lights, Paint and HHW), Tire Stewardship BC, Recycle BC, MARR

Sector partners from small propane tank recyclers, Hazardous Waste disposal (GFL Kelowna), IZWTAG, AWARE, Squamish CAN,

8. Sea to Sky Soils Update

ML Accepting food waste from the Sea to Sky area again in a limited amount, including the VOP, RMOW and DOS. This includes commercial.

9. ICI Waste Engagement Project – DOS Laura W.

LW Engagement Phase :

- Shifting focus from residential to ICI waste diversion
- 101 participants in online and in-person surveys
- Objectives:
 - Assess awareness levels
 - Understand current waste management and diversion practices
 - Understand barriers and limitations to compliance
 - Determine the support businesses want from the DOS

Key Findings:

- Low awareness about municipal bylaws, high for provincial regulations
- 95% of surveyed businesses recycle, but recycling streams are underutilized
- Very few businesses have waste diversion plans in place
- External pressure key driver for waste diversion efforts
- Most common barriers are:
 - Space limitations
 - Cost
 - Staff capacity and participation
 - Confusion/lack of awareness about requirements and best practices
- Requested support from the DOS:
 - Signage and labelling, toolkits
 - Access to shared facilities for businesses that use shared waste rooms
 - Training for Staff
 - Other: Reduced fees for all waste streams, pickup for all recycling, better streetscape bins

Next Steps:

- ICI waste diversion best practice research and analysis (Completed)
- Draft engagement and outreach strategy (in review)
- Development of resources
- Development of communication strategy

Outreach Strategy – Initial Recommendations (in review):

- Educate businesses on their responsibilities under local bylaws
- Provide general and tailored resources
- Provide on-site audits
- Provide workshops and training
- Offer discounted physical bin setup
- Explore discount options for disposal

10. Roundtable Discussion

ML – Tour of VOP multi-dwelling waste rooms with GFL delayed but is still on the workplan.

DI – Compressed canisters are still a barrier, is there an update from the Ministry as they were included in the 5-year plan?

Ministry of transportation is actively checking the certification requirements for moving dangerous goods. Certifications need to be on display.

SW – There was an update by the Ministry and amendments have been made to the Recycling Regulations. There will be consultations in 2027 to form these new programs plans.

The amendments to the regulation introduce new product categories and make minor changes to clarify regulatory language. The new and amended product categories are as follows:

Moderate risk product categories

- Automotive products: Includes fluids, gels, greases, waxes, creams, and aerosols designed for use in the maintenance or repair of a motor vehicle;
- Battery-containing products: Includes clothing, electronic cigarettes, generators, and power stations;
- Canister products: Includes aerosols, single-use fuels, bear spray, sealants, adhesives, CO2 canisters for beverages, fire extinguishers, and propane tanks up to 100 pounds;
- Electronic and electrical signs and decorations;
- Large 12-volt consumer batteries; and
- Medical sharps used at home.

The October 27, 2027 amendments can be found here :

https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/oic/oic_cur/0476_2025

https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/449_2004

SW reached out to BC Parks to have a discussion around single-use propane tanks used at their facilities. Meeting with contractor shortly.

11. Next Meeting / Adjournment

Next meeting date: TBD

Location: Online and SLRD Administration Office.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 3:07 pm.