

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT



TO: Environment and Infrastructure Committee
FROM: B. Newell, Chief Administrative Officer
DATE: March 21, 2013
RE: Development of Organics Infrastructure

Administrative Recommendation:

THAT the Environment and Infrastructure Committee endorse and forward to the Board, the strategy to develop organics infrastructure as presented by Staff.

History:

The RDOS adopted a revised [Solid Waste Management Plan](#) in 2012 calling for the increased diversion of organics from landfilling. A key strategy of the Plan is the development of local composting facilities capable of handling food waste, yard waste and waste water bio-solids.

Staff have reviewed public and private composting projects with a number of Regional Districts. Although these jurisdictions continue to support food waste composting they have indicated a number of similar concerns and means to address these concerns.

Concern	Means to Address Concern
Poorly chosen locations	Proper spot zoning
Lack of regulations	Regional licensing
Lack of enforcement	Liaising with Province and Regional staffing
Cost cutting leading to problems and overblown expenses	Prepare for up front commitments and growth
Failure to provide carrots by working with private composters	Use access to feedstocks to obtain best management

Analysis:

The 2013 Solid Waste Management Plan budget provides funding for the development of organics infrastructure. Staff intend to assess the costs and benefits of public and private facilities. Steps in this assessment process include:

- Assessment of present landfills and other local government properties
- Development and public consultation of Waste Stream Licensing Bylaw regulating private compost facilities and storage sites
- Discussions with property owners in areas deemed suitable for siting private facilities
- Connecting property owners with technology purveyors
- Compost education of Board, Staff and public
- Request for Proposal to obtain private sector pricing
- Comparison of public and private options

These steps would take place throughout 2013 into 2014.

Respectfully submitted:

"D. French"

D. French, Public Works Manager