



News Release

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Public Consultation on Future Westside Landfill Services

With the anticipated closure of the Westside Sanitary Landfill in 2010, residents and other stakeholders are being asked for their thoughts on future services and associated costs.

During June, the Regional District of Central Okanagan launches a public consultation process. It will consult with landfill customers, neighbours, other stakeholders and the general public about the level and types of services they would like to see offered by a solid waste transfer facility at the Asquith Road site, once the landfill is closed and can no longer bury solid waste materials. Equally important, they'll be asked for their thoughts on how much they'd be willing to pay for specific services at such a facility.

The supervisor of the Regional District of Central Okanagan Waste Reduction Office says, "We'll be seeking this information in a variety of ways over the next few weeks." Carol Suhan adds, "Between June 1st and 20th, those people visiting the landfill will be given a short printed questionnaire that they can take away, fill out and return to us. Some additional customers will also be asked to participate in a quick survey before they leave the site. We also want the thoughts of our immediate neighbours adjacent to the landfill and we'll be providing them with the same printed questionnaire that they can return to our office in a postage paid envelope. Finally, a statistically valid telephone survey will be done using representative samples of the population from the Westside District Municipality, District of Peachland and Westbank First Nation reserves."

"This information," Suhan says, "will be compiled early this summer and used to develop draft plans and options for possible services, their costs and the layout of the proposed transfer station."

It's expected these options will be shared early this fall at a Public Information Session and Open House, before being presented early in the New Year for consideration by the Regional Board.

Printed questionnaires will also be available at local government offices on the Westside and at the Regional District of Central Okanagan office, 1450 KLO Road. Information regarding the landfill closure and consultation process will be available on the Regional District website: www.regionaldistrict.com.

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