



News Release

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Future Westside Landfill Services Consultation Process

It appears people strongly support the provision of some key services at the Westside Sanitary Landfill once it closes during 2010.

More than 1,200 people responded to a voluntary questionnaire that was available during June and a statistically-valid telephone survey found similar results: More than three-quarters of those participating would like to see garbage, recycling and yard waste drop-off available at the landfill located off Asquith Road. It's proposed those and other services could be made available in a transfer station type facility, after the landfill is closed and solid waste materials are no longer buried there. Many of those responding to the questionnaire or survey indicated they would be willing to pay for the convenience of being able to drop off materials at a future facility.

Summary of results:

Telephone survey (210 respondents; accuracy rate of +/- 6% 19 times of 20):

- 76% think it is important or very important (51%) to have a garbage drop-off on the Westside once the landfill is closed
- 74% think it is important or very important (46%) to have a yard waste drop-off on the Westside once the landfill is closed
- 73% think it is important or very important (44%) to have a recyclables drop-off on the Westside once the landfill is closed
- 42% are willing to pay \$85/tonne for landfill tipping fees. 24% are "definitely not" willing to pay that fee
- 37% are willing to pay \$15 per pick-up load of yard waste, 32% are "definitely not" willing to pay the fee
- 88% use the Westside Landfill to drop off garbage at least 1-2 times per year
- 30% use the Westside Landfill to drop off garbage 11+ times per year
- 74% used the Westside Landfill to drop off yard waste in 2007
- 69% used the Westside Landfill to drop off recyclables in 2007

Volunteer mail-in and drop-off survey (1,250 respondents):

- 81% think it is important or very important (66%) to have a garbage drop-off on the Westside once the landfill is closed
- 91% think it is important or very important (86%) to have a yard waste drop-off on the Westside once the landfill is closed
- 86% think it is important or very important (68%) to have a recyclables drop-off on the Westside once the landfill is closed
- 51% are willing to pay \$85/tonne for landfill tipping fees. 15% are "definitely not" willing to pay that fee
- 53% are willing to pay \$15 per pick-up load of yard waste, 17% are "definitely not" willing to pay the fee

- 83% use the Westside Landfill to drop off garbage at least 1-2 times per year
- 27% use the Westside Landfill to drop off garbage 11+ times per year
- 95% use the Westside Landfill to drop off yard waste at least 1-2 times per year
- 40% use the Westside Landfill to drop off yard waste 11+ times per year
- 87% use the Westside Landfill to drop off recyclables at least 1-2 times per year
- 28% use the Westside Landfill to drop off recyclables 11+ times per year

Residents living in the Westside District Municipality, District of Peachland and Westbank First Nation reserves took part in the telephone survey and voluntary questionnaire.

Regional District Communications Coordinator Bruce Smith says, “Based on the results we received, our outside engineering consultants from CH2MHill are preparing a Conceptual Transfer Station-Convenience Centre design and Concept Closure Plan for the Landfill. When these are complete, the Regional District will host a number of Information Meetings and Open Houses. During these sessions residents and other stakeholders will be able to provide further comment on the proposed options for services and possible functions once the landfill closes. We’ll also outline the costs of various services as the materials collected would have to be transported to the Glenmore Landfill and tipping fees to the City of Kelowna would apply.”

The Regional District has developed a webpage for information regarding the Westside landfill closure. It can be accessed on the Regional District website (www.regionaldistrict.com) selecting the Quick Links option and clicking on Landfill Closure.

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