



News Release

Pender Harbour Landfill to Convert to Transfer Station

SECHELT, BC – March 16, 2010 — Following extensive review and consultation, the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) Board resolved to proceed with the conversion of the Pender Harbour Landfill to a Transfer Station operation, in combination with an onsite enhanced resource recovery facility.

“The Board cited the Transfer Station’s economic and environmental benefits as primary factors in moving forward with this decision,” states Donna Shugar, Chair of the SCRD Board of Directors.

Transfer Station bins in the public drop off area will continue to accept all the same materials as the landfill does now, including household garbage. Opportunities for expanding resource recovery programs, such as organics composting and styrofoam collection, are currently being considered through the SCRD’s Solid Waste Management Plan update process.

Materials such as wood, green waste, metal, gyproc, propane tanks, fridges and freezers, tires, and share shed items will continue to be managed as they are now (i.e. after drop off at the Pender Harbour site they are transported to processing facilities where the material is either reused or recycled). The Pender Harbour landfill component will be closed and garbage that is dropped off there and is not part of the diversion/reuse program will be compacted and transported to the Sechelt Landfill for burying.

“Visitors to the Transfer Station facility should not experience any increase in fees or loss to the services currently provided at the landfill”, says Shugar. “Residents and commercial haulers will continue to bring discarded materials and loads to the site on Garden Bay Road. What will be changed is what happens to those materials next.”

Based on current policy the fees/rates are the same at both the Sechelt and Pender landfills. Rates are set annually based on a number of factors including fixed and variable costs for all site services at both sites.

The SCRD will be proceeding with the transfer station design process as soon as possible to allow the transfer station to be in operation prior to the Pender Harbour landfill reaching capacity, which is projected to be the end of 2010 or early 2011.

For further information on the Pender Harbour Transfer Station conversion, please visit our website at scrd.ca, click on “Pender Harbour Landfill Options” under the Popular Links listing or call 604-885-6800.

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For more information:

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The Sunshine Coast is a community of communities creating a sustainable way of life through a collaborative decision making process. We are committed to an enhanced natural context, local control over local resources, a vibrant economy and an enriched cultural fabric.