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**Present:**

A. Schulze - Chair  
Councillor Bose  
B. Burnside  
B. Campbell  
M. Deo  
C. Dragomir  
M. Harcourt  
K. Keshvani  
G. Sangha  
B. Stewart

**Regrets:**

G. Sahota  
S. VanKeulen, Agricultural Advisory  
Committee Representative

**Staff Present:**

C. Baron, Drainage and Environmental  
Manager  
G. Ward, Section Manager - Urban  
Forestry & Environment  
L. Anderson, Legislative Services

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**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

It was Moved by C. Dragomir  
Seconded by G. Sangha  
That the minutes of the Environmental  
Advisory Committee meeting held on May 26, 2010, be adopted.  
Carried

**B. DELEGATIONS****1. Dennis Ranahan P.Eng., Senior Engineer  
Regional Utility Planning, Policy and Planning Department Metro  
Vancouver**

At the their meeting of May 26, 2010, the EAC made a motion to invite a representative of Metro Vancouver to the June 23, 2010 meeting to provide a presentation on waste to energy initiatives and an update on the Draft Solid Waste Management Plan (the "Plan").

Dennis Ranahan P.Eng., Senior Engineer, Regional Utility Planning, Policy and Planning Department, Metro Vancouver, was in attendance to provide the above noted presentation and to address any questions and/or concerns the Committee had. A PowerPoint presentation was reviewed by the Committee which provided an overview of the Plan, including the four goals, the performance measures and financial implications. Comments were as follows:

- The sustainability driven plan has been in development since 2006.
- The four goals of the Plan, developed in consultation with the public and stakeholder groups, are as follows:
  - Goal 1 -Minimize waste generation;
  - Goal 2 -Maximize reuse, recycling, and material recovery;

- Goal 3 -Recover energy from waste stream after recycling; and
- Goal 4 - Dispose of all remaining waste in landfill after material and energy recovery.
- Goals 1 and 2 address the reduction of waste and goals 3 and 4 address the diversion of waste.
- The biggest target right now is organics; would like to capture and remove. Regional composting and biofuels are the two initiatives targeted right now.
- With respect to demolition land clearing and construction, mandatory recycling on jobsites and promoting the reuse of wood will be introduced.
- The recycling of plastics has a number of actions proposed. Expanding the recycling of plastics and expanding the provincial EPR programs for all plastics is anticipated, however assistance from senior government to offer incentives to discourage the use of non-recyclable plastics and to require all plastics to have a material recycling code will be key to the success in achieving the goals in this area.

A summary of the programs in place to achieve the targeted 70% diversion of waste was given, noting that there are also many softer initiatives to get beyond the 70%. However there are challenges to recycling everything as there will always be certain materials without recycling residual (e.g. textiles, leather, personal hygiene materials, etc.).

Discussion ensued with regard to an increase of banned materials from the waste stream as new infrastructure is put in place to promote further recycling. It was noted that public feedback strongly recommends a “one stop drop”, which is seen as an expansion from the existing structure with municipalities. At present there is no determined idea as to the number of facilities and locations as these facilities are determined by the rate of development. There are advantages to having multiple facilities, but then there are costs in implementing them. The addition of transfer stations would help, however there is a fuzzy line between transfer centres and eco-centres given Metro Vancouver’s commitment in 1999 to a second transfer station and, moving forward, the preferred requirement to move to an eco-centre based on current initiatives and needs.

In closing, waste-to-energy capacity and recovery was discussed.

## 2. July Delegation to EAC

At the May 26, 2010 meeting of the Committee, it was requested that the Deputy Operations Manager be invited to the July EAC meeting to provide an update. In preparation for that update, it was suggested that any questions or concerns that the EAC have be compiled at their June meeting to provide to the delegation.

A list of questions was provided for consideration and reviewed by the Committee. Comments were as follows:

- The list of questions sum up the issues that have been discussed recently by the Committee. In particular, the total volumes, the breakdowns and what happens once separated (who is buying the residual, is it tracked when sold?)

- It is understood that some of the information may not be available or may be proprietary, but it would be beneficial to know at what point the information is, in fact, proprietary to the company. There has to be an absolute cutoff point, but the generic description of where the residual goes (i.e. how much stays in Canada and how much is shipped overseas) should be available.
- The participation rate is important. At present, only the volume is tracked which could be misleading as volume is tied with the economy (e.g. more advertising in flyers and newspapers when there is a strong economy).
- Would like an update on the status of having an ecocentre in Surrey.
- It would also be nice to receive an update on the information noted in the local papers with regard to the organic collection that will be starting in the fall.

### C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

### D. NEW BUSINESS

### E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

#### 1. Corporate Report R132 – Ecosystem Management Study – Update & Public Consultation

File: 6440-20-2008

It was

Moved by B. Stewart

Seconded by C. Dragomir

That the Environmental Advisory Committee

receive Corporate Report R132 – Ecosystem Management Study – Update & Public Consultation as information.

Carried

#### 2. Pesticide Bylaw

File: 3900-01

At the Regular Council – Public Hearing meeting of June 7, 2010, Council referred the letter, dated May 14, 2010, from “Weed Man”, regarding the use of natural pesticides, to the Environmental Advisory Committee for their consideration and recommendations back to Council for possible amendments to the Surrey Pesticide Use Control By-law. The Committee reviewed the letter and provided the following comments:

- Biological insecticides, fungicides and herbicides occur naturally in nature and have been used for the past 30 years. Viruses such as the Nucleopolyhedrosis Virus (NPV) have been found that control certain classes of insect larvae, such as the larval stage of Gypsy Moth. This product is marketed as Gypcheck.
- As these products come available, they are classed by the Pest Management Regulatory Agency of the Canadian government. They are classed as biological.

- The product Sarritor, as referred to in the letter from Weed Man, is a Scelerothinia species, which is a naturally occurring fungus. This product is a living organism and the level of control may vary with environmental factors. This fungus infects susceptible plants and destroys the above ground leaves and top part of root system. While this product is a biological, it is not exempted under the bylaw, but perhaps it should be.
- As for Fiesta, it is chelated, which causes cancer unless organic. It has only been recently that it was determined that the chelators used in the past are products that cause harm. As for the chelator, they have to be registered, and because it is in there, that product is probably not organic anymore. Basically it is genetic modification. The lepidoptera has to be eaten; a chelator doesn't work that way, it makes the organism enter cells it wouldn't normally get to. If it is listed biological on the label it won't be a problem, if it is listed as a chelator, then it is not occurring naturally.
- This is why there shouldn't be a list. What is permitted and what is not should simply be specified. The basic principle is to locate these things properly.
- This is what lacks in the whole psyche; you need to relocate the culture, not just use something different.
- All that is needed is a letter to Weed Man noting that biopesticides and exempted pesticides are allowable.
- There is still heavy emphasis on traditional pesticide management, we need to move away from that and do organic.
- Using viruses is very dangerous.
- BTK is a not a nuclear polyhedrosis virus. Rather it is a naturally occurring soil bacterium, *Bacillus thuringiensis 'kurstaki'*, which is effective against early instar Lepidopteran larvae. A lot of viruses are being found in circulation now. Viruses mutate frequently, change very quickly, that is why pesticides don't work because these microorganisms change their DNA to survive.
- The specificity of the list was created mainly as a tool for the residents. It provides a list of identifiable products so that residents are able to go to the store and know what to look for.

K. Keshvani left the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

- The schedules should not be a part of the bylaw, just as NCP's are not a part of the OCP, just appended to. The bylaw could be redrafted in a way that then has the schedules to be updated only.
- Ideally, if the bylaw was stand alone, without a list incorporated into the bylaw, and a link established to allowable products that changes week to week, year to year, there wouldn't be a need to have the bylaw come back to the Committee. The real benefit would come from having a process where the information is kept current, by those that are informed and involved in the process, to keep the list current in order to ensure up-to-date information is always available. An opinion from the legal department should be sought in this regard.
- It was noted that at the recent AAC meeting, the AAC discussed the letter from Weed Man regarding the inclusion of new products on the list of exemptions. A U.S. organization known as the Organic Materials Review Institute ("OMRI") was mentioned as a reference source.

- OMRI will take each product from cradle to grave, whether or not it is organic or not. If it is OMRI certified then there will be full access to all the information on that product.
- By using the provincial approved list, we are not exclusionary. However, we do not want to have to amend the bylaw every two or three months because of a provincial list.
- The products on the provincial list have undergone a five year trial first. Any new products will be required to undergo the same trial. In the past, the province was reluctant to add any pesticides to their list (which was good regarding harmful pesticides), however their process may be similar in adding those less harmful products that should be encouraged. For that reason, it would be beneficial to have a list for homeowners that can be put on the City's website for gardeners, etc.
- As noted at the previous meeting, the Committee intends to review the bylaw for any clean-up or amendments in October. It is also important to work with staff to develop a mechanism to allow ongoing adjustments without amending the bylaw (by annexing). Perhaps the Committee can start that process at the next meeting, if time permits.
- As the letter from Weed Man was referred to the EAC for consideration and recommendations back to Council, the information that was provided above should be included in the responding letter to Weed Man, pointing out there is a flaw in one of the products. Further, there should be a response to Council noting the Committee's discussion in this regard, the number of issues that are of concern to the Committee and the intent to undertake a review of the bylaw in the fall.
- As it is beyond the Committee's ability to make technical judgment on an individual product, it is suggested that a response be crafted by the Manager, Parks, noting the Committee's consideration on behalf of Council, signed by the EAC Chair, to include the specific information noted above on the two products identified by Weed Man. The letter will also be copied to Council.

It was

Moved by C. Dragomir  
 Seconded by B. Campbell  
 That the Environmental Advisory

Committee, on behalf of Council, respond to the letter from Weed Man, dated May 14, 2010, regarding the use of natural pesticides.

Carried

## F. CORRESPONDENCE

### 1. **Richard Sullivan** File: 5480-01

The letter from Richard Sullivan, dated May 4, 2010, regarding non-agricultural commercial truck parking on vegetable/berry farmlands and commercial trucks travelling on residential streets, was reviewed.

It was noted that Council is considering the issue and seeking the guidance of the Agricultural Land Commission ("ALC") and that the ALC has asked the City for information on all the past permits issued, etc.

It was Moved by Councillor Bose  
Seconded by B. Burnside  
That the letter from Richard Sullivan, dated May 4, 2010, regarding non-agricultural commercial truck parking on vegetable/berry farmlands and commercial trucks travelling on residential streets, be responded to advising that the matter is under consideration by Council and is a primary subject with the Agricultural Advisory Committee and, among other things, the Environmental Advisory Committee is also kept abreast of the discussion.

Carried

**2. Belkorp Industries Inc.**

File: 5360-01

The letter from Belkorp Industries Inc., dated June 4, 2010, regarding disposal of solid waste in Metro Vancouver, was reviewed.

It was Moved by Councillor Bose  
Seconded by B. Stewart  
That the letter from Belkorp Industries Inc., dated June 4, 2010, regarding disposal of solid waste in Metro Vancouver, be received.

Carried

**G. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**1. Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) Update**

An update from the AAC meeting of June 3, 2010, was provided as follows:

- Staff provided information about proposed road upgrades, with emphasis on arterial roads through the ALR. Some interesting projections were noted, such as population in the Cloverdale/Clayton area going from 61,000 to 114,000 and employment in the combined areas of Campbell Heights and South Cloverdale going from 2,000 to 25,000. The road upgrades are a response to the perceived needs to move people north and south in that eastern portion of the city.
- Illegal truck parking on ALR land was discussed noting that the ALC Enforcement Officers will soon be getting involved in this issue, which is a positive development, although it should be noted that there are only two officers for the entire province.
- The Manager, Community Planning, provided a review of the BC Farm Industry Review Board ("FIRB") recommendation on the use and regulation of propane cannons as bird scare devices in the South Coastal Region. It was noted that current practices in Surrey are in line with most, if not all, of the recommendations.
- Two matters were referred to the EAC: a proposed gas station at the corner of 16 Avenue and 184 Street; and the recycling of agricultural plastics. These items will be on the July 28, 2010 EAC Agenda.

- The EAC was reminded of the third annual Flavours of Surrey event that is being held at the Historic Stewart Farm on Sunday, July 25, 2010.

**2. Development Advisory Committee (DAC) Update**

The EAC representative to the DAC was not present, therefore an update was not provided.

**H. OTHER BUSINESS**

**1. EAC 2010 Priority Items & Work Plan Stewardship/Stakeholder Groups**

The 2010 Priority Items and Work Plan was provided for review and/or update. No additions and/or omissions were given.

**2. EAC Member Resignation**

The Committee was advised of the resignation of M. Deo from the Environmental Advisory Committee.

It was  
send a letter of gratitude to M. Deo for his valued contributions to the Committee.

Moved by Councillor Bose  
Seconded by B. Stewart  
That the Environmental Advisory Committee  
Carried

**I. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on July 28, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the Executive Board Room.

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

It was  
meeting do now adjourn.

Moved by M. Harcourt  
Seconded by B. Burnside  
That the Environmental Advisory Committee  
Carried

The Environmental Committee adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

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Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

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Al Schulze, Chair  
Surrey Environmental Advisory Committee