



BRIEFING NOTE

AVICC SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Meeting with Minister Heyman, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

Monday, September 10, 2018 – 4pm to 4:15pm

Glacier Room B, Westin Whistler Hotel Second Level

REQUEST

The Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) Special Committee on Solid Waste Management is seeking support from the Province in the form of staff participation in order to provide provincial policy and regulatory expertise.

The key advantage for the Ministry is having a single group to work, communicate and collaborate with rather than 9 separate regional districts.

SPEAKERS

1. Introductions and purpose of the Special Committee Solid Waste
 - ❖ President Edwin Grieve (Committee Chair)
2. Goals of the Special Committee on Solid Waste
 - ❖ 2nd Vice President Ian Morrison
3. Specific Request for the Ministry of Environment and the benefits of their participation
 - ❖ Director Ian Winn
4. Thank you and Next Steps
 - ❖ Director Alec McPherson (Committee Vice-Chair)

BACKGROUND

- The AVICC was established in 1950 and includes membership of 53 local governments representing Vancouver Island, the Sunshine Coast, Powell River (qathet), the North Coast and the Central Coast.
- The primary purpose of AVICC is to represent and advocate for the various municipalities, regional districts and other local governments within this vast area.
- AVICC hosted a 2014 workshop that identified uncertainties facing regional districts:
 - Inability to locate disposal facilities and control waste flows
 - Funding models dependent upon maintaining waste streams
 - Successful diversion strategies impact disposal volumes
 - Transportation and disposal security issues
 - New technologies available with economies to scale
 - Significant regulatory and long-term liability costs

- Based on the workshop, the Special Committee was established, and **endorsed by all AVICC members** at the 2015 Convention. Since then its term has been extended each year, and endorsed by the full AVICC membership at the 2016, 2017 and 2017 Conventions.
- **Nine regional districts within the AVICC region are committed participants** and work together to address common issues, challenges and opportunities surrounding solid waste.
- Committee members include elected officials and senior staff from each regional district.
- There is also an Administration Group made up of CAOs, a Technical Group and a Communications Group. These groups report back to the elected officials.
- AVICC funds the operation of the Special Committee
- Each Regional District has also contributed funds for initiatives including establishing **common metrics** and **communication campaigns** around preventing illegal dumping.
- The Special Committee identified priorities to address based on a 2015 Tetra Tech report, and continues to move forward with an action plan endorsed by AVICC members at each year's Convention.

VISION AND GOALS

- The Special Committee's vision and goals are:
 - **Vision:**

That local governments on Vancouver Island, qathet and the Sunshine Coast are working together to address the opportunities and challenges of managing solid waste and our residents are aware of, and support the need to reduce and manage our waste in a sustainable manner.
 - **Goals:**
 1. Ensure information is shared between AVICC local governments to encourage best practices in solid waste management and consistent messaging to our residents.
 2. Collect and maintain appropriate and consistent data associated with solid waste management within the AVICC.
 3. Support an informed and unified voice to assist efforts with the Province, NGOs and other partners in developing effective waste management solutions and policies.

Reports and meeting minutes are available on the [AVICC website](#).

CONTACTS

- Edwin Grieve, Chair, AVICC special committee on solid waste
Tel: 250-218-1385
- Liz Cookson, Secretary-Treasurer, AVICC
Tel: 250-356-5122