



THE CORPORATION OF THE
DISTRICT OF SUMMERLAND
COUNCIL REPORT

DATE: July 18, 2018 FILE: 5360-03
TO: Linda Tynan, Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: Candace Pilling, Solid Waste and Recycling Operations Project Manager
SUBJECT: Organics Infrastructure Program Fund

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That council pass the following resolution:

THAT staff be directed to further explore the Organics Infrastructure Program funding opportunity and submit an Expression of Interest for the construction of a composting operation facility at the Summerland Sanitary Landfill.

PURPOSE:

To provide information regarding the Organics Infrastructure Program Fund.

BACKGROUND and DISCUSSION:

On June 26, 2018 the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy announced that the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada is accepting expressions of interests (EOI) in support of infrastructure projects in BC that process municipal and/or agricultural organic wastes for beneficial re-use under the Organics Infrastructure Program. The total funding amount available is \$20 million with half coming from the Government of Canada Low Carbon Economy Funding in support of projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Organics Infrastructure Program is available to Local Governments in BC only. The Local Governments have the option to partner with Indigenous Peoples and private sector organizations.

In September 2017, The Ministry of Environment, Environmental Protection Division staff conducted an inspection, under the Environmental Protection Act (EMA), of the Summerland Sanitary Landfill composting site. The inspection determined that the District is out of compliance with sections identified in the Organic Matter Recycling Regulation and a letter was issued in November 2017 requiring immediate implementation of the necessary changes or modifications to address these non-compliance issues. Staff will be reviewing the composting operations and make recommendations on the best actions to restore compliance.

The District would like to further explore the Organics Infrastructure Program funding opportunity and submit an EOI for funding through the Organics Infrastructure Program to supplement the cost of constructing a compliant composting operation facility at the Summerland Sanitary Landfill and, if determined to be viable, move forward with the removal of organic waste from our garbage for composting and sale. The EOI will be submitted in September 2018. Successful EOI applicants will be invited to submit a funding application in spring 2019. Eligible expenditure is limited to March 31, 2022 and construction of the infrastructure must be completed by the end of 2022.

For the EOI, the District will need to provide a comprehensive project scope, a detail of the desirable project outcomes, a clear plan to monitor and report on project outcomes, a comprehensive and prudent budget and proof of ability to deliver the project to a high standard.

In order to determine the most suitable composting operations technology for the Summerland Sanitary Landfill, staff will research the different organic waste streams currently available through curbside collection and at the landfill, approximate the quantities of these different organic waste materials, complete a cost review and identify other factors that could affect the recommendation. Part of this review will be determining if the removal of organic waste from our garbage for composting is a sustainable option for the District of Summerland.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The Organics Infrastructure Program funding is a matched combination of contributions from the Province of British Columbia, the Government of Canada and successful applicants. Should the District of Summerland apply and be successful in our expression of interest, and proceed with the application and be approved for funding, the District will be required to fund one-third of the infrastructure project. The additional funding will enable the District to construct a long-term composting operation facility.

Additional items will require funding outside of the Organics Infrastructure Program such as potential revisions to the curbside collection program and contract, possible additional staffing at the landfill to maintain and operate the enhanced compost operation, public education and final compost product marketing to enhance sales of this material.

LEGISLATION and POLICY:

- Environmental Management Act
- Organic Matter Recycling Regulation

CONCLUSION:

Staff is requesting approval to further explore the Organics Infrastructure Program funding opportunity and submit an EOI for the construction of a composting operation facility at the Summerland Sanitary Landfill.

OPTIONS:

1. Move the motions as recommended by staff.
2. Refer back to staff for further review and recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,



Candace M. Pilling, ASCT, PMP
Solid Waste and Recycling Operations Project Manager

Approved for Agenda

Linda Tynan, CAO

Reviewed by:



Kris Johnson, P.Eng.
Director of Works & Utilities