

**Office of the Chair**

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File: 230-20/UBCM

November 8, 2019

Directors  
Comox Strathcona Waste Management Board

**Re: Special Committee on Solid Waste Management**

At the 2019 Union of British Columbia Municipalities convention a workshop was held on solid waste management around the province. Positive discussions ensued and there appears to be interest amongst some local governments in a province-wide solid waste committee or partnership, coordinated through UBCM, for the following reasons:

- Changes to regulations and guidelines that govern solid waste in BC are increasing costs to operate the service, often with little control to limit the creation of waste.
- Grant funding to support compliance with changing landfill criteria has not been provided as with other regulatory changes in water and waste water.
- We often work in silos and regional districts across the province often are addressing the same issues related to solid waste services, an example being the industrial/commercial/institutional recycling in our remote and small regional districts
- Sharing of information and providing the opportunity to connect with others who are facing similar challenges can lead to advancing discussions and system improvements – collaboration helps us all

The goal would be to have a unified voice across the province in order to address solid waste issues that all regional districts are facing. The model we would like to use would be similar to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities solid waste special committee.

Requested action:

THAT the Comox Strathcona Waste Management Board send a letter to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities requesting that it form a special committee on solid waste management that can explore best practices, regulatory changes, funding models, environmental protection and social impacts.

Sincerely,

***M. Babchuk***

Michele Babchuk  
Co-Chair

***B. Wells***

Bob Wells  
Former Co-Chair