

November 29, 2023

File: 0220-20

To whom it may concern at the Plastic Action Fund:

RE: GALIANO ISLAND RECYCLING RESOURCES SOCIETY GRANT APPLICATION TO THE PLASTICS ACTION FUND

The Capital Regional District's Southern Gulf Islands Community Economic Sustainability Commission (CESC) supports this application to the Plastics Action Fund's Post-Consumer Recycled Plastics category. If successful, this grant would assist the Galiano Island Recycling Resources Society (GIRR) in developing a program to manufacture products on-site from post-consumer plastics that otherwise would be trucked and ferried off the island, either to a landfill or to industrial recycling centers. This will reduce transportation emissions, divert waste from landfills, reduce costs, and provide a local alternative to importing goods and materials.

The first stage of the program will involve experimentally developing procedures for local small-scale production of plastic sheets from post-consumer polypropylene, polyethylene, and developing and selling products from these sheets such as outdoor furniture, planters, compost boxes, roofing, siding, and other locally useful items. Later stages will include more plastics (such as ABS) and extruded goods (such as deck lumber).

GIRR's program will document the procedures, best practices, product designs, and budget information to readily share it with other islands and small communities in British Columbia, to ensure the program can be readily replicated. This initiative will support the goal of the CESC to enhance our circular economy, which is critical to the functioning of our isolated communities.

GIRR already plays a pivotal role on Galiano Island in reducing, reusing, and recycling materials. Community use and support for these island-based recycling centres is amazing, and the ability to locally repurpose plastic waste into viable products will be a game-changer for our islands. GIRR's application has our full support, and we hope it also has yours.

Best regards,



Paul Brent
Community Economic Sustainability Commission Chair
Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area Director, CRD