



Hartland Happenings

Issue 8

October 2003

Construction ready to start on landfill gas project

The design phase of the landfill gas-to-electricity project is now complete and construction begins this month. Concrete pads will be poured and equipment delivered. The new facility will be built beside the existing flare station at the landfill's north end. Operations and safety systems will be tested for two weeks, before start-up in December.

Will the new plant be noisy? "Noise reduction is a critical priority for the CRD," says Larisa Hutcheson, a project manager with the CRD's Engineering and Scientific Services division. "We have specified in our contract with Maxim Power that they *must* meet municipal noise bylaw limits. The CRD is committed to working with area residents to address any noise issues."

Currently, landfill gas at Hartland is collected and burned in a flare to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The plant will use the methane in the landfill gas to produce electricity. Its reciprocating engine will work very much like the spark-ignition engine in your car, except instead of gasoline, methane will be the fuel. Mechanical energy will be turned into electrical energy. This electricity will be fed into the existing BC Hydro distribution system onsite.

The plant will produce close to 1.6 MW of green power – enough electricity to run 1,600 homes. If landfill gas levels continue to increase, a second engine will be added, generating even more energy.

Maxim Power Corporation will build and operate the facility and sell the power to BC Hydro. The CRD will own 70% of the equipment and lease it back to Maxim. In return for the landfill gas, Maxim will pay a royalty to the CRD. The more landfill gas, the higher the royalty. Maxim develops, owns and operates other environmentally-sound power plants and recently commissioned a similar facility at the City of Vancouver landfill in Delta.



The future home of CRD Environmental Services.

We're moving!

On January 23, 2004, the downtown offices of the CRD's Environmental Services department are scheduled to move to 625 Fisgard Street. The move brings together in one building about 90 employees of the department. Our phone numbers and mailing address will remain the same.

Hartland gets new operator

The CRD Board awarded Hartland's operations contract to **Arbutus Environmental Services Ltd.**, one of seven companies that bid on the work. As of November 1, 2003, Arbutus will be responsible for labour and equipment to receive, compact and manage refuse at the site. It's a three year term and the CRD has the option to extend the contract for an additional two, one-year extensions. The CRD will continue to oversee the landfill's design, administration and inspection services.

What is Green Power?

BC Hydro defines **green power** as energy that:

- is renewable (energy source must be replenished by natural processes within a reasonable amount of time -- an average human lifespan);
- is licensable (the project must meet all relevant regulations and standards);
- is socially responsible (energy is developed in a socially responsible manner); and
- has low environmental impact (the project must avoid unacceptably high environmental impacts such as damage to fish populations, endangered species or air quality).

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Did *You* Know

In 1989, residents in the CRD disposed about 671 kg of waste per person. In 2002, that dropped to about 410 kg, an indication that people are practising the 3Rs - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. This reduction preserves valuable landfill space and prolongs the life of our landfill – currently projected to 2048.

Disposal fees increasing in 2004

For the first time in 11 years, general refuse tipping fees are increasing. New rates will apply as of January 2, 2004.

Hours: (remain the same)

Monday to Friday	7 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturdays	7 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Sundays and Statutory Holidays	Closed

Rates will be as follows:

Prices per tonne (1,000 kilograms)

General Refuse

\$79 (\$7 minimum)

Yard Waste

Less than 75 mm (3 inches) in diameter

\$55 (\$7 minimum)

Greater than 75 mm (3 inches) in diameter

\$79 (\$7 minimum)

Public Drop-off Bin Area

Small loads of refuse

\$7 minimum

Recyclable/Salvage Materials

(Max. 5,500 kg GVW full)

(includes all recyclables except paint, car batteries, consumer flammables, consumer pesticides, gasoline, used motor oil, filters and containers, for which there is no charge)

\$3 per visit



Hartland's recycling depot expanded

Capital Region residents now have another place to take some of their household hazardous waste for proper disposal.

On September 2, 2003, Hartland expanded its recycling depot to include **consumer flammable liquids, pesticides and gasoline**, in addition to paint. The program is funded and administered by **Product Care**, the industry association representing the brand owners of these products. Under the provincial product stewardship regulation, industry is required to take responsibility for recycling leftover products that they manufacture, so they aren't thrown in the garbage or poured down the drain. People pay an "eco-fee" when they buy the product to cover the cost of recycling. There's no charge when you take only these products and containers to Hartland, or any other recycling depot.

To protect workers and the environment, products must be dropped off:

- in their original, labeled containers;
- with lids securely fastened; and
- unmixed with any other product.

People are asked to bring no more than 10 containers per visit.

We've included a **Product Care brochure** with this issue of *Hartland Happenings*. It describes exactly what products they take — and don't take. The tear-off panel is the perfect size to stick on your fridge. If you require further information, please call the **Recycling Council of British Columbia (RCBC) Recycling Hotline at 1-800-667-4321**, or visit the **Product Care Web site at www.productcare.org**.

Safety

Customers and visitors at Hartland are required to comply with all posted site regulations. Because of the presence of mobile equipment, visitors to the active face area are required to wear high visibility apparel and safety boots whenever they leave their vehicles. Due to the high risk of fire, smoking is strictly prohibited and fines are in effect.

Safety gear is not required for the general public who wish to drop off their garbage at the front end or enter the recycling/salvage areas.

FACT:

Revenues from tipping fees pay for the operation and capital works at Hartland, as well as the recycling and waste diversion programs in the Capital Region. Residents are not taxed for these services.

« Behind the scenes

Meet **Chris Riddell**, Superintendent of Hartland Operations since 1991, and with the CRD since 1976. Chris is responsible for managing the planning, design and construction of the landfill, supervising employees, monitoring budgets and liaising with neighbours and local community groups.

"My role is one of innovation. The solid waste industry is maturing and growing; new ideas are welcomed and encouraged. Hartland is on the leading edge." Engineering a high tech cover system to close Phase 1 instead of using the provincial standard; collecting landfill gas and flaring it to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and developing the upcoming landfill gas-to-electricity facility are only a few examples of Riddell's involvement with innovative projects — no doubt the reasons why Hartland was presented the **Best Landfill in BC** award in April of this year at the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) spring symposium.



Chris Riddell, Superintendent of Hartland Operations

Internationally, Hartland is recognized for its overall solid waste management program including landfill, waste reduction, budget/revenue management and public education. Visitors from as far as Russia, the Czech Republic, China, Thailand, the Philippines and Bosnia view Hartland as being on the cutting edge of the solid waste industry and a good example to follow. "That's good, and a reflection of our initiative and vision, but it's not enough," says Chris. "More importantly, in my mind, is for Hartland to be an operation that has the complete confidence of the local community." Not an easy task given that people have high expectations. "It's a matter of building and nurturing a relationship with the community, a relationship built on trust. We're working on that."

In his spare time, Chris has managed to complete a four year distance learning program at Carey and Regent Theological Colleges in Vancouver, recently becoming a licensed minister with the Baptist Union of Western Canada. He'll be ordained in the spring of 2004 when he completes his internship. Community is very important to Chris. His ministry is focused at the Mustard Seed Street Church and Food Bank, where he is Chairman of the Board and works one-on-one with people who live with hunger and poverty.

Chris Riddell wants to make a difference. And he is — in all aspects of his life.

New manager of Environmental Education

In July of this year, we said goodbye to Brenda Phillips, who was with the CRD for 10 years, most recently as Manager of Environmental Education. We wish her well on her relocation to Edmonton, Alberta.



We are pleased to welcome **Suzanne Morphet** as the new Manager of Environmental Education. Her role is to oversee the design and delivery of public education programs regarding solid and liquid waste. "Much of our work involves helping people understand how they can help protect the environment and motivating them to do so," says Suzanne.

Suzanne has a variety of experience and training in the field of communications. In the early part of her career, she worked as a reporter and senior editor for CBC Radio News in Yellowknife, NT. More recently, Suzanne worked in communications for the BC ministries of Environment, Lands and Parks and Sustainable Resource Management, where she gained extensive experience in communications planning, particularly in the area of pollution prevention. Her passion for environmental education led her to the CRD.

Please forward your questions or comments to:

Suzanne Morphet, Manager, Environmental Education

We appreciate your input!

phone: 360-3048 fax: 360-3079 email: smorphet@crd.bc.ca or mail: Capital Regional District, PO Box 1000, 524 Yates Street, Victoria, BC V8W 2S6

Dear Hotline,



The CRD Hotline receives approximately 4,000 calls per month. Here are some that we thought you might find interesting.

***Dear Hotline,
How do I get rid of my old household batteries?***

Dear Caller,
Hartland's recycling depot accepts up to one shoebox full of dead household batteries per visit for a fee of \$2 (\$3 as of January 2, 2004). Remember to separate your dry-cell batteries (9-volt, AA, AAA, C and D) from your rechargeable ones (nickel-cadmium, nickel-metal-hydride, lithium-ion and small sealed lead batteries).

***Dear Hotline,
Why is drywall banned from the landfill?***

Dear Caller,
Drywall has been banned from Hartland since 1991 because it can be recycled. Also, as drywall decomposes, it creates hydrogen sulphide gas, which can be a health hazard. As part of its waste diversion program, Hartland accepts up to 100 kg of drywall for a cost ranging from \$5 to \$15 (a \$7 minimum as of January 2, 2004) and can be dropped off at the bin area. You might also consider returning unused sheets to your retailer, reusing the drywall on another project or giving it to a friend.

***Dear Hotline,
What can I do with my old thermostat that may contain mercury?***

Dear Caller,
Thermostats, as well as thermometers and heat switches, contain mercury. Hartland accepts mercury-containing products as part of its waste diversion program. Up to one full shoe box per visit may be taken to Hartland's recycling depot for a fee of \$2 (\$3 as of January 2, 2004).