



Newsletter #7 – November 2012

Western Regional Service Board Elections

Western Regional Service Board (WRSB) elections were conducted during October and November 2012. The eleven elected members of the WRSB are as follows:

1. **Barbara Barter** of Burgeo, Burgeo & Area Sub-Region
2. **William Bailey** of Channel-Port aux Basques, Southwest Coast Sub-Region
3. **Cynthia Downey** of Stephenville Crossing, Bay St. George Sub-Region
4. **Geraldine Porter** of Bay St. George South, Bay St. George Sub-Region
5. **Neville Greeley** of Corner Brook, Corner Brook & Area Sub-Region (Corner Brook)
6. **Donna Luther** of Corner Brook, Corner Brook & Area Sub-Region (Corner Brook)
7. **Leona Gillette** of Steady Brook, Corner Brook & Area Sub-Region (Humber Valley)
8. **Lloyd Burton** of Irishtown-Summerside, Corner Brook & Area Sub-Region (North/South Bay of Islands)
9. **Roger Barrett** of Reidville, Western Hills Sub-Region
10. **Eli Bishop** of Pollard's Point, White Bay South Sub-Region
11. **Walter Nicolle** of Rocky Harbour, Long Range Sub-Region

The elections were based on the governance model as submitted by WRWM on December 9, 2011 and approved by government in July 2012. Four of the elected members, Cynthia Downey, Geraldine Porter, Donna Luther and Walter Nicolle are current members of the Western Newfoundland Waste Management Committee and Eli Bishop is a member of the WRWM Technical Committee. Barbara Barter is the unofficial representative of Burgeo & Area Sub-Region on the WRWMC. Five of the elected members, William Bailey, Neville Greeley, Leona Gillette, Lloyd Burton and Roger Barrett are new. All elected members are either councillors or members of Local Service District Committees.

The next step in the process will be for government to approve the elected members and officially appoint them to the Western Regional Service Board; we expect this will occur in the new year. Meanwhile, orientation sessions will take place with the eleven elected Western Regional Service Board members.

New Directions

We are currently attempting to engage Doug Vanderlinden of NexGen Municipal Inc. working with BAE-NewPlan Group (Wayne Manuel) consultants to produce a model for the design of transfer stations and to give us recommendations as to transportation technology and equipment needed. We also must begin the process of acquiring crown land at transfer stations and public drop-off sites. Capital will be needed from government to begin detailed design planning, carry out needed consultant studies and crown land acquisition at each site as well as other work with the aim to have all construction completed by 2016.

In attempting to reduce the total waste stream going to Central Newfoundland, we are also attempting to acquire funds to engage BAE-NewPlan consultants to conduct a study on the dry waste within the Western Region. Additionally, the provincial government has recently said they intend to release a Request for Proposals (RFP) regarding handling wet waste within the province in general. Since we shall not have a Western engineered landfill, all waste destined for the landfill will go to Central in the most economical way possible.

SUB-REGIONAL REPORTS:

Long Range

After reviewing the results of the tender process funded by the Dept. of Municipal Affairs and carried out by Hatch Mott McDonald on behalf of the Long Range Sub-regional committee, the sub-regional committee has rejected all tenders submitted as being too high a cost per household. As a result, the sub-committee has now decided that the northern and southern sections of the sub-region should begin to haul waste to the site on their own or seek to develop local RFPs to haul waste to the Portland Creek sub-regional waste site – a site that has been upgraded through use of government money. The sub-committee has also decided that the separate northern and southern costs of moving waste to the Portland Creek site should be averaged or prorated across both sections of the sub-region so that all households would pay the same amount for waste collection and disposal. Councils in Rocky Harbour and Norris Point in the southern Long Range sub-region have been informed by Service Newfoundland and Labrador (SNL) that their waste site certificates of operation will not be extended beyond the end of December 2012.

Western Hills (Deer Lake & Area, Bonne Bay S, Trout River & Howley)

AMEC consultants have been engaged to carry out the RFP on behalf of the Western Hills for both curbside collections and operation of the sub-regional waste site at Deer Lake during the interim period to 2016. The town of Reidville has assumed responsibility for operation of curbside collection. Approximately 20% of the total population in this sub-region, including the communities of Trout River, communities in Southern Bonne Bay and Howley, will be served by such a service and three small waste sites at Trout River, Lomond and Howley will be closed we expect by December 31, 2012. Other efforts of the sub-regional committee to reduce the total waste stream now going to landfills continue.

White Bay South

The Hampden waste site has now been closed and waste is being transported to the Pollards Point sub-regional site; a total of five communities are, therefore, now bringing their waste to the Pollards Point sub-regional waste site. Efforts are ongoing to work with the Dept. of Municipal Affairs to ensure that the sub-regional committee receives a used excavator as well as other funding to upgrade the sub-regional waste site staying within the budget allocation as outlined by the Dept. of Municipal Affairs.

Corner Brook & Area

Funding approved by the provincial government is now being used to fund BAE-Newplan's efforts to conduct stability testing at the Wild Cove waste site. The sub-regional executive together with the WRWM office continues to work on the long-term plan for this sub-region consisting of the City of Corner Brook, the North and South Shores of the Bay of Islands and the Humber Valley. This is the largest sub-region in the Western Region with a combined population of more than 33,000 residents.

Bay St. George-Port au Port

The St. Georges sub-regional waste site appears to be functioning well and the town of St. Georges, that runs the site in conjunction with the sub-regional committee, reports that their budget is now in the black. Funds have been obtained from the Dept. of Municipal Affairs to have BAE-NewPlan carry out an efficiency study on use of the St. Georges waste site. MMSB have provided \$20,000 to purchase an HHW container for the sub-region while additional top-up funding \$9,216 (\$8,808.21 with the GST rebate of \$407.79) have been provided by the Dept. of Municipal Affairs.

Marine & Mountain (Southwest Coast)

This sub-region appears to be functioning very well. The town of Channel-Port aux Basques are providing curbside and disposal services to all 8,000 residents, including their own population, at a reasonable cost to households.

Burgeo/ Ramea/ Grey River/ Francois

Attempts are now being made to provide an interim solution to waste management in the Burgeo/ Ramea/ Grey River/ Francois area. The most reasonable recommendation is that the badly deteriorated incinerator at Burgeo (the current operation of which really amounts to open burning) should be demolished and open burning at the Burgeo site should be permitted during the period to 2016. Grey River and Francois should also be permitted to continue doing what they are currently doing with respect to waste management in their communities while a container system is instigated for one or both of these small isolated communities during the next few months. Waste from these small communities would then be brought to Burgeo in the short-term to 2016. The recommendation from the sub-regional committee is that for the long term a transfer station should be built at Burgeo to serve the whole sub-region. Following recommended changes to the report from the sub-regional committee, their report will be placed on the WRWM website: www.wrwm.com.