



Partners in Project Green Resource Reutilization Team

Minutes – Wednesday, April 11, 2012 @ 1:30 p.m.

Waterfront Boardroom, TRCA, 70 Canuck, Toronto

In Attendance: Mark Thompson (U-Pak Disposals), David Hanson (Recycling Council of Ontario), Tessa Wilson (University of Waterloo), Stephen Jones (Ministry of the Environment), Chris Rickett (TRCA), Susan Beazley (TRCA) and Paul Welsman (Wasteco).

Regrets: Murray Haight (University of Waterloo), Karyn Hogan (Region of Peel), Andy Campbell (Waste Diversion Ontario), Renee Dello (City of Toronto), Jonathan Abrams (BFI), Phil Dick (Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs) and Sarah Mills (Recycling Council of Ontario).

1. Introductions

2. By-Product Materials Exchange Program

- Provided overview of the proposed by-product materials exchange program that would use a web-based tool to identify potential waste exchange opportunities for businesses in the Pearson Eco-Business Zone
- Discussed relationship established and proposed between Partners in Project Green and *Centre de transfert technologique en ecologie industrielle* (CTTÉI) and their respective roles in implementing the program.
- Provided overview of the recruitment and engagement process for the program and asked for feedback from the team.
- Agreed that target for program should be small to medium manufacturers, since it was felt that larger manufacturers have already dealt with their exchangeable wastes.
- Agreed that program should look at wastes that are harder to deal with, since it is presumed that wastes that have readily accessible markets (e.g., corrugated cardboard, plastics) have already been dealt with.
- Noted that there needs to be value in shipping materials if a company participates in an exchange. Companies will not want to transport small volumes or lightweight materials.
- Agreed that we need to scope out items that our membership finds problematic and what materials exist in regular, significant quantities to warrant exchange. Agreed that the exchange would be less of a “one-off” and be intended more for ongoing wastes.
- Noted that companies may not consider some materials “a problem” – thus identifying such materials may depend on how the question is posed to the company.
- Want to focus on the program as a resource and how companies can use it, while also looking at how haulers, brokers and consultants can use it.

- Questioned whether the web-based tool would be “self-serve” or involve some intervention by TRCA staff. Agreed that we would consider both options.
- Agreed that site management needs to be considered (e.g., how long would a company’s listing remain on the site?)

Next Steps:

- ***TRCA to develop marketing and engagement plan for the By-Product Exchange that focuses on client engagement as well as engaging the waste hauler/broker/consulting community.***
- ***TRCA to review this plan with the Resource Reutilization Team in May 2012.***

3. Waste Management Benchmarking Tool

- Provided overview of the benchmarking tool, which would provide sector-specific comparisons.
- Key issue is that companies may not collect data or calculate diversion rates in the same way as their sector peers, or report accurately.
- Discussed possibility of using the tool as a gateway to RCO’s 3R Certification program, which would allow companies to have their data verified by a third party.
- Agreed that further discussions with RCO are warranted.

Next Steps:

- ***TRCA to discuss with RCO the opportunity of using their 3R Certified scoring system for the benchmarking tool and use it as a way to feed people into their program.***

4. 2012 Pearson Eco-Business Zone Sustainable Business Tour – Waste Management Theme

- Provided overview of proposed bus tour scheduled for June 22, which will include visits to waste processing facilities.
- Noted that Partners in Project Green would like members of the Resource Reutilization Team to join the tour. Noted that spaces would be reserved for each member.

5. Zero-Waste Special Interest Group

- Provided overview of this interest group and its interest in opening membership to non-consortium members.

6. 3R Program Update from Recycling Council of Ontario

- RCO provided overview of its certification program that will certify businesses based on their waste diversion practices.
- Program launched in 2011.
- 15-17 sites currently under active evaluation, including office buildings, entertainment complex and a shopping centre.
- Applicants submit data online.
- RCO expects certified applicants within a few weeks.
- RCO plans to market success stories once it has a few companies certified.