

Whistler Zero Waste Action Plan

2021 - 2026

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Introduction

The Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) has long been committed to Zero Waste, and has undertaken a number of initiatives, including educational programs, bylaws, and infrastructure improvements, to reduce waste going to the landfill.

This 2021-2026 Zero Waste Action Plan is an update to the 2013 Zero Waste Plan, and aligns with other existing plans and policies for reducing waste and the accompanying greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The RMOW is grateful for the work of the Zero Waste Select Committee of RMOW Council, whose expertise was instrumental in the development of the plan. The Committee was comprised of the following members:

- Allana Williams, Vail Resorts
- Andrew Tucker, RMOW (staff)
- Anita Auer, Hotel Association of Whistler, Crystal Lodge
- Arthur DeJong, RMOW (Council)
- Cathy Jewett, RMOW (Council)
- Claire Ruddy, AWARE
- Kerren Bottay, Restaurant Association of Whistler, Listel Hospitality Group
- Lauren Harrison, RMOW (staff)
- Lori Pyne, Whistler Community Services Society
- Marie-Lou LeBlanc, SLRD
- Sue Maxwell, citizen at large, Zero Waste consultant
- Thea Zerbe, Vail Resorts
- Tom McColm, Home Builders Association, TM Builders

The Zero Waste Committee met five times over the course of a year and a half to develop the plan. Other engagement included:

- a survey to Canadian Home Builders Association members
- one-on-one interviews with each Committee member
- stakeholder meetings to review the draft strategies and actions with:
 - the Hotel Association of Whistler
 - the Restaurant Association of Whistler
 - Sea to Sky Removal
 - Sea to Sky Soils
 - Whistler Resort Management
 - GFL Environmental

Definitions

Zero Waste

Zero Waste is defined as:

“The conservation of all resources by means of responsible production, consumption, reuse, and recovery of products, packaging, and materials without burning and with no discharges to land, water, or air that threaten the environment or human health.”

- Zero Waste International Alliance, 2018

This definition can be further explained by these statements:

“Zero Waste is a goal that is ethical, economical, efficient and visionary, to guide people in changing their lifestyles and practices to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for others to use.

Zero Waste means designing and managing products and processes to systematically avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not burn or bury them.

Implementing Zero Waste will eliminate all discharges to land, water or air that are a threat to planetary, human, animal or plant health.”

Whistler uses this definition of Zero Waste as the guiding principle by which the goals and descriptions of success are articulated, and the strategies and actions are identified.

Zero Waste hierarchy

The Zero Waste hierarchy describes a progression of policies and strategies to support the Zero Waste system, from the highest and best to the lowest use of materials. It is designed to be applicable to all audiences, from policy-makers to industry and the individual. It aims to provide more depth to the internationally recognized 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle); to encourage policy, activity and investment at the top of the hierarchy; and to provide a guide for those who wish to develop systems or products that move us closer to Zero Waste. It enhances the Zero Waste definition by providing guidance for planning and a way to evaluate proposed solutions. Descriptions of each level of the hierarchy can be seen at zerowastecanada.ca/zero-waste-hierarchy/#1494620096467-d3ad8bee-de15

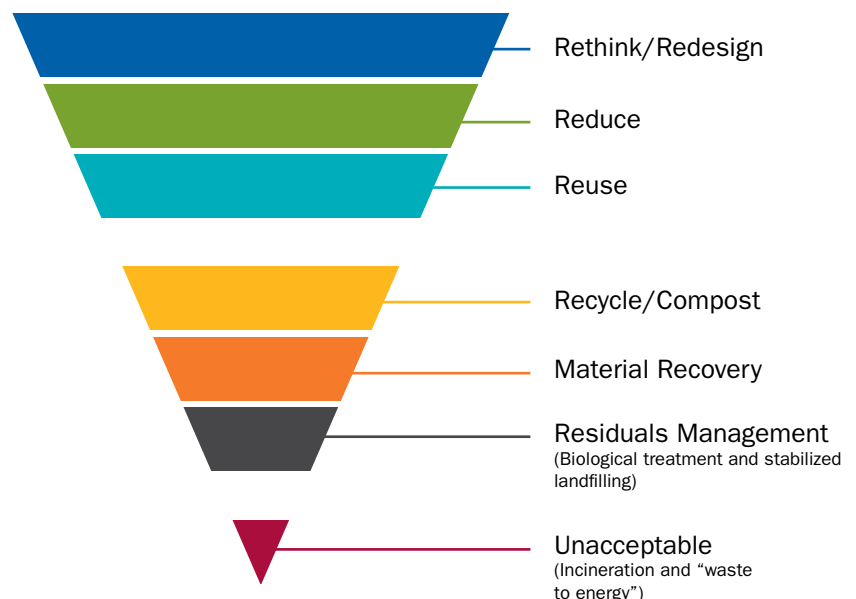


Figure 1

[Zero Waste International Alliance]

Circular economy

A circular economy is keeping materials and products circulating avoiding the extraction and production of raw materials, and those associated processing and manufacturing steps. In a circular economy, economic activity builds and rebuilds overall system health. The concept recognizes the importance of the economy needing to work effectively at all scales – for big and small businesses, for organizations and individuals, globally and locally. It is based on three principles:

- Design out waste and pollution
- Keep products and materials in use
- Regenerate natural systems

[Ellen MacArthur Foundation]

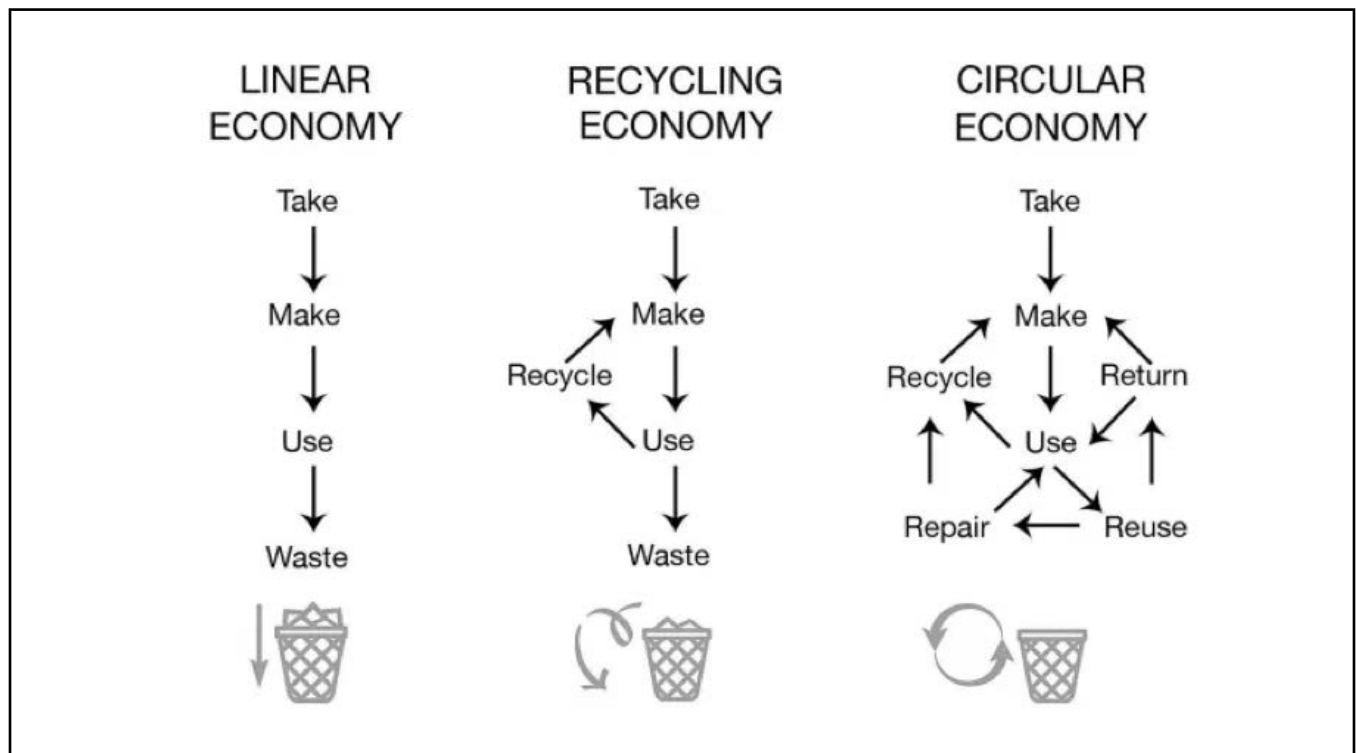


Figure 2

Whistler's Zero Waste Vision

Whistler's residents, visitors, businesses and organizations are aware of, and are committed to Zero Waste, and have the knowledge and tools to minimize waste through their consumer and purchasing choices and practices. Minimal food is wasted, and food that is not used is recovered to the highest degree possible, supporting community food programs and those in need. Innovative strategies to reduce, reuse, recycle/compost, and recover minimize the volume of waste and waste-related GHG emissions, as well as the embodied carbon of all materials. Our infrastructure, which continues to set the resort community apart as a leader, is in place to support Zero Waste initiatives and a circular economy. All necessary packaging is sustainably produced and compostable, and construction waste is minimized through deconstruction policies and practices. No wildlife is destroyed due to waste, and there is no wildlife conflict due to waste.

Whistler's Zero Waste Goal

Whistler will move progressively toward Zero Waste in a cost-effective, efficient and environmentally sound manner, and substantially reduce GHG emissions associated with waste management, and embodied in products.

Whistler will reach its Zero Waste goal by implementing actions that continuously move up the Zero Waste hierarchy.

Our Current Reality

In Whistler, waste is generated from residential; institutional, commercial and industrial (ICI) properties; and through construction and demolition (C&D) sector activity.

WHISTLER LANDFILL WASTE BY SECTOR 2020

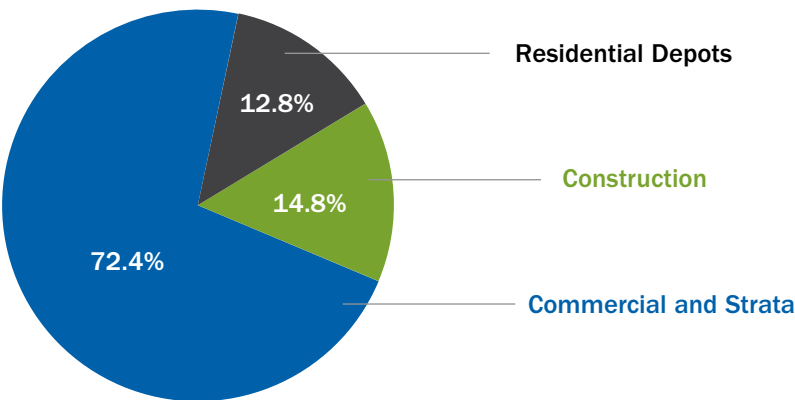


Figure 3

The municipality provides residential landfilled waste disposal, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs, and organics collection at the Nesters and Function Junction waste depots.

Private haulers collect landfilled waste, recyclables and compostable material from the ICI sector, multi-family residential properties and the C&D sector, bringing the material primarily to the municipal transfer station in the Callaghan Valley. Landfilled waste is brought to the Campbell Hill landfill located in Cache Creek. The majority of food scrap organics and compostable package materials is brought to Sea to Sky Soils in Pemberton, sometimes being processed at the RMOW composter in the Callaghan Valley. Recyclable material captured at the transfer station is brought to processors in the Lower Mainland to be recycled. Materials collected through depot EPR programs bypasses the transfer station, taken directly to processors by the programs.

Currently a major portion of revenue generated each year is from waste disposal tipping fees paid by the waste generator. This revenue finances the expense to operate the collection facilities and to manage the waste to be recycled, composted or sent to the landfill. As less waste is generated, tipping fee revenues will decline, and the budget to pay for operational expenses will come from the community or from EPR programs, reducing the direct cost to the municipality.

The Province of BC has a maximum waste generation target of 350 kg/person of landfilled waste per year, a number that was reached by the community of Whistler for the first time in 2019. Per capita waste generation reflects the amount of waste produced by the community of Whistler each year against the total population, which includes all the visitors to Whistler. It is an easy metric for understanding year to year changes but, can be skewed by large amounts of waste generated by one sector within the community compared to another. Total landfilled waste in 2019 was at its second lowest (after 2011) at 11,851 tonnes. Commercial and strata properties accounted for 69% of the landfill waste.

WHISTLER TOTAL LANDFILLED AND DISPOSAL RATE

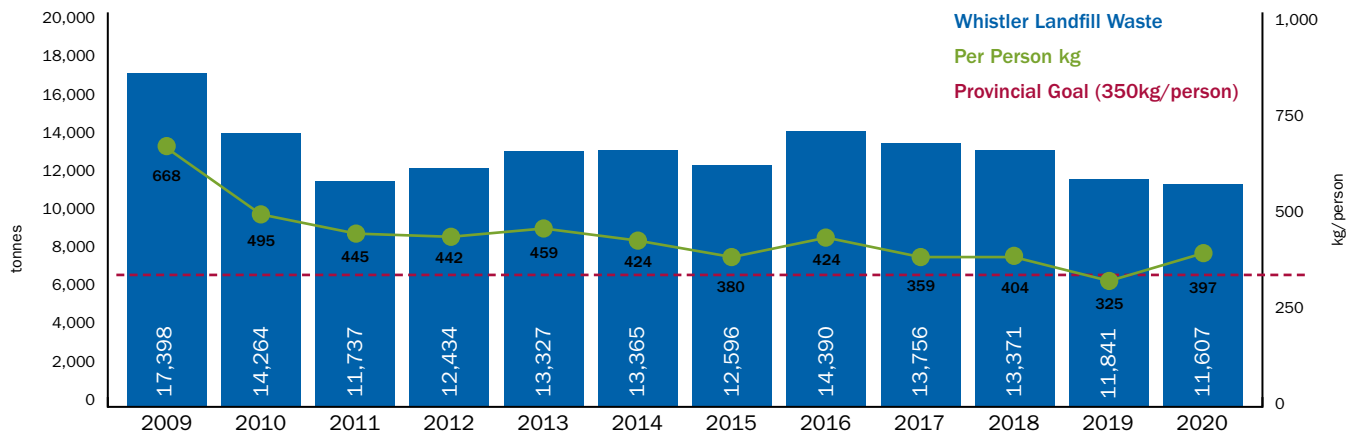


Figure 4

Despite waste reduction efforts waste diversion rates have been hovering around 40% over the last five years, and compostables still accounted for over 40% of the landfill waste.

ICI AND STRATA LANDFILL WASTE 2019

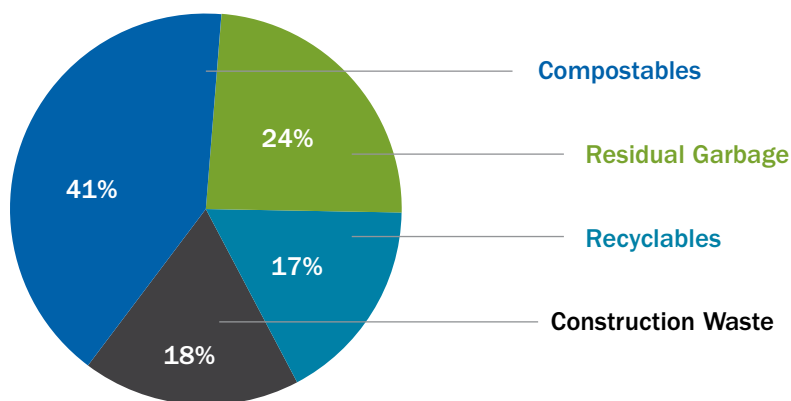


Figure 5

WASTE DIVERSION RATE

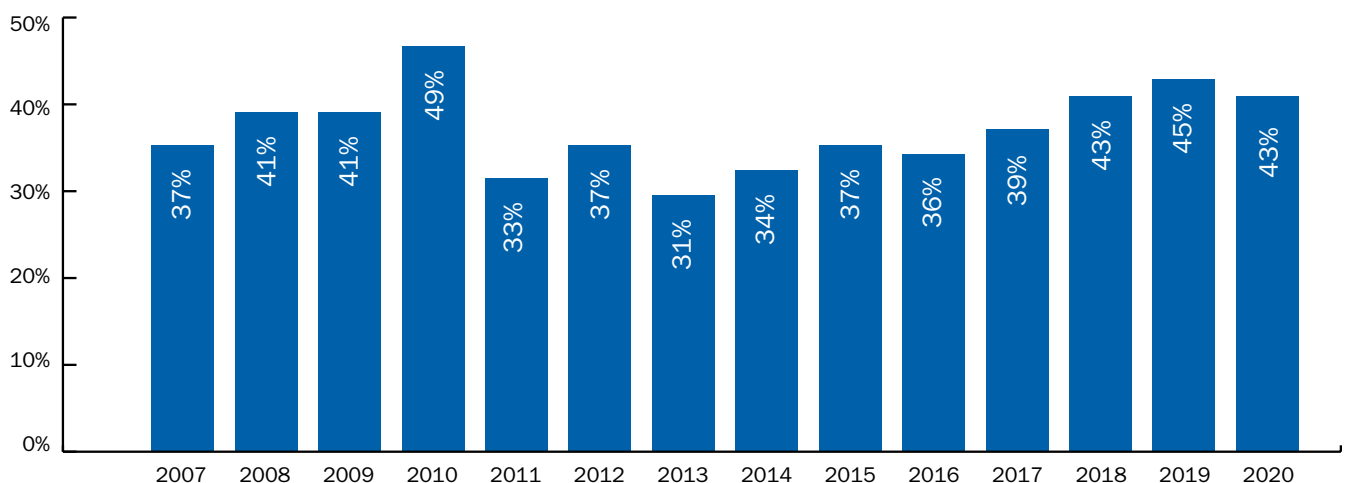


Figure 6

Impacts of COVID-19

In spring of 2020, during the early stages of the Zero Waste Action Plan development, the global COVID-19 pandemic struck. The restrictions on global travel had a significant impact on Whistler's local economy and businesses. A result of the reduced visitation and economic activity was a reduction in the total amount of waste generated and managed. The reduction occurred primarily in the construction and demolition and ICI sectors, and included food waste. Residential landfill waste collected at the depots increased slightly, most likely due to more people spending time at home.

SOLID WASTE - TOTAL LANDFILLED

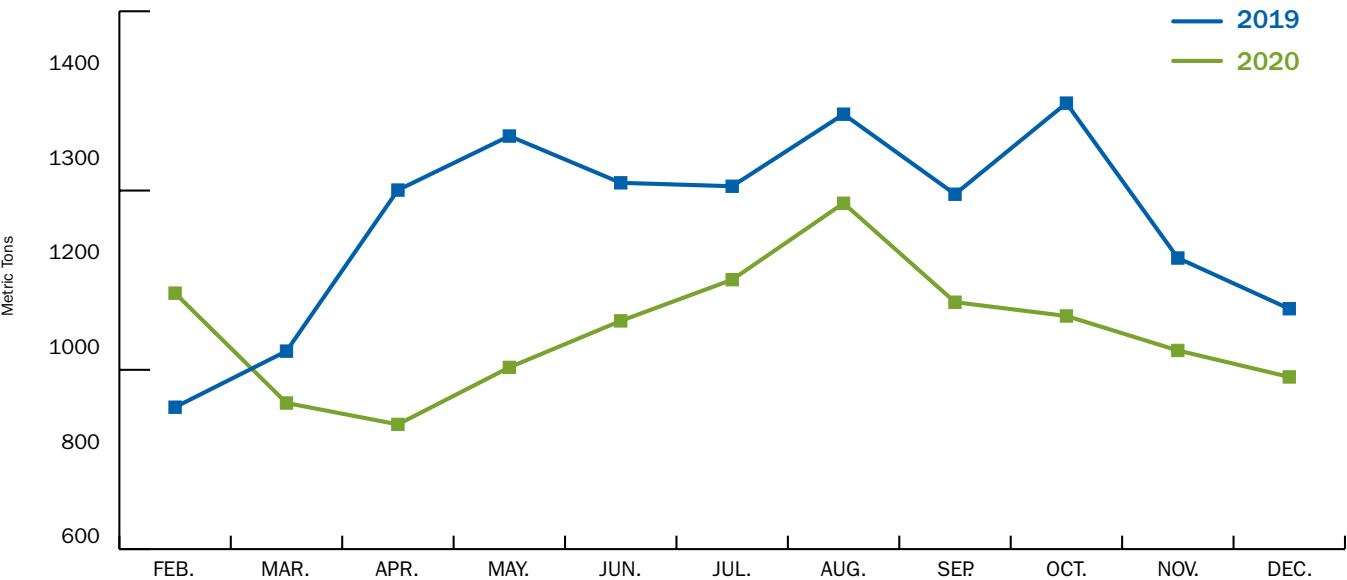


Figure 7

Figure 7. Total waste landfilled February to December 2019-2020

Due to COVID-19 health requirements, the ICI sector is continuing to see increased use and disposal of single use items from the food and beverage sector, as well as personal protective equipment.

Waste and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Landfill-related GHG emissions make up 2% of the community's overall emissions amounting to 2,391 tonnes CO2e in 2019. Landfill-related GHG emissions are comprised of emissions from the waste shipped to the landfill as well as from the combined emissions from the old Whistler landfill and the current landfill.

2019 ESTIMATED WHISTLER COMMUNITY GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

TOTAL EMISSIONS:
131,166 tCO2e

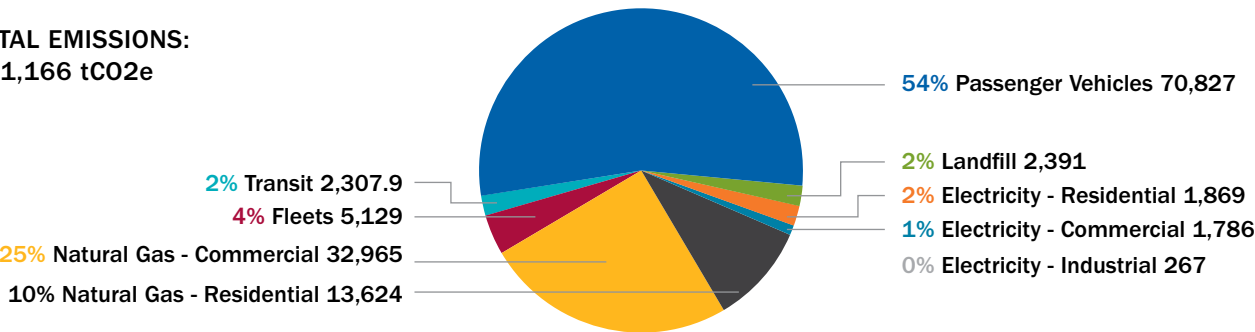
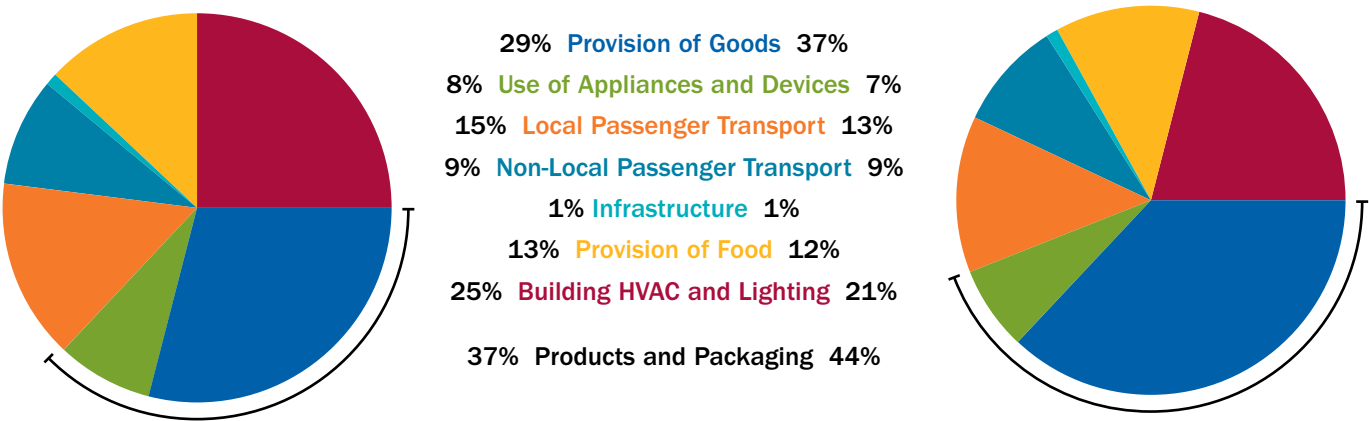


Figure 8

Whistler's community GHG emissions 2019

According to a US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) study that looked at a systems-based approach to GHG emissions, 44% of total GHG emissions are due to embodied GHG in products and packaging. Consumption-based emissions analysis draws attention to the embodied GHG in products and materials – those that are created in the production and transport of a product. This approach provides a more holistic view of GHG emissions by including those created on our behalf outside the municipality, and better highlights the need to address excess consumption, and to re-consider the products we buy when working to reduce GHG emissions. Whistler's Climate Action Big Moves Strategy Big Move #6 is asking the community to lower its carbon consumption footprint by reducing waste sector emissions by 95% by 2030.



U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Systems-based view

U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Systems-based view
Including emissions embodied in international trade.

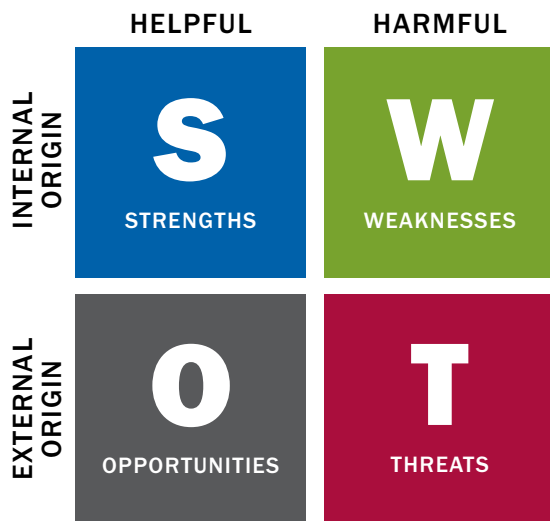
US EPA study, Product Policy Institute, 2009.

Figure 9

SWOT summary

A SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis is a useful tool to identify the positive (helpful) and negative (harmful) factors that may have an impact on an organization/community/project. Developing a SWOT analysis for the Zero Waste Action Plan helps to understand the positive and negative factors that affect the waste landscape and implementation of Zero Waste initiatives. Understanding these factors can help with the identification of strategies that can:

- build upon the strengths of the community/region (including local government, businesses and residents)
- leverage or take advantage of the external opportunities
- address the weaknesses and gaps that currently exist in the community/region
- mitigate any external threats that may have negative impacts.



A SWOT review of Whistler's Zero Waste efforts includes:

STRENGTHS

- Policies and programs that support Zero Waste, including Whistler's OCP; the Squamish Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) Solid Waste Resource Management Plan; Whistler's Community Energy and Climate Action Plan and the Climate Big Moves Strategy; Whistler's updated Consolidated Business License Bylaw; and the RMOW Solid Waste Management Strategy that contains recommendations to improve diversion through the use of differential tipping fees at the transfer station; and current EPR and sharing programs.
- Community organizations and services such as Whistler Community Services Re-Use-It and Re-Build-It Centres; AWARE's Zero Waste educational programs, Zero Waste event services and repair cafes.
- Significant education, communications and efforts from the RMOW, AWARE and individual businesses.
- Some businesses offering refillable and/or bulk items.
- Zero Waste infrastructure available: most EPR programs are available in Whistler; composting facilities.
- Regional Recycling program.
- Staff at depots to assist with waste and recycling questions and maintain the site to minimize waste stream contamination.

WEAKNESSES

- Lack of price incentives such as a disposal fee at the residential depots, and not enough of a differential for tipping fees at the transfer station.
- Lack of programs and infrastructure for strata properties.
- No EPR programs yet in place for materials such as mattresses, carpet, bulky textile furniture, and ICI personal protective equipment.
- No construction and demolition waste bylaw.
- No EPR program for materials recovery by the ICI sector.
- A continued lack of awareness and willingness among some residents and visitors.
- Not enough resources for staff to provide coaching about waste at depots.
- Lack of market for reusable materials from the Re-Build It Centre.
- Lack of requirements for higher performance on EPR programs.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Federal target to reduce single use items by 2021.
- Provincial Zero Waste goals being developed.
- Increasing public awareness of plastics garbage and impact on environment.
- Increasing public discourse on single use items.
- Continual progression in innovation to support waste diversion, recovery, recycling and composting, and increasing focus on deconstruction.
- Expanded Provincial EPR program list.
- Develop a waste/demolition policy similar to what the District of Squamish developed.

THREATS

- Industry creation of items that are difficult to identify and understand how to dispose of (e.g. biodegradable vs compostable).
- Lack of investment and incentives to extend EPR to all industries and materials.
- Continued use of over-packaging and use of materials that are difficult to recycle.
- Public perception of requirements and desire for continued use of single-use food and beverage items.

RMOW jurisdiction and role

The RMOW, through its Infrastructure Services department, is responsible for municipal solid waste management in Whistler. The RMOW has the jurisdiction to implement bylaws to restrict a type of waste from going to the landfill. The municipality requires strata properties to separate all recyclable and organic matter from garbage to landfill; it imposes differential tipping fees on the waste generated to encourage source separation, and levies fines for non-compliance under the Solid Waste Bylaw. While the RMOW can implement bylaws, it also relies significantly on providing online information to educate and support residents and businesses to improve their Zero Waste efforts.

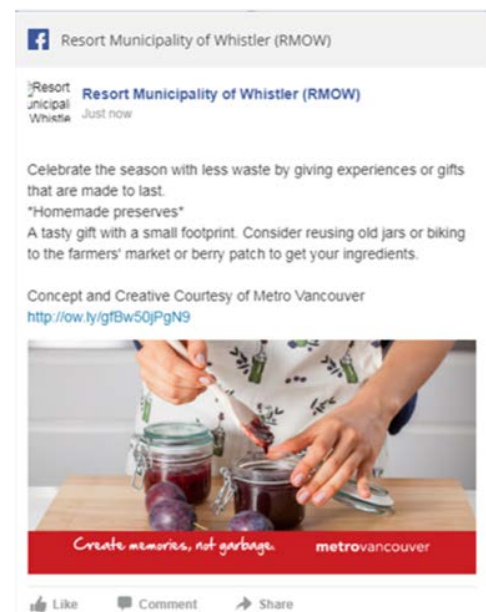
The municipality's role also includes setting policy; purchasing; zoning (which allows for EPR, repair, composting, avoiding wasteful business or industry); human-wildlife conflict prevention; business licensing/permits (requiring Solid Waste Management plans); can require certain kinds of bins/signage; can ban single use items (currently through working with the province); can require data from business and waste haulers; advocacy (to other levels of government, Associations and EPR programs); economic development; and branding of resort (green/sustainable).

In lieu of a traditional curbside collection system, the RMOW owns residential drop-off depots, a transfer station and compost facility to collect and manage both residential and ICI waste including organics. These facilities are operated under contract for the municipality by GFL (Green For Life). The residential depots receive EPR materials such as packaging and paper products; food scrap organics; residential yard waste and landfill waste. The transfer station collects municipal solid waste from the ICI sector, depots and multi-family residential properties. The material received is landfill waste (garbage), yard waste, bulky appliances, furniture, scrap metal, tires, and construction and demolition (C&D) material such as wood and drywall.

Whistler provides space at the Nesters depot location to a third-party EPR recycling centre, Regional Recycling, to collect EPR materials such as refundable beverage containers, electronics, paint, pesticides and household hazardous products, as well as residential scrap metal.

Whistler also provides space to both the Whistler Re-Use-It Centre and the ReBuild It Centre. These stores offer reduced price goods to residents while reducing the amount of material going to waste. The revenue helps to fund community services in Whistler.

The Whistler municipal landfill closed in 2005, and currently the municipality ships its waste to the Cache Creek landfill. The Whistler compost facility composts primarily organic biosolids waste from wastewater treatment plants operating throughout the Sea to Sky Corridor, producing high quality soil amendments for sale.



Alignment with existing plans and bylaws

The 2021-2026 Zero Waste Action Plan is aligned with and supports the goals and policies of the following plans:

- [Whistler OCP](#)
- [Whistler Community Energy and Climate Action Plan](#)
- [Whistler Climate Big Moves goals and targets](#)
- [Whistler Zero Waste Plan 2013](#)
- [SLRD Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan](#)
- [Whistler Solid Waste Bylaw](#)

WHISTLER ZERO WASTE PLAN

The Whistler Zero Waste Plan 2013 contains a comprehensive list of strategies and actions for moving towards Zero Waste, along with a detailed triple bottom line analysis of the strategies. These strategies continue to be implemented. The 2021-2026 Zero Waste Action Plan updates the strategies and actions from the 2013 plan, includes new strategies and actions, and is organized into material type and sector responsibility.

WHISTLER OCP

Whistler's OCP bylaw, adopted by RMOW Council in 2020, has a number of policies pertaining to waste and advancing Zero Waste, which the Zero Waste Action Plan supports and advances. The relevant OCP policies are found in Appendix B.

Indicators and targets

Data collection on indicators is essential to monitoring progress towards Zero Waste. The RMOW monitors a number of indicators related to waste, which are included in this Action Plan. Reporting and communicating this data with all partners and the community is an important part of implementation of the Action Plan.

Whistler strives to continuously improve in its efforts towards Zero Waste. In addition to continuous improvement, five specific Zero Waste targets have been identified, which align with the provincial waste disposal target, and with Whistler's Climate Big Moves Strategy. These targets are meant to be stretching, yet realistic and achievable.

Targets

- 80% reduction in waste in volume and weight from 2019 levels by 2030
- Per capita generation rate below 350kg per person per year of waste generated by 2025
- 95% reduction in waste sector GHG emissions by 2030 from 2007
- Zero contamination of all streams by 2030
- 95% of organic waste diverted from landfill by 2030

Indicators

- Total landfilled waste (tonnes)
- Landfilled waste generated per person (kg)
- Materials diverted from landfill (tonnes, %) = reused, recycled, composted
- Total materials used (tonnes) = disposed+ recycled +composted
- Greenhouse gases (tonnes CO₂e)
- Hazardous waste diverted from landfill (%)
- Household hazardous materials (tonnes)
- Organics hauled by GFL/contractor (tonnes)
- Number of stores offering refills or packaging free options
- Management costs per tonne of each waste stream
- Edible food waste recovered and redistributed by food program providers
- Landfill waste composition audit results (outputs for planning)

Action Plan

The 2021-2026 Zero Waste Action Plan is organized into four material and product categories:

- All materials and products
- Built environment materials
- Organics, food and food packaging materials, and
- Consumer products and packaging materials.

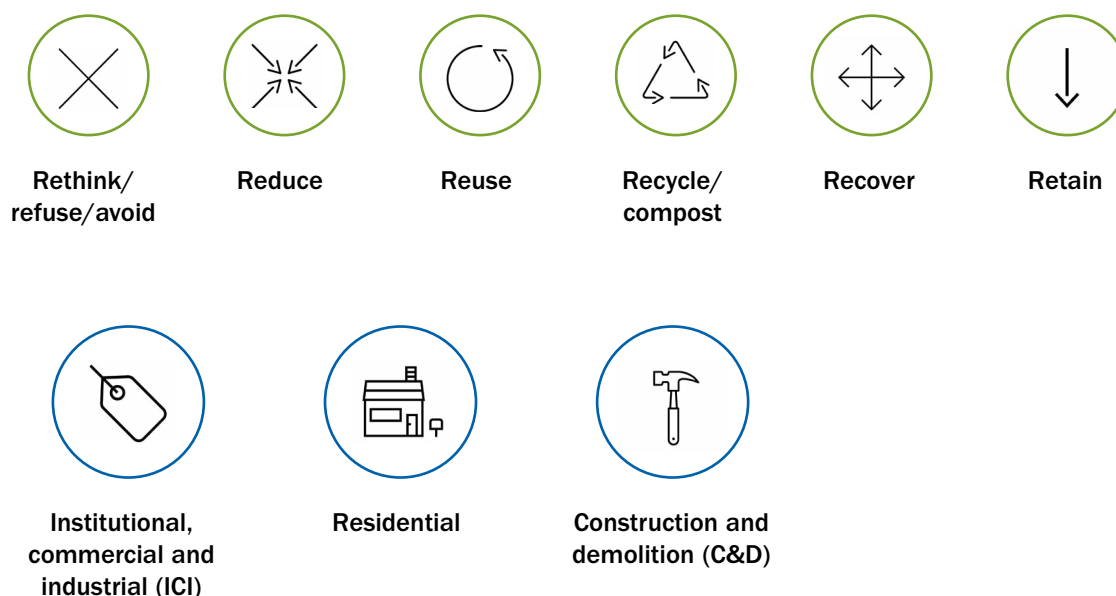
These four categories were selected to most effectively organize the strategies and actions for addressing waste. The first category includes general strategies and actions across all waste streams, and the other three comprise the largest quantity of materials being sent to landfill.

Within each category, strategies and actions are organized by type: education, programs, infrastructure, advocacy, bylaw/regulatory. These strategies are the ones over which the RMOW has jurisdiction; there is a strong emphasis on education and programs as effective strategies for implementing change.

Strategies are higher level directions, whereas actions are specific initiatives or deliverables within each strategy. Within the body of the Action Plan, only the strategies are included; all strategies and actions are presented in Appendix C, along with lead organization responsible for the actions.

Each category in the Action Plan includes a “descriptions of success” section, which describes what the desired results of Zero Waste actions would be in each material and product area. These descriptions of success are meant to be comprehensive in terms of sustainability outcomes, and guide the strategies and actions to achieve Zero Waste.

Each strategy indicates which step of the Zero Waste hierarchy is being addressed, as well as which relevant sector the strategy is targeted at.



Each category includes an “implementation timing” table, which indicates when each of the strategies should begin to be implemented. Most of the strategies will be ongoing, and include the completion of specific actions.

Priority actions

While the Zero Waste Action Plan is a five-year plan identifying strategies and actions for implementation from 2021-2026, the following actions were identified by the Zero Waste Select Committee as the top priority actions for immediate implementation:



EDUCATION STRATEGIES

1. Provide education and technical assistance to businesses to reduce waste in the commercial and accommodations sector.
2. Improve monitoring/data collection and reporting.



PROGRAMS

3. Provide alternatives to single-use items.
4. Implement comprehensive programs to reduce food waste and packaging.



INFRASTRUCTURE

5. Increase space for materials to be dropped off and picked up for re-use.



ADVOCACY

6. Advocate to the Provincial and Federal governments for increased support for Zero Waste initiatives.



BYLAWS

7. Strengthen waste and diversion policies, requirements and enforcement.
8. Mandate deconstruction (not demolition) of buildings.

All Materials and Products
























DESCRIPTIONS OF SUCCESS

- The volume of waste, materials and related GHG emissions is reduced by using innovative strategies to recover, recycle/compost, reduce, and avoid materials, single-use items and packaging.
- More sustainable materials and packaging used – i.e. those that are less harmful to our health and environment, more local, more durable and reusable, and are recyclable or compostable.
- Zero Waste actions are well understood and are part of the community's way of life and doing business.
- The necessary infrastructure, processes and regulations are available to support Zero Waste initiatives and to close the loop on unwanted or residual materials.
- No wildlife is destroyed due to conflict with residential or commercial garbage.






















STRATEGIES

All strategies and actions can be found in Appendix C on page Y.












Education

Strategy		Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1.	Implement organization-wide education and training programs at RMOW to reduce waste.	 	
2.	Provide education and technical assistance to businesses to reduce waste in the commercial and accommodations sector.	 	 
3.	Support community partner education initiatives.	  	 
4.	Develop and promote educational materials and information for residents and extended stay visitors.	 	
5.	Recognize community Zero Waste efforts.		 
6.	Improve monitoring/data collection and reporting.		 
7.	Ensure all EPR program information is available.		








Programs

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Provide alternatives to single-use items.	 	
2. Ensure/expand adequate EPR services in Whistler.		  
3. Increase waste reduction and diversion opportunities/options.	  	  
4. Explore developing a system for purchasing GHG offsets for waste.		
5. Provide incentives for reducing waste.		 
6. Facilitate and promote shared/bulk buying.		 








Infrastructure

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Standardize signage for recycling and composting to meet SLRD best practices and align with EPR programs.		
2. Increase access to potable water in public places.		  
3. Increase residual recovery beyond community source separation.		
4. Provide appropriate infrastructure for separation and reduction.	 	

Advocacy

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Advocate to the Provincial and Federal governments for increased support for Zero Waste initiatives.	 	
2. Advocate to suppliers to reduce environmental impact of all packaging.		
3. Lobby Federal and Provincial government for mandatory recycled content in products.		

Bylaw/regulatory

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Strengthen waste and diversion policies, requirements and enforcement.	  	 
2. Prohibit the use of products and materials that are harmful to the environment and to human health.		

Implementation timing

Strategy Area	Strategy	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Education	Implement organization-wide education and training programs at RMOW to reduce waste.						
	Provide education and technical assistance to businesses to reduce waste in the commercial and accommodations sector.						
	Support community partner education initiatives.						
	Develop and promote educational materials and information for residents and extended stay visitors.						
	Recognize community Zero Waste efforts.						
	Improve monitoring/data collection and reporting.						
	Ensure all EPR program information is available.						
Programs	Provide alternatives to single-use items.						
	Ensure/expand adequate EPR services in Whistler.						
	Increase waste reduction and diversion opportunities/options.						
	Explore developing a system for purchasing GHG offsets for waste.						
	Provide incentives for reducing waste.						
	Facilitate and promote shared/bulk buying.						
Infrastructure	Standardize signage for recycling and composting to meet SLRD best practices and align with EPR programs.						
	Increase access to potable water in public places.						
	Increase residual recovery beyond community source separation.						
	Provide appropriate infrastructure for separation and reduction.						
Advocacy	Advocate to the Provincial and Federal governments for increased support for Zero Waste initiatives.						
	Advocate to suppliers to reduce environmental impact of all packaging.						
	Lobby Federal and Provincial government for mandatory recycled content in products.						
Bylaws	Strengthen waste and diversion policies, requirements and enforcement.						
	Prohibit the use of products and materials that are harmful to the environment and to human health.						

Built Environment Materials




DESCRIPTIONS OF SUCCESS

- The volume of building materials, packaging waste and construction-waste related GHG is minimized through:
 - Innovative design that is more modular and minimizes material use and waste
 - Construction and renovation that uses recyclable, recycled and reclaimed materials, and utilizes new materials delivered to site with less packaging
 - Deconstruction that allows for recycling, recovery, reuse and composting of all materials, maximizing cost savings
 - Buildings are built with deconstruction in mind
- More sustainable building materials and packaging – i.e. those that are less toxic, more natural, faster growing, more local, more durable and reusable, and recyclable or compostable – are used.
- The construction and demolition sector has the capacity, commitment and networks to make the best use of materials and supplies.
- The necessary infrastructure and regulations support the construction and demolition sector to move towards Zero Waste.



STRATEGIES

All strategies and actions can be found in Appendix C on page Y.



Education

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Deliver education on separation and diversion/recycling in the construction and demolition industry.	 	


Programs

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Increase local demand for reusable materials.		







Infrastructure

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Increase space for materials to be dropped off and picked up for re-use.		

Advocacy

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Advocate to Provincial and Federal governments for better building materials product development.	 Redesign	

Bylaws/regulatory

Strategy		Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1.	Require waste management strategy in order to secure building permit.	 	
2.	Mandate deconstruction (not demolition) of buildings.	 	

Implementation timing

Strategy Area	Strategy	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Education	Deliver education on separation and diversion/recycling in the construction and demolition industry.						
Programs	Increase local demand for reusable materials.						
Infrastructure	Increase space for materials to be dropped off and picked up for re-use.						
Advocacy	Advocate to Provincial and Federal governments for better use of building materials.						
Bylaws	Require waste management strategy in order to secure building permit.						
	Mandate deconstruction (not demolition) of buildings.						

Organics, Food and Food Packaging





DESCRIPTIONS OF SUCCESS

- The volume of pre- and post-consumer food waste, organics waste and waste-related GHG is minimized, and left-over food is recovered or composted.
- The volume of food packaging and materials is minimized through:
 - Elimination of redundant packaging and single-use items
 - Minimum use of take-out containers
- More sustainable building materials and packaging – i.e. those that are less toxic, more natural, faster growing, more local, more durable and reusable, and recyclable or compostable – are used.
- Businesses and individuals have the understanding, capacity, commitment and networks to reduce food waste and packaging.
- The necessary infrastructure, processes and regulations support moving towards zero organics, food and food packaging waste.
- All yard waste is mulched and composted.







STRATEGIES

All strategies and actions can be found in Appendix C on page Y.

Education

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Increase community education for reducing food waste and packaging.		
2. Continue to offer training and resources to reduce food waste and packaging.		








Programs

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Implement comprehensive programs to reduce food waste and packaging.		
2. Increase food recovery.		
3. Support local food and lower GHG intensive food growing, delivery choices.		




Infrastructure

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Expand availability of composting and yard waste bins.		 
2. Keep biosolids separated from organics/food scraps.		 

Advocacy

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Advocate for changes to health codes to support food recovery.		
2. Advocate to eliminate contamination of compostable materials.		
3. Advocate for guidelines to support the use of refillable containers.	 	

Bylaw/regulatory

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Update RMOW waste bylaw regarding food services to reduce waste.		 

Implementation timing

Strategy Area	Strategy	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Education	Increase community education for reducing food waste and packaging.						
	Continue to offer training and resources to reduce food waste and packaging.						
Programs	Implement comprehensive programs to reduce food waste and packaging.						
	Increase food recovery initiatives.						
	Support local food and lower GHG intensive food growing, delivery and menu choices.						
Infrastructure	Expand availability of composting bins.						
	Separate biosolids from organics/food scraps.						
Advocacy	Advocate for changes to health codes to support food recovery.						
	Advocate to eliminate contamination of compostable materials.						
	Advocate for guidelines on the use of refillable containers.						
	Advocate for guidelines on compostable take-out items.						
Bylaw	Update RMOW waste bylaw regarding food services to reduce waste.						

Consumer Products and Packaging







DESCRIPTIONS OF SUCCESS

- Consumption is reduced, and there is a preference for services over goods.
- The volume of consumer product and packaging waste and waste-related GHG is minimized, and products are designed to be more durable and repairable.
- More sustainable building materials and packaging – i.e. those that are less toxic, more natural, faster growing, more local, more durable and reusable, and recyclable or compostable – are used.
- Businesses and individuals have the understanding, capacity, commitment and networks to reduce food waste and packaging.
- The necessary infrastructure, processes and regulations support reuse, repair, recycling and recovery.








STRATEGIES:

All strategies and actions can be found in Appendix C on page Y.





Education

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Provide educational resources covering all parts of the product use journey.		
2. Increase community awareness around waste and packaging.	  	





Programs

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Develop and implement hotels-specific strategies to reduce products and packaging.		
2. Develop and implement retail sector-specific strategies to reduce products and packaging.		
3. Promote and expand community sharing programs and re-use and repair opportunities.	 	



Infrastructure

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Provide additional infrastructure and space for recycling and reuse of items.	 	 

Advocacy

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Advocate to the Province for broader EPR programs.		
2. Lobby the Provincial and Federal governments to change how PST and GST are charged on sale or repair of used items.		

Bylaw/regulatory

Strategy	Zero Waste Hierarchy	Sector
1. Develop new bylaws to support reduction of materials.		

Implementation timing

Strategy Area	Strategy	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Education	Provide educational resources covering all parts of the product use journey.						
	Increase community awareness around waste and packaging.						
Programs	Develop and implement hotels-specific strategies to reduce products and packaging.						
	Develop and implement retail sector-specific strategies to reduce products and packaging.						
	Promote and expand community sharing programs and re-use and repair opportunities.						
Infrastructure	Provide additional infrastructure and space for recycling and reuse of items.						
Advocacy	Advocate to the Province for broader EPR programs.						
	Lobby the Provincial and Federal governments to change how PST and GST are charged on sale or repair of used items.						
Bylaw	Develop new bylaws to support reduction of materials.						

Implementation

Implementation of the Zero Waste Action Plan will require dedicated resources from the RMOW to implement the strategies and actions. In addition, community partners from all sectors need to play a leadership role in moving towards Zero Waste.

Ongoing community-wide education and behaviour change initiatives will be the ones most effective in making the biggest impact across all sectors, and need to include a combination of informational resources, relevant metrics, incentives, communications and outreach, and educational programs and training. Reaching out to residents as well as visitors at as many touchpoints as possible, from retail outlets, restaurants, grocers, activities and waste depots, will increase impact. Designing the systems to make it easy to reduce waste will go a long way to support the community-wide changes desired.

Tracking performance towards Zero Waste and reporting on it needs to be done on an annual basis. In addition, monitoring progress of action implementation is also essential, and will inform where efforts are needed and what their results are. These feedback loops will help determine the effectiveness of the strategies and where adjustments are needed.

Regular meetings with stakeholder representatives, potentially through the Zero Waste Committee or a working group, can help assess progress and identification of where to focus efforts and new strategies or actions needed.

Appendices

- A. Glossary of terms
- B. Whistler OCP policies related to zero waste
- C. All strategies and actions

Appendix A. Glossary of terms

Term	Definition
AWARE	Association of Whistler Area Residents for the Environment (Whistler's environmental charity)
Biosolids	Biosolids are the stabilized products that are recovered at the end of the wastewater treatment process (BC MOECCS).
Bylaw	Local ordinances within the municipal jurisdiction, enacted by municipal council, but approved by the province.
Deconstruction	An alternative to demolition, this system requires dismantling of buildings in a way that preserves the ability of the materials to be kept separate and reused or recycled to the highest degree possible.
Diversion	The process of recycling or composting generated waste rather than burying or burning it.
Embodied carbon	Embodied carbon is the carbon dioxide (CO ₂) emissions (or equivalents) associated with materials and production processes throughout the whole lifecycle of food, a product or building.
Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)	Extended producer responsibility (EPR) is defined as a policy approach in which a producer's responsibility – physical and/or financial – for a product is extended to the post-consumer stage of a product's life cycle. EPR shifts responsibility upstream in the product life cycle to the producer and away from municipalities. (CCME)
Greenhouse gases (GHG)	Any gas that has the property of absorbing infrared radiation (net heat energy) emitted from Earth's surface and radiating it back to Earth's surface, thus contributing to the greenhouse effect. Ref: https://www.britannica.com/science/greenhouse-gas Human activities like burning fossil fuels have added huge quantities of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide to our atmosphere, creating a "greenhouse effect" that traps energy from the sun and causes Earth's temperature to rise. Ref: https://davidsuzuki.org/what-you-can-do/greenhouse-gases/
ICI	Institutional, Commercial and Industrial. A sector of waste generators along with Residential and Construction and Demolition.
Official Community Plan (OCP)	Official community plans describe the long-term vision of communities. They are a statement of objectives and policies that guide decisions on municipal planning and strategies, addressing such matters as transportation, housing, sustainability or the impacts of climate change.
Offsets	A carbon offset is a reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases made in order to compensate for emissions made elsewhere. Offsets are measured in tonnes of carbon dioxide-equivalent (CO ₂ e). One tonne of carbon offset represents the reduction of one tonne of carbon dioxide or its equivalent in other greenhouse gases.
Residual waste	The waste that is disposed after materials have been diverted to recycling and composting.
RMOW Infrastructure Services	The department responsible for the following municipal services: Building regulations, Engineering, Roads, Flood Protection, Water and Sewer, Transit and Transportation Management, Solid Waste, Garage and Stores.
Whistler's Climate Action Big Moves Strategy	The Climate Action Big Moves Strategy focuses on transportation, buildings, and waste, and articulates the key strategies Whistler will need to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions to meet its targets.

Appendix B. Whistler OCP Policies related to Zero Waste

12.3.1.1. Policy

Continue to pursue Whistler's *Zero Waste goal* endorsed in 2005 and continue to monitor and update Zero Waste indicators, objectives and goals.

12.3.1.2. Policy

Support innovative and environmentally sustainable waste reduction, elimination and diversion programs in collaboration with community stakeholders and the private sector to achieve our *Zero Waste goal*. The municipality will use tools (including policy, bylaws, bans, licensing requirements and fees) to encourage Zero Waste.

12.3.1.3. Policy

Ensure land use decisions can accommodate facilities for evolving extended producer responsibility programs.

12.3.1.4. Policy

Require new development or redevelopment to incorporate waste infrastructure and management plans, which minimize waste, support recycling and use alternative and evolving methods of waste diversion.

12.3.1.5. Policy

Require new development or redevelopment to implement waste management programs to reduce waste during land clearing, demolition and construction.

12.3.1.6. Policy

Until our resort community achieves our *Zero Waste goal*, select solid waste disposal technologies that minimize environmental impact (specifically including air quality).

12.3.1.7. Policy

Provide for centralized community drop-off facilities for domestic solid waste disposal, recycling and composting at the locations shown in Schedule D.

12.3.1.8. Policy

Evaluate and support implementation of efficient and convenient methods to deposit solid waste, recyclables and compost for people using preferred modes of transportation. Ensure that the available methods are well-communicated to local residents.

12.3.1.9. Policy

Operate a solid waste transfer station and drop-off facility that meets the waste disposal needs of the industrial, commercial and institutional sectors (including recycling, compost and landfill waste) at the location identified in [Schedule D](#).

12.3.1.10. Policy

Continue to operate a regional composting facility at the location shown in Schedule D to process compostable materials generated in the Sea to Sky corridor.

12.3.1.11. Policy

Manage solid waste in accordance with the Regional Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan (specifically including the best practice of regional alignment of solid waste signage).

12.3.1.12. Policy

Collaborate with regional and provincial agencies and stakeholders regarding Zero Waste issues locally and regionally. Successful actions will be shared to build capacity and foster partnerships. The municipality will continue to advocate to senior levels of government for new Extended Producer Responsibility programs and improvements to existing programs.

12.3.1.13. Policy

Encourage the use of the Re-Use-It Centre and the Re-Build-It Centre for the reuse of consumer goods and building materials.

12.3.1.14. Policy

Develop new waste management policies, plans and systems using *Zero Waste goals* and hierarchy to set priorities.

Appendix C. All Strategies and Actions

TW Tourism Whistler

Chamber Whistler Chamber of Commerce

SLRD Squamish Lillooet Regional District

AWARE Association of Whistler Area Residents for the Environment

SD48 School District 48

CHBA Canadian Home Builders Association

ICI Industrial, Commercial, Institutional stakeholders

SSISC Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council






WCS WCS Engagement and Planning












RA Restaurant Association/representatives














HA Hotel Association/representatives

Strata Strata property management companies and strata property owners.

ALL MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS







	Strategy	Sector	Lead	Potential Actions / Initiatives
EDUCATION	Implement organization-wide education and training programs at RMOW to reduce waste		RMOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train depot and transfer station staff on recycling, organics and waste Provide support and training to solid waste bylaw enforcement staff to ensure clear behaviour change-oriented messaging Integrate Zero Waste policy into corporate goals and actions Participate in opportunities to learn and share with other organizations (RCBC, CWMA, neighbouring communities, etc.) Adopt sustainable purchasing practices
	Provide education and technical assistance to businesses to reduce waste in the commercial and accommodations sector	 	RMOW HA AWARE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include zero waste as part of strategic/operational plans, job descriptions, employee performance reviews, leadership values, and the stories we tell about this place Integrate Zero Waste policy into corporate goals Provide funding for zero waste ambassadors who lead zero waste initiatives in their workplaces Promote source separation and its importance using expanded Solutions Guide materials to all waste generating sectors in the community, integrating sustainable purchasing toolkits for all industries Update Solutions Guide with spreadsheet template and FAQ for tracking costs and identifying opportunities for saving resources through waste reduction Educate and support businesses and stratas to continue to divert waste, including working with collection room partners Make waste management programs more intuitive
	Support community partner education initiatives	 	RMOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to participate in education partner (e.g. Whistler Bear Advisory Committee, AWARE, SLRD) meetings Refer to and align with work already done by Bear Advisory Committee, and further implement actions Facilitate information sharing between sectors to manage material flow in and out of the community Explore working with SLRD on an anti-illegal dumping campaign Provide support and training to community stakeholders to ensure clear behaviour change-oriented messaging

EDUCATION	Develop and promote educational materials and information for residents, short-term and seasonal accommodation homeowners and landlords, and extended stay visitors		TW Chamber RMOW AWARE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create and promote a directory of repair/maintenance service, sharing and rental opportunities Continue to require zero waste plans for all events in order to receive permits or funding Develop communications to highlight availability of water fountains Design and deliver community-based social marketing behaviour campaigns and toolkits (including aimed at visitors) Deliver zero waste messaging to all guests making reservations prior to visit Execute regular educational/communications campaigns (textiles, yard waste, biodegradable bags) and promote use of RCBC website Create and host zero waste pitch nights and ideas marketplaces Increase education for residents and visitors at depots, e.g. Ambassador and clear signage
	Recognize community zero waste efforts	 	RMOW AWARE TW Chamber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop process for recognizing and reporting on success stories Create zero waste awards/recognition program and funding/prizes for businesses and schools Create a 'sustainable business' certification program Run a zero waste lifestyle contest
	Improve monitoring/data collection and reporting	 	RMOW can continue to monitor collection data however each be responsible for collecting data from their peers for submission to the RMOW.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify waste data collection gaps and uncertainties Conduct regular waste composition studies across sectors (using standard waste composition categories) Develop annual report card (amount of: waste, contamination, recycling, composting; and where it goes) and share it widely Create interim targets for total waste reduction goals and diversion Develop generic business model to show savings from waste diversion Encourage inclusion of waste monitoring to be included in job descriptions Develop contract templates for waste services that include data gathering
	Ensure EPR program information is available	  	RMOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with RCBC to have complete set of reuse and recycling info on their website/hotline Ensure EPR information is on the RMOW website Work with EPR programs to educate residents and businesses
PROGRAMS	Provide alternatives to single-use items		RMOW TW AWARE Chamber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide quality reusable, shareable bags at hotels for guests Develop a reusable item plan to replace the largest single-use items and work with individual businesses (including cafes, restaurants, product suppliers) to reduce purchase of single use items
	Ensure/expand adequate EPR services in Whistler	 	RMOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a scan of what (free) EPR programs exist in Whistler and report to SLRD for discussion at the BC Product Stewardship Council Ask Tire Stewardship BC to increase their bike tire recycling options and education for Whistler Ensure all programs are meeting the BC Recycling Regulation by delivering service, ensuring no drop off fees and covering all municipal service costs






PROGRAMS	Increase waste reduction and diversion opportunities/options	 	RMOW AWARE SLRD SD48	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a community-linked program for schools (where students work on a project with local businesses to decrease their footprint) Work with schools to set up zero waste strategies, litterless lunches, proper recycling/composting programs and infrastructure, green purchasing and reuse of school supplies Implement a secret shopper program at depots to improve service Identify how other jurisdictions collect and recycle items not currently recycled in Whistler, and reduce single use and offer programs if suitable Educate and facilitate setting up waste sorting stations in those businesses that don't currently use them Charge for general waste by bag Conduct an audit of waste separation infrastructure needs in all municipal properties and continue to provide bins for separating waste Identify non-cost prohibitive ways for smaller businesses to reduce waste Support car-free ways to move waste/recycling/compost
	Explore developing a system for purchasing GHG offsets for waste		RMOW ICI AWARE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop revenue stream system to fund other waste reduction efforts
	Provide incentives for reducing waste	 	RMOW ICI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review contracts with vendors and service providers to ensure there are incentives for minimizing waste Review tipping fee structure to maximize separation
	Facilitate and promote shared/bulk buying	 	ICI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify products that are used across grocery stores and businesses and develop bulk buying program Develop bulk buying program for residential customers
INFRASTRUCTURE	Standardize signage for recycling and composting to meet SLRD best practices and align with EPR programs		RMOW SLRD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with SLRD and local businesses and institutions to implement consistent region-wide signage and collection point bin types that comply with municipal bylaws
			RMOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop landfill waste and recycling storage amenity design document to assist ICI on ensuring they have enough collection space
	Increase access to potable water in public places	  	RMOW ICI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install water bottle filling stations at key locations throughout community
	Increase residual recovery beyond community source separation		RMOW ICI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a material recovery system
	Provide appropriate infrastructure for separation and reduction		ICI RMOW Strata	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure enough collection space is provided to allow waste separation in buildings Conduct pilot project to provide waste separation bins for a commercial and residential strata building Offer system for stratas to only pay for amount of waste generated rather than by bin









ADVOCACY	Advocate to the Provincial and Federal governments for increased support for zero waste initiatives		RMOW All ZWP Stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for initiatives via UBCM, FCM, Climate Caucus and MP Advocate for Provincial and Federal zero waste strategies Advocate for local governments in BC to have the ability to implement bylaws that impact businesses for environmental reasons Remove costs for local governments to undertake zero waste initiatives Advocate for improving and further expanding EPR program in BC Advocate for better environmentally sustainable labelling (materials, stickers on fruit, recyclability, not use the term biodegradable, what is really compostable, lifespan, etc.) Advocate for longer lifespans, Right to Repair, longer warranties Advocate to reduce the amount of different types of poorly recycled plastics entering the province
	Advocate to suppliers to reduce environmental impact of all packaging		RMOW All ZWP Stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate to reduce unnecessary packaging and layers Advocate for lower GHG, energy use and environmental impact of all packaging materials
	Lobby Federal and Provincial government for mandatory recycled content in products		RMOW All ZWP Stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for requirement that all products entering BC have minimal packaging and that the packaging that does come in needs to be 100% recyclable Advocate for reduced amount of non-recyclable materials in products
BYLAW/ REGULATORY	Strengthen waste and diversion policies, requirements and enforcement		RMOW SLRD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review business licensing processes to determine options that support waste reduction, e.g., require businesses to submit waste checklist or a zero waste strategy in order to renew Continue to audit and enforce strata collection services to require diversion options for recycling and compost Create accountability measures directly to sectors where they can self-manage their properties and submit performance reports to RMOW Introduce fines for mixed waste and for not clean/rinsed out recyclables Assess fixed vs variable costs to more accurately set taxes and tipping fees Start a 'pay as you throw' at waste depots, and incorporate education Require haulers to report data for all waste streams and follow requirements of waste bylaw in order to secure a business license Ban single-use bottled water, finding sustainable alternatives for events and emergency operations centre emergencies. Create a RMOW single use item policy (and subsequent program) Develop a common policy for SLRD communities regarding preferred or allowed packaging Require use of clear bags for all garbage
	Prohibit the use of products and materials that are harmful to the environment and to human health		RMOW SLRD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ban single use items in municipal buildings/operations, and wherever possible Work to counter "greenwashing" (e.g. eliminate biodegradable plastic bags) Encourage composting practices and discourage practices of using garburators and building them in new buildings and renovations

BUILT ENVIRONMENT MATERIALS









	Strategy	Sector	Lead	Potential Actions / Initiatives
EDUCATION	Deliver education on separation and diversion/recycling in the construction and demolition industry		RMOW WCSS AWARE CHBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include waste education in contractor directory • Develop C&D Solutions Guide (including checklist and how-to for deconstruction and cost savings spreadsheet) • Provide educational materials (large posters) at transfer stations to inform about cost savings when separating waste • Include more information on waste diversion in RMOW e-newsletters • Provide more education to CHBA members/contractors about waste and deconstruction options • Encourage modular design of buildings for deconstruction and easier retrofits • Educate built environment officials who enforce policy
	Increase local demand for reusable materials		CHBA RMOW WCSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a program for ICI businesses to connect contractors to organizations outside of Whistler that could use deconstructed materials • Create partnerships with other municipalities for re-use of building materials • Provide incentives for deconstruction (vs demolition) such as for renting multiple bins for sorting/separating • Increase tipping fee differentials at transfer station to encourage greater separation of materials. • Develop an inventory of products that are hard to or cannot currently be recycled
	Increase space for materials to be dropped off and picked up for re-use		RMOW WCSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase capacity of Re-Build-It Centre • Support infrastructure development for programs that repurpose building materials • Ensure adequate space (at the transfer station and Rebuild It Centre) for materials coming from deconstruction of buildings
	Advocate to Provincial and Federal governments for better use of building materials		RMOW CHBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for labelling for lifespan, quality and content • Advocate for building code and system to ensure new buildings can be suitably deconstructed • Lobby for increased recycled content, recyclability, end of life recovery in construction materials, and reduced planned obsolescence
	Require waste management strategy in order to secure building permit		RMOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the development permit process, require all construction sites to have separate bins for recycling and composting of materials • Include diversion specifications for major renovations using deposit system • Encourage renovations that increase the building's energy saving potential
BYLAW/ REGULATORY	Mandate deconstruction (not demolition) of buildings		RMOW SLRD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop deconstruction policy, working with the construction and deconstruction industry to remove barriers • Amend building permit process to require source separation on construction site to reduce amount of recyclable materials going to landfill • Educate bylaw and building department officials to increase enforcement


ORGANICS, FOOD AND FOOD PACKAGING MATERIALS

	Strategy	Sector	Lead	Potential Actions / Initiatives
EDUCATION	Increase community education for reducing food waste and packaging		RMOW Grocers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and execute “Love Food, Hate Waste” education campaign with resort partners Create events showcasing how to minimize food waste, e.g. a cooking challenge using food scraps Encourage changing ‘grab and go’ behaviour (post Covid) Demonstrate safety and health compliance of using reusables to customers Raise awareness of non-“biodegradable plastic” bags (greenwashing) Develop a list of “Accepted in Whistler” compostable materials Identify and educate on what the current contaminants being received by S2S Soils are
	Continue to offer training and resources to reduce food waste and packaging		RMOW AWARE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a restaurant-specific Solutions Guide and provide training to restaurants, stores and event producers Create a best practices document about our different waste streams, and collect and share best practices among restaurants and grocery stores Assist in staff training on waste in grocery stores Encourage suppliers to use packaging that can be composted in the RMOW's systems Encourage more retailers/grocers to give away empty buckets for food waste collection Educate local stores to stop selling biodegradable and compostable plastic items that do not work in local systems Ensure clear and standard signage in stores/restaurants Educate on the negative impacts of contamination of compost stream
	Promote and implement more sustainable landscaping practices	 	RMOW SSISC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support and encourage use of composted soil for landscaping Deliver education and resources about handling yard waste and avoiding using invasive plants
PROGRAMS	Implement comprehensive programs to reduce food waste and packaging		RMOW Grocers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop comprehensive waste reduction plans, including targets, in restaurants, hotels and grocery stores Create a standard, reusable to-go container program for restaurants Conduct waste audits, including shrinkage Appoint a waste reduction champion or team in each restaurant/store Create edible food programs using grocery produce destined for the bin Install prompts to remind customers about reusable bags in all parking lots Provide reusable produce bags for purchase in grocery stores Develop systems to sell food in bulk and allow for reusable containers/bags Identify and use the best option for packaging that works well in local infrastructure Source and purchase supplies with packaging that is compostable, reusable or refillable

PROGRAMS	Increase food recovery initiatives		Grocers WCS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a regional food recovery and redistribution strategy that identifies ways to: Donate unsellable but still edible food to food recovery organizations Use damaged or older produce in prepared meals and ready-to-eat foods for customers to purchase Send low quality/expired produce to farms Expand free food waste pick up service for social service organizations Support increasing capacity for food banks and food programs
	Support local food and lower GHG intensive food growing, delivery and menu choices		Grocers RA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage local organizations to adopt the Squamish Lillooet Good Food Pledge and Policy Offer more seasonal products from local farmers rather than providing 'everything available all year long'
INFRASTRUCTURE	Expand availability of composting bins	 	RMOW (public parks) ICI Residential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide organics collection/compost bins in all parks Provide collection bins for dog waste throughout Whistler Ensure compost bins are always available at depots and have staff promote correct use of them Ensure the correct bins are available and that systems are put in place to decrease contamination in all properties, restaurants and stores
	Separate biosolids from organics/food scraps	 	RMOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide separate channels for biosolids with MSW organics and one for only MSW organics
	Advocate for changes to health codes to support food recovery		Grocers RA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support increased ability for grocery stores and restaurants to pass along items to soup kitchens
ADVOCACY	Advocate to eliminate contamination of compostable materials		RMOW AWARE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for getting rid of (non-compostable) stickers on produce Advocate for elimination of the term "biodegradable" on all packaging (greenwashing) Advocate for only compostable items to be used that degrade in local systems, and a uniform look for compostable packaging
	Advocate for guidelines on refillable container		AWARE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop clear guidelines on use of a range of refillable containers and settings
BYLAW/ REGULATORY	Update RMOW waste bylaw regarding food services to reduce waste	 	RMOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require all food services to have commercial dishwashers or UV disinfection system, or systems to access them Require all takeout containers to be reusable or compostable (non-plastic) Set food waste reduction targets Require all events with food to have a waste plan that minimizes waste

CONSUMER PRODUCTS AND PACKAGING MATERIALS

	Strategy	Sector	Lead	Potential Actions / Initiatives
EDUCATION	Provide educational resources covering all parts of the product use journey		RMOW SLRD ICI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Retail Solution Guide (including checklist) Offer workshops to businesses (including awareness of consumption and understanding barriers to change) Develop a simplified special events checklist /guidelines / toolkit Implement educational campaign and provide information for hotels and nightly rental accommodations to use in rooms and garbage rooms on single use items, recycling and composting and where to the facilities are Develop a Solutions Guide or best practices manual for hotels that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replacing single use items that with refillable items Identifying items that can be reused/repurposed Create a centralized support system for sustainable and waste-wise purchasing Create educational materials targeted specifically at visitors
	Increase community awareness around waste and packaging		RMOW ICI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use multilingual signage and pictures at depots and garbage rooms
PROGRAMS	Develop and implement hotels-specific strategies to reduce products and packaging		RMOW HA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and promote programs and services to reduce disposal of mattresses in landfill Develop hotel-specific zero waste strategies to reduce single use items, to reuse materials, improve recycling/composting, and reduce disposal of large products to landfill Develop hotel pledge to create honour baskets with locally made and minimally-packaged products
	Develop and implement retail sector-specific strategies to reduce products and packaging		RMOW ICI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capture single use items by implementing product reuse programs
	Promote and expand community sharing programs and re-use and repair opportunities		WCSS AWARE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a sharing working group to explore opportunities for sharing and communicating Develop a program for used books Create spaces for sharing, fixing, exchanging items among community members
INFRASTRUCTURE	Provide additional infrastructure and space for recycling and reuse of items	  	RMOW Strata	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide zero waste stations at all large events Create a space at depots where items can be left for others to pick up for free Increase drop-off options at depots for donations to WCSS

ADVOCACY	Advocate to the Province for broader EPR programs		RMOW SLRD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for broader EPR for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Printed paper and packaging from ICI Mattresses Products not covered in the Recycling Regulation Advocate for recycling of all plastic materials regardless of what the product is
	Lobby the Provincial and Federal governments to change how PST and GST are charged on sale or repair of used items		RMOW SLRD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobby to remove PST and GST charged on sale or repair of used items or redirect the PST charged to community services
BYLAW/ REGULATORY	Develop new bylaws to support reduction of materials		RMOW SLRD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ban or restrict door to door advertising flyers and directories, as well as unaddressed admail

