

Date: 12/10/2025

Time: 10:00 am

Attendance:

Presenter: Michael Zarbl, MARR Executive Director

Local Government Representatives:

Nishesh Poudyal, Regional District of Mount Waddington
 Calvin Jameson, IZWTAG
 Andrew Doi, Metro Vancouver
 Darren Murray, Regional District of North Okanagan
 BA Belton, Regional District of Kootenay Boundary

Absence:

Melanie Tromp Hoover, Capital Regional District
 Tom Watkins, Capital Regional District (Interim Chair)
 Lucinda Phillips, IZWTAG
 Sarah Scheibelhut, Metro Vancouver
 Uli Wolf, Regional District of Central Kootenay
 Tal Bogdonov, City of Vancouver
 Sandra Davidon, City of Vancouver
 Janette Derksen, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
 Chris Campbell, MARR Director of Operations
 Liza Bobanova, MARR Program Specialist

MARR Observers:

Greg Wilson, Retail Council of Canada
 Adélaïde Terrien, MARR Program Manager

Time	Item
10:00 am	Welcome
10:02 am	Agenda adoption
10:03 am	Update on Collection Network: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of December 10, 2025, MARR has 230 active sites and 11 MARR collection bins. MARR is present in all Regional Districts + Stikine Region.
10:04 am	Collection Summary (Q1-Q3 2025): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total units collected in Q1–Q3 2025: 327,356, with a slight increase of 0.30% in units’ collection compared to 2024. 114,670 ODS units serviced (5,781 kg of ODS collected) 1,146 mercury switches recycled 104 PCB capacitors collected
10:06 am	Collection Events & MARR bins pick-up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Q1-Q3 MARR supported 10 community collection events. In Q1-Q3 MARR organized bin pick-up for 6 remote communities.
10:10 am	Program Products Clarification: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing number of new appliances entering the market requiring end-of-life management, such as slushy machines, countertop water chillers, and countertop ice makers. Although not classified as large appliances, MARR agreed to include them in its scope due to the presence of refrigerant gas. These products introduce new challenges for recycling.
10:12 am	MLAs Tours & Advocacy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MARR held MLA site visits and reception to raise awareness of large appliance recycling challenges. Focus on challenges in recycling large appliances (fridges/freezers), including gas and plastic recovery.
10:15 am	<p>Darren Murray noted on the countertop ice makers are becoming more common in retail (e.g., Canadian Tire).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasized the need to find solutions for new products entering the market. Expressed appreciation that MARR is addressing these appliances. <p>Michael Zarbl confirmed Canadian Tire and Costco as key retailers selling these appliances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted there is a niche market; if people buy them, they will be sold.

Time	Item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Explained MARR's approach: borderline small/large appliances with refrigerant gas are being accepted into the program.
10:18 am	<p>Darren Murray added additional concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Highlighted DIY installation of heat pumps as a gap in recycling regulations.Noted complexity due to refrigerant lines beyond the pump itself.Mentioned local solutions, including tipping fees (\$75) for non-MARR refrigerated appliances.Noted additional challenges with propane refrigeration appliances.Commented positively on progress being made despite complexities. <p>Michael Zarbl replied to Darren's concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Explained that heat pumps are regulated but currently "orphan" products with no formal recycling program.Ministry is working with industry and associations (e.g., HRAI) to develop a plan, but coordination is challenging due to many installers not being association members.Described how MARR could potentially assist with ODS gas recovery but is unlikely to formally add heat pumps to the program.Noted high costs for draining and recycling refrigerant appliances compared with typical fridges.Pointed out that RV and ammonia fridges also pose challenges for the ministry.Emphasized that adding new products to programs is slow, taking several years, and is an ongoing challenge.
10:28 am	<p>Closing Remarks:</p> <p>Michael Zarbl thanked members for participating throughout the year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Encouraged LGAC members to contact Adelaide, Chris, Michael, or Liza with any questions.Extended holiday greetings
10:30 am	<p>End of the LGAC meeting. Next meeting will be organized in April 2026.</p>