

Date: 04/09/2025

Time: 02:00 pm

Attendance:

Presenter: Adélaïde Terrien, MARR Program Manager

Local Government Representatives:

Tom Watkins, Capital Regional District (Interim Chair)
 Lucinda Phillips, IZWTAG
 Andrew Doi, Metro Vancouver
 Darren Murray, Regional District of North Okanagan
 Uli Wolf, Regional District of Central Kootenay
 Tal Bogdonov, City of Vancouver
 Sandra Davidon, City of Vancouver
 Janette Derksen, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
 BA Belton, Regional District of Kootenay Boundary

Absence:

Matt Dyck, Regional District of Mount Waddington
 Calvin Jameson, IZWTAG
 Sarah Scheibelhut, Metro Vancouver
 Meagan Hatch, Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers Canada
 Greg Wilson, Retail Council of Canada

MARR Observers:

Michael Zarbl, MARR Executive Director
 Chris Campbell, MARR Director of Operations
 Liza Bobanova, MARR Program Specialist

Time	Item
02:04 pm	Welcome
02:06 pm	Agenda adoption
02:07 pm	Update on Collection Network: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of April 9, 2025, MARR has 218 active sites and 5 MARR collection bins. MARR has a presence in 26 out of the 27 Regional Districts, as well as the Stikine Region.
02:09 pm	Collection Summary- 2024 Recap: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total Units collected in 2024: 435,582 representing a 10% increase across categories compared to 2023. 11% increase in non-ODS and 9% in ODS units collected. Increase in units collected attributed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addition of 7 new sites (including 3 high-volume metal recyclers) Improved on-site education at collection points. Early 2025 Trends in Non-ODS Collection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adélaïde Terrien noted a spike in non-ODS unit collections Possible reasons discussed included early-year appliance replacements, tariff fears, or improved public drop-off
02:10 pm	Update on Substances of Concern Programs – 2024 Recap: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 157,362 ODS units serviced (7,460 kg of ODS collected) 1,533 mercury switches recycled 401 PCB capacitors collected
02:12 pm	2025 Projects Roll-Off Bins: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Roll-off bins were deployed in 2024 to First Nation Communities Plan to install 5-10 more bins in remote communities by late summer/early fall 2025 Collection Events

Time	Item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing coordination with FNRI and IZWTAG for community collection events <p>Stewardship Plan Renewal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael Zarbl reported that the stewardship plan is undergoing final revisions after two rounds of feedback from the Ministry of Environment and Parks. The revised plan includes new initiatives such as the satellite bin program. Final submission for revisions is scheduled for Friday, April 11, 2025. Michael Zarbl noted the ministry's improved responsiveness and constructive feedback.
02:16 pm	<p>Tariff Impact Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Campbell led a discussion on steel market instability tied to international tariffs. Michael Zarbl shared that metal recyclers were delaying shipments or rerouting material to Alberta instead of the U.S. due to trade uncertainty. Tom Watkins highlighted downward trends in vendor pricing and difficulty in predicting market direction. Participants agreed to monitor scrap value and maintain communication with local recyclers.
02:21 pm	<p>New Stewardship Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tom Watkins inquired whether any new Stewardship Programs are coming to BC, particularly for mattresses. Michael explained the delays in launching new EPR programs due to legislative backlog, likely lasting into mid-2026 or beyond. The ones that were delayed last year, like the Mattress Program, could be sooner as they were already in the queue.
02:23 pm	<p>Heat Pumps Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael Zarbl provided an overview of MARR's engagement with HRAI and the Ministry of Environment and Parks regarding the management of heat pumps and central air conditioners. Key discussion points included: Recent ministry communications have prompted manufacturers and industry groups to take responsibility for the end-of-life management of heat pumps and central air conditioning units. MARR is exploring a model where it could facilitate the management of orphaned HVAC units at its collection sites and recover associated handling costs through direct invoicing to producers.
2:33 pm	<p>Hot Water Tanks Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Janet Derksen inquired about potential regulatory changes related to hot water heater recycling. Michael Zarbl confirmed that the issue remains active in ongoing ministry discussions and emphasized the need for practical and scalable solutions. Chris Campbell noted operational challenges with hot water heaters, especially those used for radiant heating systems which may contain glycol or automotive coolant-type fluids. He further emphasized concerns over ODS gases that may be present in the insulation foam of certain water heater models, posing environmental and regulatory risks.
02:42 pm	<p>End of the LGAC meeting. Next meeting will be organized in September 2025.</p>