

Date: 09/15/2025

Time: 02:00 pm

Attendance:

Presenter: Adélaïde Terrien, MARR Program Manager

Local Government Representatives:

Melanie Tromp Hoover, Capital Regional District
Nishesh Poudyal, Regional District of Mount Waddington
Calvin Jameson, 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:

Tom Watkins, Capital Regional District (Interim Chair)
Lucinda Phillips, IZWTAG
Sarah Scheibelhut, Metro Vancouver
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
02:02 pm	Welcome
02:04 pm	Agenda adoption
02:05 pm	Update on Collection Network: <ul style="list-style-type: none">As of September 15, 2025, MARR has 231 active sites (13 new sites joined since last meeting) and 5 MARR collection bins.Peace River Regional District officially joined (11 new sites)MARR is present in all regions except the Northern Rockies. Discussions ongoing, potential onboarding by early next year. 40-yard MARR bins: <ul style="list-style-type: none">5 bins currently active; 7 more nearly ready for deployment.By next meeting, 7 new bins expected to be delivered to communities.Swap program working effectively.Production: 9–10 bins annually depending on costs.
02:10 pm	Collection Summary (Q1-Q2 2025): <ul style="list-style-type: none">Total units collected in Q1–Q2 2025: 204,706, with a slight decrease in ODS units compared to 2024.69,142 ODS units serviced (3,196 kg of ODS collected)113 mercury switches recycled17 PCB capacitors collected
02:12 pm	Collection Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none">In Q1-Q2 MARR supported five community collection events.In total over 100 large appliances were collected. BA Belton commented on the Big White Resort collection event:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The community clean-up at Big White Resort took place in June and included bins for collection of various items in a large parking lot. Despite heavy rain, the event was successful. Community members actively participated, helping clean the resort and drop off items. Coordination with MARR was noted as positive. Big White Resort collected 11 MARR units.
02:14 pm	<p>Social Media Summer Campaigns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer campaigns ran across TikTok, Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, and Spotify with new formats, colors, and characters. Focused primarily on remarketing to visitors of the consumer website (largeappliance recycling.ca) to maximize cost-effectiveness and reach interested audiences rather than the general public. <p>Chris Campbell spoke about the campaign performance across platforms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TikTok: Surprisingly successful, high engagement, and significant traffic to the website. Facebook & Instagram: Longstanding cornerstone platforms for campaigns. Spotify: Neutral performance. Pinterest: Ineffective; not planned for future campaigns.
02:19 pm	<p>Stewardship Renewal - Stewardship Plan was renewed with an approval letter received from MOEP on June 20th. Some changes and clarifications were highlighted.</p> <p>Chris Campbell talked on Clarifications & Operational Codification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarified that several changes are codifications of existing practices, such as the bin program and collection events, now officially required to report and maintain service levels. Highlighted the requirement to produce a supplementary report within 18 months that provides a comprehensive solution, with associated timelines, for the management of all material components in ODS-containing appliances (insulating foam, plastics, glass, gases). Emphasized the need to develop cost-effective, practical recovery methods in line with pollution prevention. <p>Michael Zarbl talked on Regulatory Amendments & Government Relations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explained the need for regulatory amendments to guarantee supply for specialized appliance processing facilities. Described a plan to engage with government officials, MLAs, and the Ministry to secure amendments for processing cooling and freezing appliances in BC. Confirmed that local governments/collectors will not bear additional costs; MARR will handle collection, hauling, and reimburse costs. <p>Andrew Doi raised couple concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulatory amendments could mirror Schedule 1 beverage container rules, making recovery mandatory. Raised potential challenges from other programs if plastics are recovered centrally. <p>Chris Campbell and Michael Zarbl added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand-separation pilots for plastics in fridges have demonstrated high-quality, in-demand recovered plastics. The cost of hand removal remains a challenge. Environmental data from Europe shows significant benefits, particularly for refrigerant gases, even accounting for increased hauling distances. Non-refrigerated appliances present less environmental benefit; focus remains on refrigerators due to significant gas impact. <p>Chris Campbell talked on Operational Thresholds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20% threshold: if more than 20% of collected ODS-containing appliances are found to be empty of ODS gas, an investigation and action plan will be implemented. Causes for high empty rates include damaged seals or improper consumer disposal. Remedies: signage, consumer awareness, operational changes; ongoing monitoring ensures compliance. <p>Key Takeaways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plan codifies existing programs while adding formal reporting and recovery requirements. MARR is tasked with producing a detailed 18-month recovery plan for ODS-containing appliances. Regulatory amendments are critical to enable new processing methods and secure investment.

Time	Item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="324 235 1546 294">• Environmental benefits are strong for refrigerant-containing appliances, with limited benefits for non-refrigerated appliances.<li data-bbox="324 294 1546 336">• MARR will manage costs for local collectors and maintain service levels while addressing operational challenges.
02:45 pm	End of the LGAC meeting. Next meeting will be organized in December 2025.