

MARR LGAC MEETING MINUTES



Date: 12/15/2021

Time: 9:30 am

Attendance:

• **Local Government Representatives:**

- Andrew Doi, Metro Vancouver
- Maria Lo, Metro Vancouver
- Darren Murray, Regional District of North Okanagan
- Patrick Donaghy, Mount Waddington Regional District (Chair)
- Tim Jones, First Nations representative & Recycle BC
- Tom Watkins, Capital Regional District
- Uli Wolf, Regional District of Central Kootenay

• **MARR Observers:**

- Meagan Hatch, Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers Canada
- Michael Zarbl, MARR
- Chris Campbell, MARR
- Liza Bobanova, Return-It

Absence:

- Graham Fonseca, City of Vancouver
- Janette Derksen, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
- Janine Dougall, Regional District of Kootenay Boundary
- Tim Dueck, Regional District of Kootenay Boundary
- Greg Wilson, Retail Council of Canada

Time	Item
9:00 am	Welcome
9:38 am	Agenda adoption
9:40 am	<p>Michael Zarbl talked about the MARR response and support offered after the BC flooding situation happened earlier in November.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MARR is closely working with the Regional District of Fraser Valley and the Thompson-Nicola Regional District as well cities of Abbotsford and Chilliwack. • MARR and other Stewardships in BC are helping to cover extra labor expenses. Some temporarily transfer stations are set up in Abbotsford to handle the extra volume. • MARR is working with the Red Cross and United Way to help people who doesn't have insurance. • There are some risks about refurbishing and reusing electronics that has been impacted by the flood.
9:45 am	<p>Update on Collection Network.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A first site in the Central Coast Regional District has signed up with MARR - Bella Bella Recycling Facility. • Three sites got inactivated for non-respect of the MARR requirements – no impact for residents as other local/regional/private sites close by are part of the MARR program. • A total of 27 Regional Districts are covered by the MARR program, with 199 active MARR sites. • The total of units collected is in constant progression: +7% compared to 2020, that brings a total of 350,966 units collected in 2021 as of December 13, 2021.
9:48 am	<p>Field visits report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MARR field agent is continuously visiting sites to offer any support and evaluate the collection system. In 2021, 81 sites have been visited. • The agent is also fully certified and can provide an ODS removal practice training to any community or remote site that do not have easy access to certified ODS technician. 3 sites have taken part of this training.

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Time	Item
9:50 am	<p>Training at the Heiltsuk First Nation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This community organized a collection event earlier this year, before becoming a MARR site in November.• Following the completion of the online HRAI course, 6 employees have been trained by the MARR field agent for the ODS removal practice.• Around 100 fridges & freezers have been serviced during the training.• Training is free of charge
9:54 am	<p>Mercury Switch / PCB Capacitors Program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 643 mercury switches recycled in 2021.• 10 PCB capacitors recycled in 2021 (previously used in air conditioners until 1979).• The MARR field agent helped and trained 21 ODS technicians to recognize PCB capacitors and mercury switches, and safely collect them.
9:57 am	<p>Collection Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MARR is helping remote communities to dispose of Large Appliances.• 8 collection events have been held in 2021.
9:58 am	<p>Chris Campbell provided an update on the stewardship plan renewal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consolidated all feedbacks received after the two consultations organized in October (live and webinar)• Several follow-up consultations will be scheduled in early 2022.
10:00 am	<p>Andrew Doi from Metro Vancouver provided his feedback on illegal dumping issue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some large appliances and electronics are dumped or abandoned on the streets, those need to be collected and recycled at the proper facility.• Cost issue involved for local governments and remote communities.
10:02 am	<p>Andrew Doi raised an issue of the future response to nature disaster. Extensive discussion ensued.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposition to come up with a formal plan on emergency procedure.• Michael Zarbl to approach SABC group and introduce the Coordination of Stewardship programs in BC to help local governments.
10:13 am	<p>Marketing plan for consumer awareness for the next year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MARR has some new creative assets that will be used in 2022 to promote that: "Recycling Large Appliances is crucial to keep BC green, easy and free".
10:14 am	<p>Darren Murray provided his feedback on the MARR program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Program is working very well for the residents of the Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO)• Easy reporting requirements• Positively commented on implementation of mercury switches and PCB capacitors to the program• In 2021, 4300 refrigerated appliances were decommissioned at the RDNO which represents a 16% increase compared to last year. During summer 2021 twice as many large appliances were collected compared to summer 2020
10:18 am	<p>Michael Zarbl mentioned an increase in the budget for public awareness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To let everyone know that there is no cost for dropping units at a MARR site.• Majority of the sites are in a 20 km range• Collection Events
10:20 am	<p>End of the LGAC meeting. Next meeting will be organized in April 2022.</p>