

MARR LGAC MEETING MINUTES



Date: 09/08/2022

Time: 9:30 am

Attendance:

▪ **Local Government Representatives:**

- Mike Budzik, City of Vancouver
- Gayle Short, Regional District of Kootenay Boundary
- 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:**

- Adelaide Terrien, MARR
- Michael Zarbl, MARR
- Chris Campbell, MARR
- Liza Bobanova, Return-It/MARR Program Coordinator

▪ **Absence:**

- Andrew Doi, Metro Vancouver
- Janette Derksen, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
- Greg Wilson, Retail Council of Canada
- Meagan Hatch, Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers Canada

Time	Item
9:30 am	Welcome
9:36 am	Agenda adoption
9:37 am	Update on Collection Network: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 27 Regional Districts are covered by the MARR program, with 203 active MARR sites. • 4 new sites added since last LGAC Meeting. • Total Units collected: 189,615 (Based on data as of September 1st, 2022).
9:38 am	Update on Substances of Concern Programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 67,747 ODS units serviced • 880 mercury switches recycled • 107 PCB capacitors collected
9:40 am	MARR data Collection Enhancement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field Services Visits – Portal tool presentation • Tracking tool for ODS tanks disposal. This tool allows MARR team to verify if the gas collected has been properly disposed of. • Metal Tonnage Reporting calendar – tool that allows to compare units collected with the weight reported.
9:42 am	Collection Events. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MARR is helping remote communities to dispose of Large Appliances. • 5 collection events held in 2022 (Kitasoo First Nation, Canim Lake Band, Penticton Indian Band, Soowahlie Indian Band, Pauquachin First Nation)
9:43 am	Chris Campbell talked about Stewardship Plan Renewal. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new MARR Stewardship Plan was sent to the MOE end of June for approval. • Two biggest changes on the plan: 1st - Progression on more aggressive targets for the consumer awareness & 2nd - Commitment to study solutions for the plastic recovered from the appliances

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9:45 am	<p>New MARR signages available to all sites at no cost:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accepted items signs (ODS & Non-ODS units)• Caution sign (to prevent dumping outside the fence)• Do not touch or alter appliances sign (to educate people on the potentially harmful substances)
9:47 am	<p>Chris Campbell talked about Consumer Research Study (Every year MARR undertakes a consumer survey. Based on the results of the survey the consumer awareness score is calculated.).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MARR awareness score is at 81%• 17% unwanted appliances at home in 2022 compared to 12% in 2021 (including fully functional appliances that didn't had a chance to be replaced)• Likely future disposal methods: 40% - Retailers, 25% Recycling facility, 13% - Donate, 5% - Landfill.
9:51 am	<p>Patrick Donaghy asked a question about the Consumer Research Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Once the ODS removal part is done, is there an opportunity for small businesses to salvage parts to facilitate repair and reuse? <p>Michael Zarbl commented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The market already exists for the refurbished appliances. It is exceedingly small as the majority prefers to buy a new fridge versus to repair.• As well as the biggest challenge for reuse parts is safety. Improper storage or installation can be hazardous.
9:56 am	<p>Patrick Donaghy and Michael Zarbl talked about potential new MARR site in Bella Coola.</p>
9:57 am	<p>Michael Zarbl mentioned that if there is a remote First Nation site that cannot get the appliances to the market or if it is too expensive to move those, MARR will help on this issue.</p>
9:59 am	<p>MARR Outreach in 2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SWANA Pacific Chapter – April• CTV Morning TV interview – June• Global News radio interview – June• Burnaby Eco-Centre Open House – June• CBC.ca article – June• Daily Hive article - July
10:00 am	<p>Patrick Donaghy provided his feedback on the MARR program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mentioned that after ODS training his staff is getting very comfortable with the ODS removal.• Expressed gratitude to MARR for the great support.
10:01 am	<p>Darren Murray raised his concern on the small amount of PCB capacitors collected.</p> <p>Chris Campbell replied on the Darren's concern:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MARR ODS technicians are fully aware and trained on the removal of PCB capacitors.• Units with PCB capacitors have been discontinued back in 1978, and no longer used in new appliances.
10:03 am	<p>Michael Zarbl thanked everyone for the support over the years.</p>
10:05 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• End of the LGAC meeting. Next meeting will be organized in December 2022.