



MEDIA RELEASE
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qathet Regional District Proposes Additional Borrowing to Complete Marine Avenue Resource Recovery Centre Build-Out

Powell River, B.C. – The qathet Regional District (qRD) Board has proposed additional borrowing of up to \$6.4 million necessary to complete the build-out of the Resource Recovery Centre (RRC). The extra funding is necessary due to two unsuccessful grant applications for the waste transfer station building, and in order to account for rising building material and labour costs.

The qRD's budget for the RRC remains on track. The closure costs for the Marine Avenue Landfill site came in under budget and costs for solid waste management services remain comparable to other Regional Districts. To save costs, the qRD has incorporated existing materials on-site and will utilize \$500,000 of [Canada Community Building funding](#) to support the project.

Extensive community engagement in 2017 revealed the public endorsed a one-stop-drop recycling and transfer station facility. Providing a one-stop-drop facility allows all available diversion opportunities through the source separation of materials. The RRC will offer a central location for all residents and operators in the region, to increase waste diversion and will create local social and economic opportunities. The goal of the RRC is reducing our waste to landfill through reduction, reuse, recycling, and organics collection.

Regional Board Chair, Patrick Brabazon commended the RRC as a legacy project designed to provide responsible waste management services well into the future stating, "Sustainable waste management practices reduce pollution, create jobs, reduce waste transportation costs, conserve natural resources, and support a local circular economy. The RRC is the qRD's top action item to address carbon neutrality in our organization's operations."

All regional districts in British Columbia are legislated by the Province of British Columbia to develop and implement a Solid Waste Management Plan. The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (MOECCS) approved the qRD SWMP in 2018. The RRC is a key component of the SWMP's stated goal of "Working towards Zero Waste". To learn more about the qRD Marine Avenue Resource Recovery Centre Project: <https://www.qathet.ca/resource-recovery-centre>.

The qRD serves the rural areas from Lund to Saltery Bay including the City of Powell River, Texada, Savary and Lasqueti Islands and provides some services, through contract, to Tla'amin Nation. To learn more please visit qathet.ca.

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