



Delegation notes for CCS Dec. 7/09 1:00 p.m. meeting on CSI-12-09 Toward Zero Waste Strategy.

Chair, Councilor D'Amelio & Members of CCS Committee.
My name is Barbara Frensch and I am representing BurlingtonGreen.
We support the Toward Zero Waste Strategy Report.

It is an excellent report Lynn. Thank you for your diligent work.
Your report will truly support the 1991 declaration of Burlington being a sustainable community.
We applaud this forward thinking strategy that sees the majority of waste as the valuable resources they are.

Zero waste advocates think of waste at the front end, not the back end. In other words, instead of thinking how are we going to get rid of all this waste, we think of eliminating or reducing waste at the beginning so we don't have as much to deal with afterwards.

BurlingtonGreen suggests that the committee recommend approval of the budget needed to implement this report.
After adoption by Council, BurlingtonGreen will help in any way it can.
In addition, we support hiring a Waste Management Coordinator to engage the city staff in an effective waste diversion program.

Our experience shows that the key element of success lies in a strict compliance of mandatory waste sorting for all employees. (Becomes part of their job description)

Each of you received all my comments for your consideration prior to this meeting, so today I will only highlight a few.

As your awareness & education programs are rolled out to all City staff, then the general public, compliance at facilities such as rinks, pools, ... will continue to improve.
Having standardized bins with proper signage for the 3 waste types conveniently located beside each other is all good and well, but from years of experience at events & schools, I know bins must still be monitored and checked for contamination.

Having supervised waste stations where employees bring their wastes to empty into the correct totes is the best solution as there is accountability, education and no contamination.
(pass around signs)

There is someone trained to let the employee know if they had a waste type in the wrong bin, so it can be corrected before being put into the large storage totes.

As far as Events & Festivals go, please consider making waste sorting a requirement for all groups or organizations wanting to rent any City park for their event. To ensure compliance, set a diversion % target (60% to support provincial & Regional goal), ask for collection company name(s) with weight scale information for all waste types and make this information available to the public on your web site.

This could be a realistic expectation of all events, since the City would also be managing its waste properly too. (Show signs that Waste Co-ordinator could use when working with event organizers)

May I suggest: events that don't divert waste should have to pay more rent, as presently there is no financial incentive to recycle & compost.

However, with Ontario moving towards Zero Waste with mandatory legislation to include Businesses, Burlington can be a leader before the province mandates it.

Thank you for your time.

Barbara Frensch
BurlingtonGreen Volunteer