

**TIRRA Solid Waste Management Committee
2017 AGM Report**

2017 has been a year of some change at the Recycling and Garbage yard. We are still in the beginning stages of our partnership with the CVRD. They are now removing our MMBC recyclables in exchange for the revenues generated from said recyclables. We hope to have a clear service agreement signed with the CVRD around this partnership by early summer.

We are also trying to clarify whether we can and/or the most appropriate ways to handle, store, and transport certain non-MMBC items such as propane tanks and other potentially hazardous or explosive materials. The recycling of these items is theoretically funded through consumer product care fees, but it is not clear if/how we can access those funds in order to properly handle their care.

In fall 2016 the TIRRA membership charged the SWMC with developing a committee Terms of Reference. We have been working on this since. It's now in its 3rd draft and getting closer to adoption. The intention is that the Terms of Reference will be a living document that will be reviewed and revised as warranted by subsequent committee members. Please peruse the most recent draft attached to this report.

In regards to finances, the change in hauling arrangements will result in a savings for the system. Also of note, our garbage weight has gone down by 17% since last year. TIRRA Treasurer and SWMC member Ernie Hunter will speak to specific financial questions.

I am stepping down as Chair and as a committee member. Consequently the committee is in need of a chair. The current committee consists of four other members as well as the TIRRA president, who is a de facto member. These members also have other volunteer commitments which make taking on the SWMC Chair role untenable. However they are all committed to sharing the responsibilities of the committee(see draft ToR) as fairly as possible. Currently the SWMC meets about every other month, which is a lot less than in the time of the 'big transition' when they met each week! It is possible that the committee might choose to meet quarterly unless a special meeting is warranted. So the work load is really a lot lighter than in times past. I am happy to help out the incoming chair by reviewing the Terms of Reference with them and providing agenda meeting templates.

Thanks so much to my fellow committee members for their commitment to responsible waste and recycling management in our beautiful Island home. Thanks to our very competent and capable site staff, Glen Andison and Louise Esquirol, as well as all our dedicated and cheerful site volunteers. And thanks to all community members who continue to step up and make an effort to be conscientious consumers in handling recycling/waste. We have made and will continue to make great progress together!

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Cottell

March 16, 2017