

From Landfill to Transfer Station

Why a Transfer Station?

The Mackenzie Regional Landfill is costly to operate (approx. \$330,000/year) due to its isolated location and small volumes of garbage, making this landfill not a cost-effective operation. The Mackenzie Regional Landfill is an outdated facility with high liability and high operating costs. The current landfill setting is inadequate and inconvenient for effective waste diversion. There are also concerns of long-term environmental impacts if the site continues to operate in its present form.

What can I dispose at the transfer station? What can I get out of the transfer station?

There is no change to the list of accepted materials at the transfer station. With the transfer station built, there will be more recycling opportunities in Mackenzie to divert materials more conveniently at one location and achieve higher waste diversion goals. The transfer station design will be coordinated with the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan to meet the needs of the local garbage collection services and the community's desire for more convenient disposal and recycling.

What will happen to the landfill?

The Regional District's Regional Solid Waste Management Plan recommends that the Mackenzie Regional Landfill be closed to all but construction and demolition waste.

Will there be a \$6 charge to dispose of small loads of household waste, like there is at Foothills Boulevard Regional Landfill?

The implementation of a minimum charge for small loads of household waste at all Regional District solid waste facilities was part of a bylaw (Bylaw 3023) approved by the Regional District Board in November 2016. There is no date yet for when this will take effect in Mackenzie, but once that is confirmed, it will be advertised months in advance to ensure residents are aware of the change.

What is the budget and project timeline?

The grant application was developed in 2015, and at that time the project was valued at just over \$2.3 million. The New Building Canada-Small Communities Fund will cover 2/3 of the cost. The remaining costs for this project will be covered through reserve and alternative funds.

The construction is estimated to begin mid May 2019, once the snow clears and ground thaws. Anticipated completion of construction will be early October, with the transfer station operational by end of October 2019.

Once the transfer station is fully operational, all garbage will be directed to the transfer station. Only demolition landclearing construction waste will be directed to the landfill.

Will users of the landfill be consulted in the design and operation of the transfer station?

Public consultation is an important part of this project. Representatives of the Regional District will be attending monthly council meetings held at Mackenzie to update the progress of the construction. The Regional District will also post updates on social media to keep users of the Mackenzie Regional Landfill up to date on the construction progress.

For more information contact us at 1.800.667.1959