

Town of Berwick Council Meeting

December 9, 2025

Town of Berwick Council Chambers

6:30 pm

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of the Agenda

3. Approval of the Minutes

a. Council Minutes, November 12, 2025

b. Special Council Meeting Minutes, November 25, 2025

4. Presentation

a. Andrew Garrett, Valley Waste Resource Management

5. Review of Action Items

6. Councillor Announcements

7. New Business

a. Development Officer Appointment

8. Mayor's Report

9. Adjournment

REDUCING, REUSING, LEADING: VALLEY WASTE IN ACTION





- Open Saturday mornings
- Opened in 2012
- Diverts over 80 tons of waste from the landfill annually
- The store sales support a position and overhead to run the operation.
- Items are picked each week-you never know what is going to be in there!



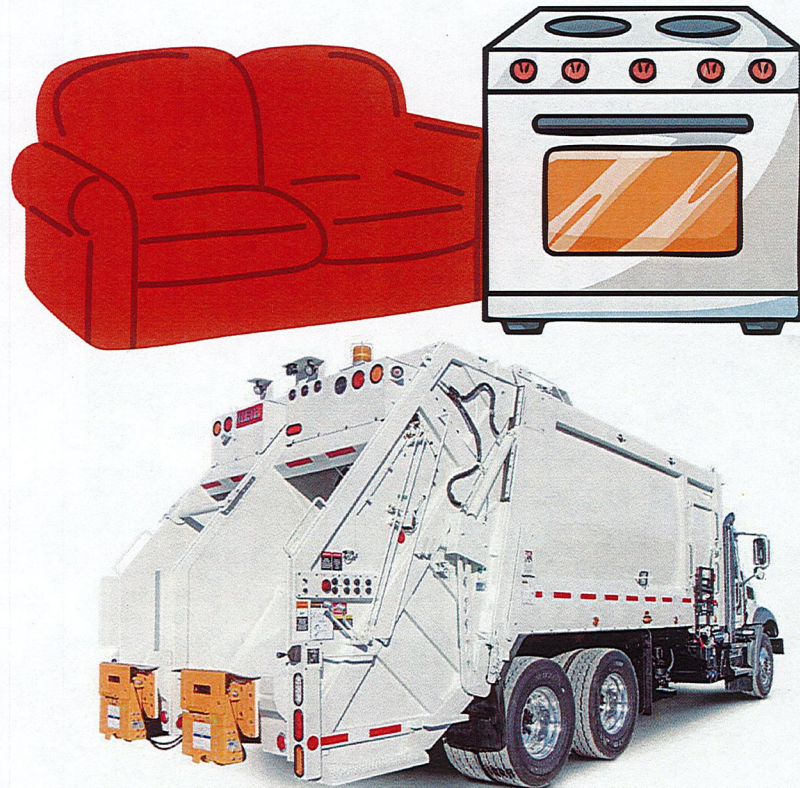
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS

- Partnering with Local Fire Halls – Promoting battery safety in our communities.
- Soups & Sides – Food waste education through practical cooking initiatives.
- Community and Immigration Fair – Engaging newcomers and residents in sustainability.
- Vermicomposting Workshops – In collaboration with Valley Community Learning Association.
- Planet Protectors Program – On-site educational tours hosted by Captain Vortex
- Scotian Shores & NS Beach Awareness – Beach clean-ups and coastal education.



**GOOD
NEWS!**





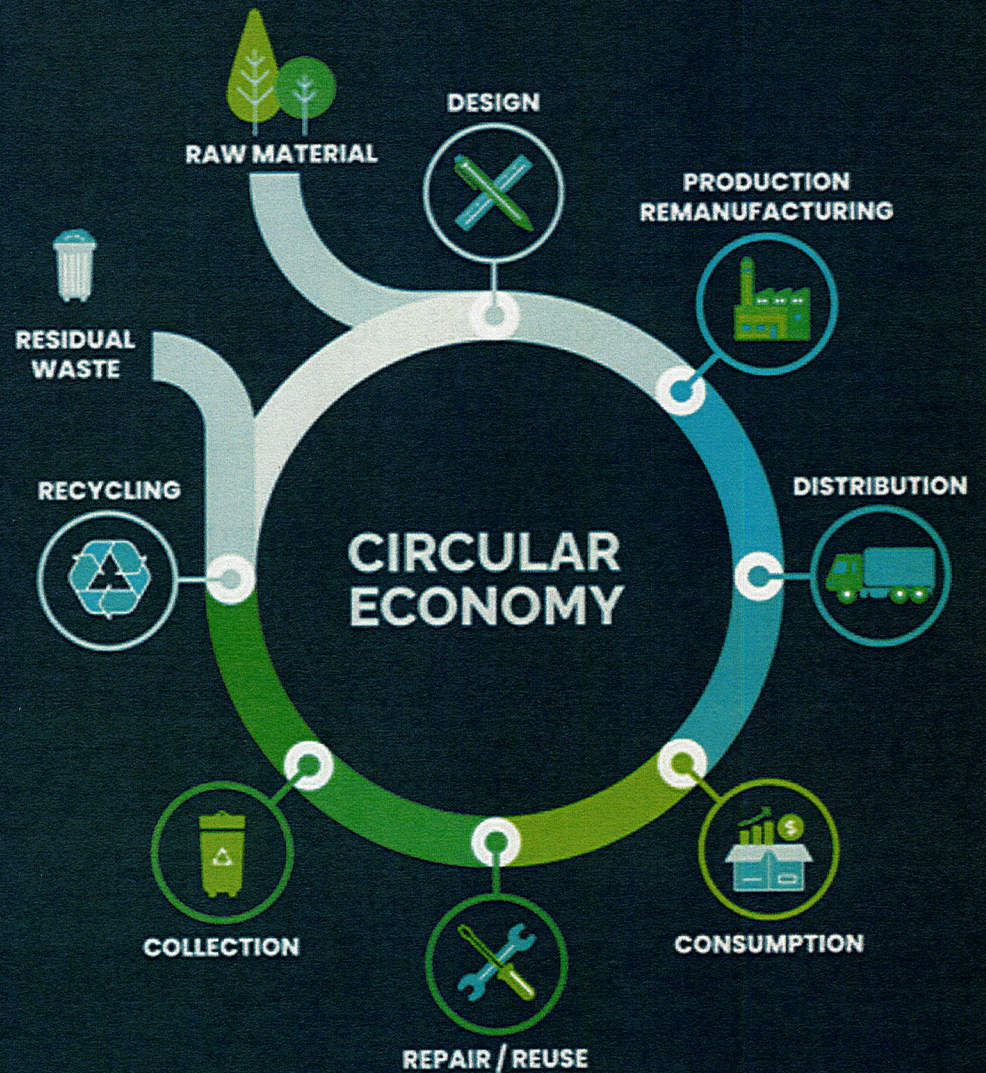
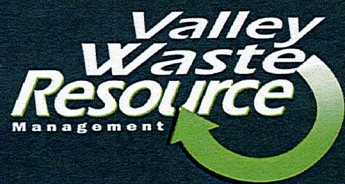
BULKY WASTE IS CHANGING!

Starting April 1st, up to two bulky waste items will be collected on the same day as regular curbside collection.

No more giant mountains of garbage!!



Extended Producer Responsibility EPR



(Source Credits: Green Growth Sector Committee)

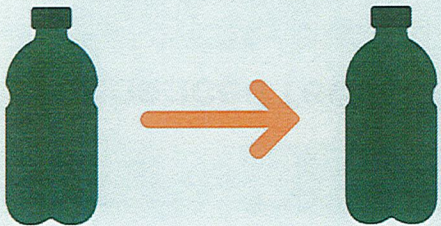
EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR)

“Companies take care of their packaging—even after you’re done with it.”

- ✔ Less waste
- ✔ Better recycling
- ✔ Materials reused in new products



Think: Old bottles → New bottles!



WHAT IS EPR?

- Producers become responsible for packaging and paper life cycles.
- Encourages better recycling systems and reusable packaging.
- Supports a circular economy where old items become new products.



An enhanced recycling system.



Learn more:
circularmaterials.ca/NS



WHO IS MANAGING EPR?

- Circular Materials is a national not-for-profit Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO).
- Manages collection, recycling, and return of materials as recycled content.
- Learn more on the Circular Materials website.



WHAT IT MEANS FOR RESIDENTS OF KINGS & ANNAPOLIS COUNTIES?



- Valley Waste joined the EPR program.
- Saves money and reduces landfill waste.
- Curbside recycling collection will continue.



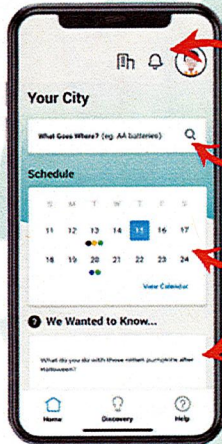
ARE MY TAXES PAYING FOR THIS?

- No—producers now pay recycling costs.
- Costs are included in the purchase price of goods.
- Taxes (~\$200/year per unit) cover curbside collection, bulky waste cleanup, and all other solid waste operations.



We've partnered with Recycle Coach!

Download the app and learn how to become a better recycler



Receive customized notifications

Sort waste correctly with the "What Goes Where?" search tool

Use the personalized collection schedule

Boost your recycling knowledge and more!



WHAT IS RECYCLABLE?

To find out what else has been added to our recycling bags, see our sorting page on our website or download the Recycle Coach app for free from Apple or Google Stores and access their *What Goes Where* section.



CONTAINER BAG

NEW!



PAPER BAG



**Valley
Waste
Resource**
Management

BLUE BAGS LIMITS



Residential Units

- Unlimited blue bags and cardboard bundles for residential curbside collection.
- Collected by Valley Waste on behalf of Circular Materials.
- Unsorted bags may be left behind.

ICI/Business Units

- Business units who receive curbside collection will be allowed a maximum of 6 bags of recyclables (which includes bundled cardboard).





HOW WILL COLLECTION WORK?

- Same Sorting Rules Across Nova Scotia
- As of April 1st, there will be two trucks on the road for collection
- A side load truck - with two compartments for recycling.
- A two stream rear packer truck for garbage, including bulky waste and compost.





MOVING FORWARD

Let's work together to make recycling
easier and better for everyone!

For more information, call 902 679 1325 or
visit www.vwrm.com



Meeting Date	Action Item	Status	Comments
2025-01-14	Is there revenue from VCFN that is returned to the owner parties?	Completed	VCFN presented in November. There is no revenue to return to the parties.
2025-04-22	Develop a process to report incidents to RCMP and what the escalation and resolution process is for remedy the situation with the individuals.	Completed	A draft of the SOP for vandalism is complete and will be reviewed by the management team and shared.
2025-03-25	What is the useful life of the STORHUB batteries packs.	Completed	20-30 years
2025-06-10	Identify what rate the County of Kings Deed Transfer Tax rate will be and prepare a list of neighbouring municipalities.	Completed	The Municipality of Kings has approved a Deed Transfer Bylaw at 1.5%. Kentville, Wolfville and Middleton are 1.5%
2025-01-14	Number of fines written by RCMP and how does it get directed to Town of Berwick revenue.	In-Progress	Initial information was provided to the Police Advisory Board. Still more
2025-01-14	Planning Fee review and determine whether changes to the MPS will change our planning services fees, whether a staff person makes sense and look at similar size MU for	In-Progress	Will be reviewed and recommended during the 2026/27 budget.
2025-06-27	Arrange for a Key Fob for DM Lutz.	In-Progress	Key Fob has been completed; however, a physical key is required for front door.
	Fix decorative lights that are out.	In-Progress	The lights are out due to an electrical issue. BEC staff are accessing the issue to correct it. Once this is complete, then we can assess the number of outages.
2024-12-10	Reach out to other municipalities to understand how they are assessing the Code of Conduct criteria for establishing the sanctions	Not Started	
2024-12-10	Electricity Regulations, educational materials to provide to Council on the Council SharePoint site.	Not Started	
2025-02-11	Review Snow Removal Policy prior to next winter plowing season with input from Accessibility and Active Transportation.	Not Started	
2025-06-10	Set budget for charity event participation policy	Not Started	Include in 2026/27 budget.
	Add crosswalk using packing spaces at KMCC from the crosswalk at Veteran's to front door	Not Started	
2025-04-08	Can staff look at an efficiency audit for the entire organization?	Other	Discuss during strategic planning.
	Breaking Soils Policy and Permits	Other	Deferred to Strategic Plan

Town of Berwick
Report to Municipal Council
Agenda Item

Subject: Appoint Khyali Patel as Development Officer for the Town of Berwick

From: Chrystal Fuller, Brighter Community Planning & Consulting

Date: November 27th, 2023

Khyali Patel is a planner at Brighter Community Planning who has been assisting the Town of Berwick's Development Officer for five months. Through this experience, Ms. Patel has demonstrated her ability to understand relevant planning documents (Land Use By-Law, Municipal Planning Strategy, and Subdivision By-Law), review development and planning applications, write staff reports, present applications to Council, and respond to civic inquiries. Upon appointment, Ms. Patel will be joining the Municipal Development Officers Association and intends to pursue Development Officer certification. With this, Brighter Community Planning recommends the appointment of Khyali Patel as a Development Officer for the Town of Berwick, operating under the supervision of the current Development Officer. Ms. Patel will issue basic development permits and development agreements. More complicated applications, such as tentative subdivisions or comprehensive development permits and development agreements, will still be issued by the current Development Officer. When Ms. Patel obtains his Development Officer certificate, he will then take on the full role and responsibilities of the Town of Berwick's Development Officer. This strategic transition aligns with our commitment to fostering professional growth and ensuring a seamless and efficient management of development processes.

Draft Motion for Council

That Council appoints Khyali Patel as a Development Officer for the Town of Berwick, pursuant to Section 243 of the Municipal Government Act.