

## **Final Report**

# **Zero Waste Sooke** **Open Space Symposium**



**April 17, 2016**  
**Sooke Community Hall**

**Presented to the District of Sooke**  
**Committee of the Whole**  
**Sept. 12, 2016**

## Synopsis

Zero Waste Sooke, a working group affiliated with Transition Sooke, organized a community Open Space meeting on waste management issues and potential solutions in April, 2016. Invitations were extended to everyone in town via social media and advertising. Special invites were extended to council, District staff and waste management professionals. Some 50 individuals in total attended all or part of the day under the direction of Open Space facilitators Tony and Christiana St-Pierre.

Attached please find the complete report featuring notes and recommendations from the day's nine discussion groups. A list of participants and footnotes for further research are also included.

Zero Waste Sooke has identified **three priority actions** that might be tackled in the short and mid-term by the District of Sooke in association with other levels of government, citizens, community groups and private business.

**1. RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE:** DOS to take a lead role in exploring a public/private partnership that will ensure Sooke residents have access to a full-service resource recovery centre that might also include a compost facility, yard-waste depot and related, job-creating cottage industries.

**2. PLASTIC REDUCTION:** DOS to legislate a ban on single-use plastic checkout bags at retail outlets in Sooke as part of a comprehensive campaign to reduce plastic waste.

**3. DRINKING FOUNTAINS:** DOS to install water drinking fountains in strategic locations around town, the most logical locations being ...

- i) Town core (at site of the info map at Evergreen Centre)
- ii) John Phillips Memorial Park (as part of new washrooms)
- iii) Ed Macgregor Park
- iv) Sooke Flats campground
- v) Broomhill Park playground

sincerely,

Wendy O'Connor, Jo Phillips and Jeff Bateman  
on behalf of Zero Waste Sooke



## Open Space Report 2016

# "How can residents, businesses and local government work together to transform the Sooke region into a model Zero Waste community?"

This question was the starting point and overall theme for Zero Waste Sooke's **Open Space Community Symposium on local waste management issues**. Open Space meeting techniques<sup>1</sup> allow attendees to identify priority topics and then discuss them in break-out groups. By day's end, the intention is to emerge with a set of practical ambitions as a kickstarter for future community discussion and action.

Evolving rapidly in Canada and internationally, "zero waste" is a movement<sup>2</sup> calling for the redesign of waste disposal systems so that products are recovered and repurposed rather than sent to landfills. The process is similar to the way resources are reused in nature. "Zero waste" is an aspiration and intention, not necessarily an entirely achievable objective.

Everyone in Sooke with an interest in the issue was invited to attend via notices in social media, emails, press releases and advertising. Special invites were extended to District of Sooke councillors and staff as well as local organizations and waste-management professionals. All told, some 50 individuals (*see addendum one*) attended all or portions of the day under the guidance of Open Space facilitators Christiana and Tony St-Pierre.

The event was organized by Zero Waste Sooke (ZWS)<sup>3</sup>, a working group affiliated with Transition Sooke<sup>4</sup>. We gratefully acknowledge the support of a team of volunteers led by ZWS coordinator Wendy O'Connor. Financial support was provided by the District of Sooke, the JDF Electoral District and Vancity Credit Union. We received luncheon contributions from Kelz Bakery, the Little Vienna, the Stick in the Mud Cafe, Village Foods and Western Foods. Sincere thanks to all for the support.

Keynote speaker Buddy Boyd, a board member with Zero Waste Canada<sup>5</sup>, began the day by sharing his experiences with Gibsons Recycling<sup>6</sup>, a renowned Sunshine Coast "resource recovery depot." His talk at an Awareness Film Night<sup>7</sup> screening in January, 2015 spurred the

creation of ZWS, whose first-year activities included roadside clean-ups, public education efforts and a trash-busting blitz of the forest behind Evergreen Mall.

Participants then brainstormed ideas, sharing them initially with the group at large and then stepping up to champion them for further discussion (*addendum two*). These ideas were linked according to themes and divided up into the following nine topics:

**1. How can we encourage the District of Sooke (DOS) to more fully embrace and legislate Zero Waste best-practices?**

**2. The need for a Sooke Resource Recovery Centre (featuring compost centre, re-use-it store, Take-It or Leave-It Exchange, and several cottage industries).**

**3. Sooke maker space, repair cafe and plastic remanufacturing/upcycling.**

**4. Big picture perspective on Zero Waste and how we can grassroots organization in Sooke**

**5. Reducing plastic use (especially grocery bags, meat trays, straws, styrofoam cups and styrofoam) in Sooke**

**6. "Zero Waste Food" in Sooke**

**7. How to capitalize on wood fiber waste in JDF Resource Lands**

**8. Need for a Sooke bulk food ordering club**

**9. Campaign to reduce use of local plastic water bottle, in part through installation of public water fountains and water-bottle fill stations**

The following are notes, suggestions and action plans documented by group leaders at each of these discussion groups. Footnotes (*addendum three*) have been included as an aide for further research.

sincerely,  
Zero Waste Sooke

## **DISCUSSION GROUP REPORTS**

### **1. How can we encourage the District of Sooke (DOS) to more fully embrace, legislate and practice Zero Waste best-practices?** *Participants: Jess Boquist, Frederique Philip, Gail Armitage, Sheila Whincup, Wendy O'Connor, Jeff Bateman*

#### **i) District of Sooke Leadership**

The District (DOS) is guided by its Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP)<sup>8</sup>. It calls for energy efficiencies at municipal and community levels. Much of the effort so far has focused on municipal operations. The DOS Climate Change Action Committee<sup>9</sup> monitors CEEP priorities and makes recommendations to council.

The group recognized that the District is proactive, professional, positive and aware of the need for energy efficiencies. *Challenge: How can DOS extend its efforts more effectively to the community at large?*

#### **ii) Illegal dumping & large-item disposal**

a) A major problem is bylaw enforcement. DOS employs just one overworked bylaw officer who must deal with infractions on numerous fronts. Possible solution: Bust a handful of dumpers and send a strong message to the community.

b) Unless caught in the act (by a CCTV camera set up at popular dump sites<sup>11</sup>), it can be difficult to stop dumpers. Even if paperwork is found in the trash that identifies the culprit, it can be argued that the trash was stolen and then dumped.

c) As much as 90 percent of the trash deposited in public receptacles in parks and at bus stops is household garbage. Often large bags are stuffed into small containers, leaving empty space below and resulting in what appears to be overflowing bins.

d) Volunteer clean-ups can be costly @ \$150 per truckload for dumping fees.

e) Might dumping be discouraged if the District organized a (quarterly?) pick-up of large items left curbside by residents?<sup>12</sup> Items (likely to include sofas, mattresses, appliances) could be taken to a local recycling centre for disassembly into component parts.

f) Possibility of roadside "help-yourself" nights similar to what Oak Bay has offered in the past. Residents are invited to leave items they don't want at curbside on one particular night during the summer. Everyone is free to take away these items. Problem: How to manage/dispose of unwanted items.

**iii) Waste Management Bylaw** to reduce bear habituation issues: Unanimous agreement that Sooke needs a new bylaw requiring residents to put garbage out on the street only on pick-up days. The bylaw can be easily created based on existing legislation in such other BC bear hot-spots as Squamish<sup>13</sup>, Lion's Bay<sup>14</sup>, Kamloops<sup>15</sup>, Port Alberni<sup>16</sup>, Whistler<sup>17</sup> and Revelstoke<sup>18</sup>. Proposal championed by Wild Wise Sooke<sup>19</sup>.

**iv) Municipal Pick-up Service:** Many municipalities run their own garbage collection services - example: Saanich<sup>20</sup>, where annual household costs for organics and garbage collection range from \$163-218. Has a city-run service been explored in Sooke?

**v) Sidebar conversations:**

\* Can ZWS promote student art projects involving recycled objects? Tess Vally, principal at John Muir Elementary, and EMCS art teacher Susan Percival are key.

\* On the topic of metal recycling during fundraising drives: Reusable items are often dropped in metal collection bins and sold by the ton for worthy local causes. People wanting to reclaim these items are discouraged from dumpster diving by signs that typically read "Don't steal items that will raise money for our kids." Is there a way to cherry pick useful throwaways and still ensure charities receive money in fair trade?

**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

1. DOS to consider a new local anti-litter and dumping campaign with eye-catching signage<sup>21</sup>. Partner in this effort with ZWS and local service organizations.
2. CCTV cameras in a half-dozen favourite dumpsites located near rivers and streams. (Jessica Boquist can provide list of locations). Nearby signs could read: "Smile, you're on candid camera." Posted reminder about fines for illegal dumping (as has been done by OPSRPA).
3. Quarterly DOS or private garbage contractor pick-up schedule for large items.
4. "Free store" day at the end of driveways throughout Sooke. Test run on one summer Saturday morning/afternoon.
5. Enact a Waste Management Bylaw based on the BC Bear Smart Society's model ordinance bylaw<sup>23</sup> or other BC examples.
6. DOS collaboration with and support of volunteer community groups engaged in clean-ups and public education (i.e., Zero Waste Sooke, the Rotary Club of Sooke, and the EMCS Society's Student Youth Engagement Team). Chamber of Commerce is responsible for the Adopt-A-Highway<sup>24</sup> program locally along Hwy 14. Can this be expanded?
7. A sign announcing "You're entering a Zero Waste municipality" placed at the eastern municipal boundary near Connie Road.
8. Zero Waste Sooke to book delegation time at an upcoming Committee of the Whole or regular council meeting to present the Open Space findings and make some realistic asks.

**2. Resource Recovery Centre featuring Compost Centre, Re-Use It Store, and related cottage industries.** *Participants: David Mallett, Carol Mallet, Susan Nelson, Kathy, Glyse Clarkston, Mike Winter, Buddy Boyd.*

Vision: To create an attractive Resource Recovery Centre on largish property where Sooke's recyclable or re-usable waste products would be collected, cleaned and sorted in a large central building. This salvaged material would then be distributed to businesses in smaller surrounding buildings. This would be the site of Sooke's Waste-as-Resource Cottage-Industry Park (as opposed to Industrial Park). *Examples elsewhere: Powell River<sup>25</sup>, Gibsons<sup>26</sup> and the Ottawa Valley<sup>27</sup>.*

- central facility to collect recyclables and reusables surrounded by actual cottage industry buildings using glass, paper, fabric, cardboard, some types of plastic, food scraps, etc. (alternative is multiple collection sites near schools, in town)

- maybe volunteer-driven at first ... changing over to source of self-employment for community members who are artists, crafters, mechanically talented people, inventors, woodworkers, etc.

• Businesses in the Sooke park could include:

- a **Reuse Store**

- a **Take-It or Leave-It Exchange**

- a series of smaller "start-up" or "**craft cottage-industry**" **businesses** that might include ...

i) a **recycled glass** business (LED bulbs, blown glass, fused glass crafts, solar panels)

ii) a **paper/cardboard** craft industry

iii) an enclosed **compost facility** creating usable soil as healthy soil enrichment for local gardeners

iv) a small **plastic recycling** business (such as the Gibsons example, where styrofoam is used to make flower pots, furniture and signs)

v) a business that reuses **wood fiber** to make ...?

vi) a business that uses **metal(s)** to make ... ?

**Needs:**

- vision & leadership codified into revised Official Community Plan
- support from District of Sooke staff and council
- involvement of citizens community groups and the business community (i.e., Zero Waste Sooke, Sooke Region Food CHI, Transition Sooke, Youth for Change group at EMCS, School District #62, Chamber of Commerce, etc.)

A project of this kind would require total community buy-in developed patiently through District of Sooke leadership. Good potential for a public/private partnership in which the DOS partners with professional waste operators and local entrepreneurs. An Open Space Town Hall-style meeting would be required to ensure broader public support and input.

- revised DOS bylaws, zoning allowances and legal restrictions would be required for this proposed facility.
- participating businesses could be vetted through the District's Request For Proposal process

**Locations might include one of following:**

- i) New District-owned land behind Western Foods providing easy access from Evergreen Mall, Wadams Way and/or Anne Marie Road.
- ii) DOS-owned Kaltasin works yard with easy access from Sooke Road
- iii) Behind Sooke's sewage plant off the West Coast Road.

**Advantages to this proposal:**

- point of pride for Sooke that serves useful purposes and builds community spirit. Like Gibsons, Sooke could become known as a model "Zero Waste" community
- encourages a local paradigm switch recognizing garbage as an untapped resource
- keeps reusable material out of landfills, thereby reducing pollution and increasing citizen responsibility
- creates jobs, self-employment and new businesses in Sooke for locals who are artistic, craft-oriented, creative, technical and inventive. (Business development education might be necessary to support these start-ups.)
- potential for community beautification projects in Sooke



### **3. Maker Space/Repair Cafe/Plastic Remanufacturing**

*Participants: Zach Ogilvie, Bernie Klassen, Ted Mehler, Edith Newman, Frederique Philip, Jonathan Francoeur & others*

#### **Ideas Discussed**

1. Clothing Swap Shop/Remaking Workshop (one is planned by Edith Newman and friends for later this year based on a recent event in Nanaimo called Swap-o-rama<sup>28</sup> - a clothing exchange with upcycling and alteration work stations staffed by volunteers.)
2. Mobile workspace
3. Liaising with Sooke library
4. Sooke maker group
5. Working with schools (and taking advantage of existing facilities) - **EMCS is exploring plans for a maker space with United Way funding.**
6. Promote and fully utilize Streetbank Sooke<sup>29</sup>
7. 'Reuse' store in the spirit of Langford's Habitat for Humanity ReStore<sup>30</sup> perhaps also featuring a rental section
7. Quarterly Repair Cafe<sup>31</sup> events in Sooke

**ACTION:** Jonathan will host a first meeting of a maker-space group in his workshop at 6411 Sooke Road on Saturday, April 24 from 9 a.m. to Noon.

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### **4. Big Picture Perspective + Grassroots Organization** *Participants: Jacquetta*

*Nesbitt, Jonathan Francoeur, Lee Hindrichs*

- \* Celebrate the Scott & Helen Nearing model of sustainable and simple living<sup>32</sup>
- \* Regular gatherings to support zero waste practitioners
- \* Green event planning protocols<sup>33</sup>
- \* Spread the larger Zero Waste vision, i.e. the Zero Waste Hierachy<sup>34</sup>
- \* Planning and framework strategy for ZWS that leads to collaboration, partnerships and achievable results

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**5. Reducing the use of plastics (especially grocery bags, meat trays, straws, styrofoam cups and styrofoam).** *Participants: Bev England, Wendy O'Connor, David Mallet, Gail Armitage, Michael Tacon, Ralph Hull, Ron Ramsay, Jeff Bateman and others*

Campaign against currently wasteful ways of packaging. Goal: Sooke as a "plastic bag free" community

Bring back the slogan "Don't be a litter bug" or replace it with "Be cool - put your litter where it belongs"

Challenge excess packaging such as meat trays with plastic covering that are first put into small plastic bags before going into yet another plastic bag.

Promote use of cloth bags and bags with "have you remembered your bag" signage at local grocery stores and other retail parking lots. Encourage the local production of cloth grocery bags featuring Sooke/T'Sou-ke imagery. Idea: A t-shirt bag-making blitz in the front of Village Foods or another location during the summer? How about an event on the annual "plastic free day" on July 3rd?

**ACTION: Have signs made up for store approval and ask that they be put up in the parking lots and by the entrance** Cite what Thrifty Foods is doing in BC.<sup>35</sup>

**ACTION: Establish a group to make ZWS bags.**

**ACTION: Continuing public education through articles and social media**

Persuade store owners and managers to embrace a zero waste ethic and ask them to properly inform their staff so that they work with us more fully (informal chats with check-out clerks suggest they'd be supportive). If Superstore can do it, why can't Sooke grocery stores? (In 2007, the Langford Superstore became the second in the national Superstore chain to eliminate single-use plastic at the check-out counter<sup>36</sup>).

Discuss how health regulations affect the way various foods are handled, packaged and sold. We need to do the research and ask the questions so that we educate ourselves and understand how the system works.

**ACTION: Arrange to meet with local owners and managers to discuss how to reduce the use of plastics and excessive packaging**

We need to educate the public about why this is important. We need a fun and engaging approach to waking people up.

**ACTION: Create a one page article about why plastics are bad.** Cite the incredible amount of plastic in the ocean and how living creatures die trying to make it into food.

Come to terms with the reality that our food is too cheap and is processed way too much for healthy living. Place a higher value on food and be prepared to pay more for it. Healthy, local food is worth paying a higher price for especially if it is organic and therefore does not increase our toxic load of chemicals.

Encourage stores to sell more local food.

Support our local country markets, regional suppliers like SPUD and especially local farmers who offer fresh food through box programs.

Push to encourage the District of Sooke, Juan de Fuca Electoral District and the CRD to pass bylaws banning plastic bags in all forms.

**ACTION: Approach staff and politicians at the above-mentioned entities to find out how best to get this initiative going.** How about John Horgan for a start? Research how other countries and cities have reduced plastic use<sup>37</sup> (i.e., Ireland, Toronto, San Francisco).

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## **6. Promoting "Zero Waste Food" via sustainably available, healthy,**

**affordable and local foods** *Participants: Bernie Klassen, Dorothy Heath, Don Brown, George McFetridge, Carol Mallett*

- Create **a sense of community pride around "Zero Waste"** - advertise / educate/ creative slogans and brands that strongly identify Sooke as a community working towards Zero Waste<sup>38</sup>.

- **Re-brand "waste" as an untapped resource** - food is particularly appropriate subject for less waste

- Local grocery stores and restaurants are supportive already, but let's ensure that leftovers from community events reaches organizations helping the needy (such as Sooke Transition House, the Sooke Crisis Centre, local churches, the Sooke Food Bank).

- Create cooking classes and/or publish recipes in local newspapers to teach people how to use locally grown foods (another lost skill in an era of pre-packaged convenience). Example: the EMCS Society's 'Good Food Box' cooking classes<sup>39</sup>.

- Build **a sense of community pride** around **supporting local farmers ...**

- Availability of local foods increased; less cost to transport so less waste/spoilage & fewer pollutants

- Connect residents to farmers for best use of throwaways. Example: Food scraps from today's Open Space will feed pigs at Cast Iron Farm.

- Create a community culture around the appreciation of local food through community dinners, the Sooke Country Market, etc)
- Attract more WOOFERS<sup>40</sup> to volunteer at local farms, in the process building an economy around WOOFER tourism. Might Organic Grower certifications be available through working farms in Sooke?
- Organize work bee events on farms involving community members in Sooke/T'Sou-ke.
- Build a permanent public market for Sooke farmers and offer spaces at subsidized prices to local growers.
- Need for a portable abattoir of the kind currently operating on Salt Spring Island<sup>41</sup>. Local farmers can have their animals humanely killed without inflecting the stress involved in shipping them to Van Isle abattoirs northeast of the Malahat. This would create the opportunity for a butcher to set up shop in Sooke.

• ***Involve community in projects:***

- Promote a special day annually to clean up Sooke that might involve disposal of large items and bottle drives for non-profit organizations. Example: Delta, B.C.<sup>42</sup>
- Community work bees to improve public and private gardens & green spaces
- Make compost to sell to locals
- Facilitate connections, i.e., SPIN-Farming-style<sup>43</sup> initiatives in which homeowners with unused or under-utilized garden plots utilize volunteers whose work is paid in harvested produce. (This matchmaking role could be taken on by Food CHI, the District or Sooke Family Resources.)
- Communicate with local grocery stores. Might they stock and sell local veggies and meats? Could meat and fish be wrapped in biodegradable paper? Could clerks ask customers whether they want or need bags rather than automatically assuming so? Might the policy around double-wrapping certain foods at the check-out counter be changed?
- Establish more community gardens, i.e., on public green spaces throughout Sooke or private lands such as Sunriver fields on Sunriver Way?
- Public education about food growing through newspaper articles, special events, night courses at EMCS, etc.
- Encourage Sooke Food CHI to revive its fruit-tree gleaning program.
- Work on changing regulations and laws so that more trust and responsibility is in the hands of local food suppliers. Example: Ayre Manor cannot legally serve veggies or fruit raised on the Ayre Manor property or accept donated, locally caught fish. Ayre Manor must serve foods

supplied by VIHA-approved sources such as Sysco. Ideally, public institutions entrusted with the nutritional care of youth and seniors should be able to serve veggies grown on their "institution land" by volunteer gardeners.

### **7. Recovering Wood Fiber** *Participants: Ron Ramsay, George McFetridge, Ted Mehler*

- \* Growing and using hemp for multiple products
- \* Recovery of wood fiber waste in JDF resource lands. The process of harvesting softwood lumber results in waste piles full of hardwoods that nobody is permitted to salvage apart from the license holder. Terrible waste of quality wood.
- \* Discussion of the need for a Sooke region community forest that could provide wood for artisans and also serve as a model of a working sustainable woodlot.

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### **8. Bulk Food Buyers' Cooperative** *Participants: Dorothy Heath, Bernie Klassen, Darren Alexander.*

A proven initiative that would allow Sooke residents to purchase staples not grown locally -- wheat, rice, beans, etc. -- at affordable rates. One regional wholesale supplier that might be used for this initiative is PSC Natural Foods<sup>44</sup> in Langford. [Following the Open Space, we learned that an existing group known as "Raw Food Sooke" currently exists: <http://rawfoodsooke.blogspot.ca>.]

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### **9. Reduce use of plastic water bottles + public water fountains and water-bottle fill stations** *Participants: Sheila Whincup, Susan Nelson, Jeff Bateman*

#### **i) Water Fountain**

- \* A water fountain can be found halfway along Sooke River Road at the Galloping Goose parking lot.
- \* Water fountains are required in the heart of town (perhaps near the town info map at the entrance to Evergreen Mall) and in some of our parks, especially John Phillips Memorial Park and Ed McGregor Park.
- \* A dog-watering tap at the base of the fountains would also be appreciated by many in Sooke.

\* Water fountains were once commonplace in communities. We wondered why they'd become less so. Hygiene issues?<sup>45</sup> Vandalism?<sup>46</sup>

\* EMCS installed a water-bottle fill station several years ago, in the process saving students the money they were spending in school vending machines and cutting sales of plastic bottles by many thousands per year.

**ACTION:** Jeff to contact John Boquist, chair of the District's Parks & Trails Advisory Committee, to see if water fountains are being considered in any of its plans (which are currently focused on John Phillips Memorial Park).

## ii) Plastic Water Bottle Campaign

\* Public education about the impacts of water bottles is essential. We need to research the subject as a starting point.<sup>47</sup>

\* Appreciate and celebrate our wonderful water and the supply system that delivers it to us. Our tap water is great. Let's drink it! ZWS could collaborate with a water utility organization. ("Best Tap Water In the World" prize recently went to the BC town of Greenwood.<sup>48</sup>)

\* Important to involve youth and Sooke schools, i.e. an art project/competition using discarded water bottles.

\* Can we campaign to raise deposits on water bottles?

## ACTIONS

\* **Sheila** to compile statistics on water bottle manufacture, environmental impacts, numbers sold and the resources uses in the bottling, transportation and disposal of single-use plastic bottles.

\* **Susan** to research the business of water extraction and bottling, and its impact on the communities from which it is taken. She will also look into examples of where plastic water bottles have been banned.

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**Addendum #1 -- Participants**

Bernie Klassen  
 Carol Mallett  
 Coral Poser  
 Darren Alexander  
 David Mallett  
 Debi Anderson  
 Don Brown  
 Dorothy Heath  
 Frederique Philip  
 Gail Armitage  
 George McFetridge  
 Glyse Clarkson  
 Jaquetta Nesbitt  
 Jessica Boquist  
 John Boquist  
 Jonathan Francoeur  
 Jon's friend from Victoria  
 Joy Thompson  
 Lee Hindrichs  
 Mike Winter  
 Kathy Winter  
 Olena Russell + family  
 Ralph Hull  
 Randy Welters  
 Rinje Raap

Ron Ramsay  
 Sheila Whincup  
 Sinclair Philip  
 Steve Unger  
 Susan Nelson  
 Ted Mehler  
 ? (Peter? re: maker space)  
 ?  
 ?

**Facilitators**

Christiana St-Pierre  
 Tony St-Pierre

**Special guest**

Buddy Boyd

**ZWS Organization Team**

Wendy O'Connor  
 Jo Phillips  
 Bev England  
 Jeff Bateman  
 Joan Hurwood  
 Michael Tacon  
 Zach Ogilvie

*In addition to an open invitation to Sooke residents, formal invitations were extended to local elected officials and waste-management professionals. Regrets were received from Mayor Maja Tait, Councillors Brenda Parkinson and Ebony Logins, JDF Director Mike Hicks, Sooke Food CHI president Anita Wasiuta, Wild Wise Sooke's Debb Read, Chamber of Commerce president Kerry Cavers and JDF MLA John Horgan.*

## **Addendum 2**

*Initial Brainstorming Ideas (as grouped for discussion)*

### **Morning**

#### **Group 1**

- \* Illegal dumping -- Wendy
- \* Signs! Sooke needs "please do not litter in our beautiful town" signs at entrances to town, parks, waterfront, etc. -- Joy
- \* How do we create unity on our Sooke council and universal participation from the Sooke community -- Don
- \* Waste management bylaw re: bears and garbage habituation issues -- Jeff
- \* Zoning issues in Sooke - makes it impossible to run a proper garbage/recycling facility. A centre would create jobs, i.e. yard persons to sort mattresses -- Mike

#### **Group 2**

- \* Take-it or leave-it "store" -- Susan
- \* Recycling centre in Sooke -- Carol
- \* Local compost and yard-waste facilities -- Jeff
- \* Establish a re-use it area for garbage -- Jo
- \* Recycling Centre/Resource Facility in the centre of Sooke. Attractive space with a central resource-recovery building surrounded by cottage industries using these resources. -- David & Carol

#### **Group 3**

- \* Clothing swap event with "creation stations" to upcycle the fabrics, clothing, shoes, etc. -- Edith & Frederique
- \* Maker space + repurposed materials + skill building + repair cafe -- Zach
- \* Repair cafe -- Jeff
- \* Remanufacturing plastic into useful building products -- Don
- \* Repurpose/recycle/redesign/reuse + camper trailers (single & tandem axle) -- Ted

#### **Group 4**

- \* Inca model of tribal community. The Scott & Helen Nearing model (bread/labor, learning, community) -- Jacquetta
- \* Regular weekly gathering to support zero waste practitioners -- Jonathan
- \* Green event planning protocols -- Jo
- \* Spread the larger Zero Waste vision -- Alyssa
- \* Planning and framework strategy for ZWS that leads to collaboration, partnerships and achievable results -- Lee



## Afternoon

### Group 5

- \* Ban plastic bags - Jo
- \* No non-recyclable packaging + no straw initiative (Esquimalt model) + reduce use of throwaway cups, meat packaging, etc. -- Gail
- \* Ban plastic bags & disposable coffee cups + discourage fast-food containers + bring your own bags & containers to grocery stores -- Joy
- \* Getting rid of plastic bags! -- Bev

### Group 6

- \* Zero Waste food
- \* Grocery store recovery programs
- \* Farm and food-growing initiatives

### Group 7

- \* Growing and using hemp for multiple products - Don
- \* Wood fiber waste in JDF resource lands - Ron

### Group 8

- \* Bulk organic food ordering club -- Dorothy

### Group 9

- \* Educate about & encourage less use of plastic water bottles - Sheila
- \* Drinking water fountains - Jo
- \* H2O fountains in parks and town core - Jessica
- \* 3 to 5-bin recycle units in public spaces, schools, parks and community sports fields instead of garbage cans + no fast-food styrofoam waste -- Glyse
- \* How can we limit our use of throw-away containers - Coral

## Addendum Three **Footnotes**

1. **Open Space Meeting Technology:** [http://www.openspaceworld.com/users\\_guide.htm](http://www.openspaceworld.com/users_guide.htm)
2. **Zero Waste page at Recycling Council of British Columbia:** <http://www.rcbc.ca/resources/zero-waste>; **Grassroots Recycling Network definition of Zero Waste:** <http://www.grrn.org/page/what-zero-waste>.
3. **Zero Waste Sooke:** <http://zerowastesooke.ca>
4. **Transition Sooke:** <https://transitionsooke.org>
5. **Zero Waste Canada:** <http://zerowastecanada.ca>
6. **Gibsons Recycling Depot:** <http://www.gibsonsrecycling.ca>
7. **Awareness Film Night:** <http://awarenessfilmnight.ca>
8. **Sooke Climate Energy & Emissions Plan:** <http://sooke.ca/departments/environmental-services/climate-change>
9. **District of Sooke Climate Change Action Committee:** <http://sooke.ca/wp-content/uploads/Terms-of-Reference-Climate-Change-Oct-2009-bgs.pdf>
10. **T'Sou-ke Nation solar project:** <http://www.tsoukenation.com/index.php/services/resources/tsou-ke-solar>
11. **"Secret cameras set to catch illegal trash dumpers in Winnipeg":** <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/illegal-trash-dumping-cameras-winnipeg-1.3500592>; **City of Winnipeg CCTV protocols:** [http://winnipeg.ca/cms/BLES/illegal\\_dumping\\_surveillance.stm](http://winnipeg.ca/cms/BLES/illegal_dumping_surveillance.stm); **CCTV initiative in Newfoundland:** <http://www.thetelegram.com/News/Local/2012-05-24/article-2986770/Smile,-you%26rsquare-on-hidden-camera/1>
12. **City of Richmond, B.C. Large Item Pick-Up Service:** <http://www.richmond.ca/services/recycling/garbage/largeitem.htm>
13. **Squamish Wildlife Attractant Bylaw No. 2053 (2009):** <https://squamish.civicweb.net/document/106176>
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