



NEWS RELEASE

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Funding Announced for Bonavista Regional Waste Management Committee

The Bonavista Regional Waste Management Committee has received \$50,000 to fund a Regional Waste Management Coordinator position for the region. The funding comes from the Newfoundland and Labrador Waste Management Trust Fund administered by the Multi-Materials Stewardship Board (MMSB).

"The Provincial Waste Management Strategy identifies a regional approach as the most cost-effective and appropriate way of addressing the province's waste management needs over the long term, especially in rural areas," said the Honourable Charlene Johnson, Minister of Environment and Conservation. "The Bonavista Regional Waste Management Committee is eager to get started and begin the process of consolidating waste management services in the region, and this position will facilitate that process."

The Provincial Solid Waste Management Strategy is designed to result in long-term solutions for modern waste management in the province. The strategy will help divert the amount of materials currently going to disposal, reduce the number of waste disposal sites in the province by 80 percent, eliminate open burning at disposal sites and phase out the use of incinerators and unlined landfill sites. The goal is to implement full province-wide modern waste management by 2020.

"We provided funding to the Bonavista Regional Waste Management Committee to complete a study of the waste disposal sites within the region and develop a consolidation plan," said the Honourable Dianne Whalen, Minister of Municipal Affairs. "Through the study, it has been identified that three disposal sites will sufficiently serve the needs of the area, rather than the ten sites currently in operation. This will be a wonderful step forward in the consolidation of services for the area."

"We are dedicated to supporting the regional waste management authorities, as they start the process of implementing modern waste management systems in their particular regions of the province," said Leigh Puddester, Chair and Chief Executive Officer of the MMSB. "We will continue to make strategic investments through our trust fund to help regional waste committees in all parts of the province advance their mandates."

Darryl Johnson, Chair of the Bonavista Regional Waste Management Committee, says the funding will help reduce the number of waste disposal sites on the peninsula and facilitate compliance with the Provincial Waste Management Strategy.

“As chair of the ten person volunteer committee on the Bonavista Peninsula, I am grateful for the funding to hire a coordinator to help reduce the number of waste disposal sites on the peninsula and to move toward our goal of complying with the Provincial Waste Management Strategy,” said Mr. Johnson. Our committee looks forward to working with MMSB and the Departments of Municipal Affairs and Environment and Conservation to achieve this goal.”

MMSB is a provincial Crown agency that reports to the Minister of Environment and Conservation. Its mandate is to support progressive waste management practices in the province, with a particular focus on waste diversion, recycling and public education. The MMSB is also responsible for providing start-up planning and organizational development support to the 15 regional waste management authorities that will enable them to implement modern waste management systems throughout the province.

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Media contacts:

Melony O'Neill Director of Communications Environment and Conservation 709-729-2575, 689-0928 moneill@ov.nl.ca	Heather MacLean Director of Communications Department of Municipal Affairs 709-729-1983, 697-4137 heathermaclean@gov.nl.ca
Carol Ann Carter Director of Communications MMSB 709-757-3696 ccarter@mmsb.nl.ca	

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