



December 8, 2010

File No: 5360-02

North Vancouver Non-residential Property Owners

Dear Owner,

**Re: Metro Vancouver Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan**

As you are likely aware, Metro Vancouver has updated the Region's Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP). The impending closure of the Region's Cache Creek Landfill means garbage disposal costs will rise significantly, from \$82/tonne in 2010 to \$182/tonne by 2015. The best way for us to mitigate those costs is to reduce the garbage we throw away.

To achieve significant garbage reduction, the City will increase resources, education, outreach, and consultation to assist key sectors in accessing recycling and waste reduction services, particularly multi-family residential, and commercial. Materials targeted are paper, wood, organics, food, and plastics. Many businesses already make efforts in this regard with some businesses reporting significant success in waste reduction and cost savings. However, the efforts vary, and some businesses have difficulty knowing where to begin with waste reduction. The City will also improve management of street garbage in the central business core to separate recyclables such as newsprint, paper coffee cups, takeaway food containers etc. which makes up the bulk of street litter.

To help pay for these efforts, the City plans to implement a new eco-levy under the City's Solid Waste Utility. This will be billed to all property owners so everyone helps pay for new and existing efforts to reduce garbage. For instance, non-residential properties currently do not pay for services such as the North Shore Recycling Drop-off Depot even though the service is available to them. The eco-levy will address this. Additional information is available at [www.cnv.org](http://www.cnv.org) and an open house will be held on January 20, 2011 from 7pm to 9 pm in the foyer of North Vancouver City Hall at 141 West 14<sup>th</sup> Street. An on-line questionnaire, available until January 30, 2011 seeks your input on whether the eco-levy should be implemented gradually over 5 years, or at once over 1 year.

Yours truly,

Steven T. Ono, P.Eng.  
City Engineer