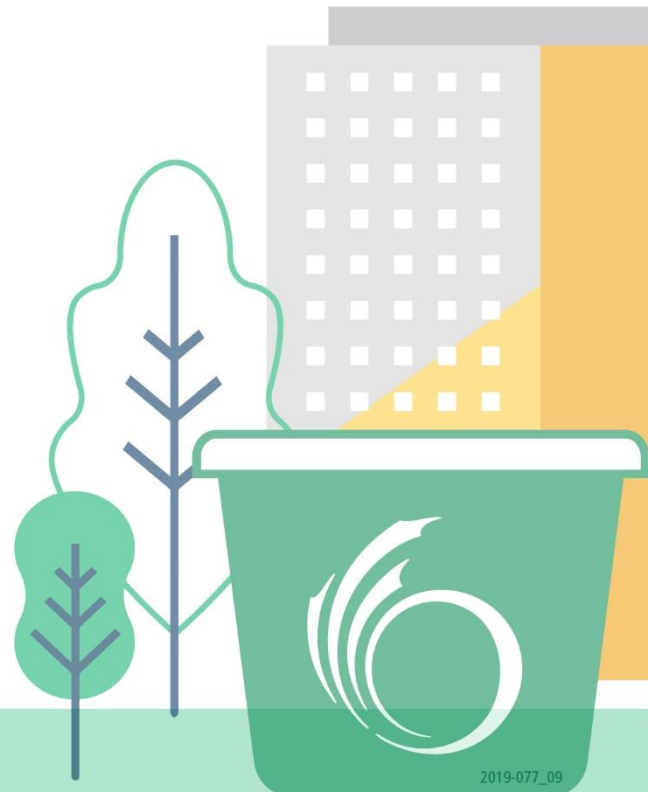




Comparative Scan of Municipal Strategies, Practices and Initiatives

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Technical Memorandum #3
January 2020





Executive Summary

As part of the development of the Solid Waste Master Plan (SWMP), the City of Ottawa is interested in how other Canadian municipalities are managing waste. This task was identified as a best practice review by the City as part of the development of the SWMP; however, it should be noted that there are very few documented best practices for waste management strategies, programs and initiatives. Each jurisdiction has implemented programs unique to their needs, which may not be applicable to other jurisdictions.

The term “best practices” also implies a comparison to the City of Ottawa’s program and Ottawa has also implemented some specific strategies that are different from other jurisdictions. For this reason, the HDR project team is using a “scan of strategies, practices and initiatives” to highlight some innovative and progressive material management strategies, practices and initiatives across Canada on the selected jurisdictions which may be of interest to the City. Given the team’s understanding of Ottawa’s current waste management system and the information presented in Technical Memo No. 2 - City of Ottawa - Solid Waste Management: Current State, only strategies, practices and initiatives that are different from what the City currently provides that will inform options to be considered in future tasks are presented.

A select number of Canadian jurisdictions were chosen based on how comparable the demographics are to Ottawa (e.g., population, density, urban/rural split) and on their progressive approaches to managing waste as part of their integrated waste management systems in the following specific categories:

- Waste Avoidance, Reduction and Reuse;
- Recycling and Diversion;
- Source Separated Organics (SSO) Diversion;
- Promotion and Education (P&E) and Engagement Initiatives, Techniques and Tools;
- Residuals Management;
- Sustainability Practices/Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction;
- Service Delivery Approaches and Staffing Levels;
- Funding Models for Solid Waste Management Services;
- Legislation that Affects Waste Management;



- Waste Management and Reduction Practices in Municipal Buildings, Yards, Operations (i.e., low income housing, long-term care, fleet);
- Special Events; and,
- Management of Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (IC&I) Waste (how/if service provided).

In total, eight Canadian jurisdictions were selected as leaders in waste-related strategies, programs and initiatives including: Halifax Regional Municipality, York Region (including the City of Markham), Durham Region, cities of Guelph, Toronto and Calgary, and Metro Vancouver (including the City of Vancouver and City of Surrey). The Region of Peel was selected as well for its innovation in Multi-residential (MR) waste diversion. Ottawa, Toronto, York and Peel make up the greatest percentage of multi-residential density in all of Ontario.

The strategies, practices and initiatives identified and researched for each category relative to the first 4Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle and recover) are summarized in **Error! Reference source not found..** Residual disposal capacity availability, costs and high waste diversion targets have influenced the implementation of reduction, reuse and recovery initiatives and a summary of how each comparator municipality manages its residual waste is provided in **Error! Reference source not found..** Overarching programs and initiatives that relate to the municipal waste management systems and their operation are summarized in **Error! Reference source not found..** Some of the cells in the three tables below are blank (have a “-“), this is because examples are provided for some (but not all) categories and jurisdictions. This list is meant to highlight select examples researched and is not an exhaustive list of all examples for all jurisdictions reviewed. The selection of strategies, practices and initiatives was based on identifying examples that were different and unique to what the City currently provides. The absence of information for a particular municipality does not mean that they do not have any relevant practices/policies, but rather, that those practices/policies have already been captured in other municipalities.

The summary tables also include the potential City customers the approach is/could be applicable to and are noted by the following abbreviations:

- Curbside residential - SF
- Multi-residential - MR
- Parks and public spaces - PPS
- City facilities - CF



- Partner programs – PP

The information in this Technical Memorandum is current as of January 31, 2020 and reflects the HDR project team's current knowledge and research of the best practices implemented by municipalities.