



Delegation Request To Appear Before Township Council

I/we would like to appear as a delegation at the Council meeting on

July 8, 2019

(Council meeting date requested)

at the ►

☐ 4:00pm Regular Afternoon Meeting

☒ 7:00pm Regular Evening Meeting

Name of delegate or organization wishing to appear

Charity Gosling

1 Topic

The topic of discussion is (be specific, provide details, and attach additional information, if required)

The economic, social, and environmental opportunities to be gained by a one-stop recycling facility run by the Township of Langley.

Benefits would include:

Bringing our fractured recycling services together while still providing valuable materials to our recycling partners.

A supplement to existing facilities operating beyond capacity.

2 Additional Information

Purpose of presentation

☐ Information only ☐ Request letter of support ☐ Request funds ☐ Other

Desired resolution

Referral to staff for a report to further investigate the viability of this project.

Activities to date relative to the matter

An emailed proposal sent to Councillor Kim Richter; received with an encouragement to appear before Council.

3 Meeting Location

Fraser River Presentation Theatre, 4th Floor
Township of Langley Civic Facility
20338 - 65 Avenue, Langley, BC V2Y 3J1

Office use only

☐ Approved ☐ Declined ☐ Other

Applicant informed



Honourable Jack Froese and Members of Council,

Waste reduction and environmental sustainability are all over the news, from politicians to celebrities, to parents walking their kids from school, everybody is talking about it. Provincial and federal governments have promised to use policy to make some crucial changes, but in the meantime, what can we, as individuals and municipalities do?

I am proud of the work that the Township of Langley has done, but there are still areas that can be improved. As a passionate recycler, I have found that our system remains incredibly limited when it comes to recyclables beyond the scope covered by RecycleBC. We are told to bring items like Styrofoam, plastic bags, electronics, batteries, lightbulbs, metal, clothing, and wood to our local recycler, but what does that actually mean?

For me, it means a headache; a proactive approach to understanding the minute differences between a plastic cereal bag and a plastic bread bag; and extra trips driving in my fossil-fuel burning SUV. Also, I have noted that the RecycleBC depots are functioning at over-capacity. This means dangerous driving conditions, over-worked employees, and recycling categories that reach maximum capacity in a few short hours (just try recycling granola bar wrappers or Styrofoam after 10:00 am).

Finally, public education for recycling 'beyond the blue box' appears dismally low. RecycleBC is doing a great job at providing helpful resources, but I suspect most of the general public isn't aware of this. I doubt many newcomers to the area know how to navigate this resource.

I commend the ToL's helpful and informative tools. I especially like the 'what goes where' game on the ToL's website. I introduced this game to a Mandarin-speaking friend, who was delighted to find the tool in her language.

But now, it's time for us to do better.

I suggest that many of these issues would be mediated with a one-stop recycling facility run by the Township for everything not collected curbside. If this is done, our fractured recycling services can be brought together while still providing valuable materials to our recycling partners. A closer relationship with commercial recyclers also brings the added benefit of ethical municipal oversight, hopefully avoiding a disaster like the one we've witnessed in the Philippines.

I think the perfect spot for such a facility would be near the current waste transfer station. Having a municipally run recycling station would make things much less confusing, reduce illegal dumping, aid in public education, create a new revenue stream, and reduce the amount of recyclable material ending up in the landfill.

With warm thanks for your time and attention,

Charity Gosling

TOL Resident