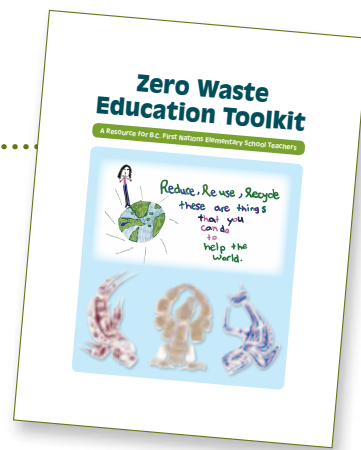


Zero Waste Education Toolkit

New to BC First Nations' schools this Fall is a Zero Waste Education Toolkit that will help teachers educate students in K-7 about recycling and zero waste principles. Teachers will find the toolkit easy and adaptable to use, and the activities are fun for the students. The activities build on one another, but it's still possible to pick and choose to fit curricular needs. Everything has been created and assembled to make teaching it as complete and stress-free for teachers as possible.

The toolkit consists of 2 parts, each including activity supplies. Part 1 focuses on understanding what waste is, where it comes from, and the problems that are common with waste, while Part 2 focuses on how to get to zero waste. Illustrations and examples (including video) from First Nations communities help to increase the relevance of the material. By working through all the activities in the toolkit, teachers can help to create awareness in their students about the importance of preserving air, land, and water. Toolkit sets



will be sent to 60 schools by November, and the remainder will be sent next Fall.

Thanks and appreciation are due to the many contributors. Indigenous Services Canada (Joan Calderhead and Genevieve Lindsay of the Environmental and Natural Resources unit) provided funding support, vision and direction. First Nations school teachers, including Sharon Wilson of the Bella Bella Community School, and Reed Allen, Myra Connaty and Dianne Harris of Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw School, and others have provided invaluable guidance on content. The toolkit production team included Emily Chu, Robyn Weisner and Paula Reynolds with project support by Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council.

Paula Reynolds

Indigenous Services Canada began the B.C. First Nations Zero Waste Program in 2008 after an assessment showed that the communities have similar needs and challenges. A common theme is the desire for recycling, composting and waste reduction activities. Solutions are developed locally and in cooperation with many different Regional Districts, product stewards and service providers.



JMJ School students observing the decomposition process of different materials using the See-Through Compost Container



Clean-up around JMJ school, April 27. Students and staff used the Toolkit and collected refuse to be sorted later into recyclables, refundables and garbage.

2018 Program Sponsors - Thanks!

- Canadian Plastics Industry Association (*Training Manual*)
- Capital Regional District (*Training Tour, Hartland Landfill*)
- Ecowaste (*On-Site Training, Richmond C&D Landfill*)
- Ellice Recycle LTD (*Training Tour, Victoria*)
- London Drugs (*Green Deal video file, Zero Waste Education Toolkit*)
- Metro Vancouver (*Stomp It! video file, Zero Waste Education Toolkit*)
- Metro Vancouver (*Training Tour, North Shore Transfer Station*)
- Product Care (*Regeneration video files, Zero Waste Education Toolkit*)
- Recycle BC (*What Happens To My Recycling video file, Zero Waste Education Toolkit*)
- Robyn Weisner (*Composting Slide Show, Zero Waste Education Toolkit*)

Produced with the assistance of Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council



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Merganser duck artwork by Alex Jamieson

THE Merganser

Reports on First Nations Waste Management Programs in British Columbia, Canada



Fall 2018

The Merganser is a diving duck found in coastal waters and lakes all over BC.

Meet IZWTAG!

By Leo Lawson and Isaiah Robinson



Leo Lawson
Heiltsuk First Nation



Calvin Jameson
Lil'wat First Nation



Vince Davis
Gitxaala Nation



Roger Vickers
Gitxaala Nation



Isaiah Robinson
Kitasoo Nation



Ernie French-Downey
Takla Lake First Nation

Previously known as the SWWG (Solid Waste Working Group), we have grown as a network of fellow peers into IZWTAG (Indigenous Zero Waste Technical Advisory Group). Our organization will provide technical services and support for all First Nation communities, in our efforts to be stewards of our land and the environment. We appreciate the Federal government's commitment to recognize our concerns and challenges with solid waste management in our communities. This is one small piece of the puzzle towards self-determination which is now being accomplished by First Nations people.

In order to achieve our zero waste goals, IZWTAG members will share our collective knowledge and experiences in support of one another. We will be

an organization that develops skilled and accomplished operators, helps with practical advice on installing, operating and maintaining waste management systems suitable to local community needs, and advances policy and programs for First Nations. We wish to take the lead for other First Nations throughout the country, partnering with training and stewardship organizations, and provincial, regional and local governments to bring services to and foster excellence among First Nation communities.

IZWTAG founding co-chairs are Leo Lawson, Heiltsuk First Nation and Director, Coast Waste Management Association, and Calvin Jameson, Lil'wat First Nation and Director, Solid Waste Association of North America, Pacific Chapter. Leo and Calvin will have the support and expertise of fellow directors, Vince Davis and Roger

Vickers of the Gitxaala Nation, Isaiah Robinson of the Kitasoo Nation and Ernie French-Downey of Takla Lake First Nation.

We thank all who have helped and continue to help us in this endeavour. Email us at info@izwtag.com



Community Updates Inside

Community Updates

Many activities are underway this year, thanks to increasing interest in zero waste management approaches and additional federal funding support.

New and upgraded ecodotops are being installed at Ahousaht, Gitxaala, Heiltsuk, Kitasoo, Lil'wat, McLeod Lake, Seton Lake, Stswecem'c Xgat'tem, Telegraph Creek (Tahltan), Takla Lake and Tsay Keh Dene.

There is a focus on communities in the Kitimat-Stikine Regional District due to the implementation of the regional recycling bylaw. Thanks to strong support at the Cariboo Regional District, communities there are also receiving program funding to implement recycling and composting.

The program has started to include communities in southern B.C. who are facing barriers or need support to participate in improved waste management practices.

In the coming year, attention will also extend to the Thompson-Nicola and Okanagan areas.



● Start-up Phase
● Intermediate Phase
● Full Implementation



Welcome to our new program communities

- Blueberry River
- Canim Lake
- Da'naxda'xw
- Dzwawada'enuxw
- Ehattesaht
- Esk'etemc
- Gitanmaax
- Gitanyow
- Glen Vowell
- Hagwilget
- Halalt
- Halfway River
- Iskut
- Kitsumkalum
- Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis
- Moricetown
- Prophet River
- Quatsino
- Skwah
- Soda Creek
- Tl'etinqox
- Toosey
- Tzeachten
- Williams Lake
- Wuiquinuxv
- Xeni Gwet'in
- Yekooche
- Yunesit'in



Training Tour at North Shore Transfer Station, March 2018



Telegraph Creek EcoDepot Site Preparation, July 2018



Training at Ecowaste Richmond Landfill, May 2018