Waste Management | Sustainability Services Waste to Resource Assessment - Summary

# **Executive Summary**

### Overview

On March 24, 2014, Sustainability Services initiated a Waste to Resource<sup>™</sup> assessment for University of Victoria. During the waste assessment visual inspections of waste generation points throughout the facility resulted in the discovery of additional recycling opportunities. The physical sort took place from March 24 to March 28 at the main campus located at 3800 Finnerty Road in Victoria, BC.

During this assessment, in order to characterize the material stream, samples were collected from 42 source areas throughout the facility over a 24-hour period. The materials were divided into categories and weights of each material were recorded.

Photograph 1 - Physical Audit Location

## **Assessment Information**

#### **Table 1 - Facility Information**

Item

Comments

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# Material Composition Breakdown

## Waste Material Comparison by Category

This section displays a breakdown of material categories as identified through the waste audit process.

Please note: for the purpose of this audit the Contaminated - Non-Recyclables category listed within the Other Material category included but was not limited to materials such as polyfoam containers, foil bags, some soft plastics, waxed paper, mixed material containers and otherwise recyclable materials contaminated with liquids or organic waste.

#### Table 3 - Waste Material Comparison by Category 2014

Waste Category	Total Audited	Material	Annual Projected
	Waste (kg)	Composition (%)	Volume (kg)

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### **Other Material**

Other Material (Non- Recyclables) materials sent to landfill accounted for 38.5% of your total waste; nearly 236.95 tonnes of Other Material (Non- Recyclables) will be sent to landfill annually. This is compared to 231.41 tonnes of 'Residual' waste identified in the 2011 audit which represented 33.9% of audit waste at the time.

Specifically the Contaminated/ Non-Recyclables category represented 32.3% of all materials identified in the 2014 audited sample. For the purpose of this audit the Contaminated – Non-Recyclables category included but was not limited to materials such as polyfoam containers, foil bags, some soft plastics, waxed paper, mixed material containers and otherwise recyclable materials contaminated with liquids or organic waste.

## Organics

University of Victoria generates a significant volume of organic and compostable waste, organic materials sent to landfill accounted for 26.3% of your total waste; nearly 161.54 tonnes of Organics will be sent to landfill annually. Notably, Organics made up 21% of the waste sent to landfill in 2011.

Post-consumer food waste, coffee grounds, plants/ flowers, liquids and compostable containers/ tableware were all identified in the assessment and contributed to the Organics category. All of these materials mentioned could be diverted from landfill through the organics collection program implemented at the facility.

Additionally paper toweling and paper cups are acceptable materials and may also be captured through the campus' organic program. When included with food waste and coffee ground these two materials represented a combined 46.7% of all audited landfill materials. Annually 91,566 kilograms of paper towels were dis3(er)18(e)-178tedss two materials 59/F3 11.03T-178(w

## **Plastics**

Key plastics in the assessment included Polystyrene food packaging which represented 29% of all plastics audited or 2% of all materials overall. LDPE which is most commonly found in plastic bags or packaging and represented 1.3% of all plastics identified overall. While PETE represented 24.3% of all plastics in the waste stream.

#### **Metals**

Metals materials sent to landfill accounted for 0.9% of you Tm [(M)3(e)-6(t)-4(a)-8(I)-5(s)] TJ ET Q q BT /F

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