



**Waste Diversion Task Force 2010
Etobicoke Civic Centre
February 26, 2001
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

Meeting Notes

Participants:

Armand Mousseau	Peter Borokowski
Rick Ramos	W.A. Jackson
J. Bates	G. Spooner
M. Sawarna	B. Mingo
Ray R. Jablonski	S. LeBlanc
H. & L. Schmidt	V. Versace
M. & I. Cleve	D. Stewart
Sharon Eddie	A.G. Romansky
J. Nowakowski	Coe Jager
R. Summers	P. Nagel
Barbara Clarke	H. Ramsey
C. Tedesco	Robert McMath
A. McKenzie	

Approximately 30 people attended the event.

Councillors:

Councillor Disero (Chair)
Councillor Holyday
Councillor Jones
Councillor Lindsay-Luby
Councillor Milczyn

Staff:

Lawson Oates, Toronto Works and Emergency Services
Andy Pollock, Toronto Works and Emergency Services
William To, Toronto Works and Emergency Services
Ann Marie Weselan, Toronto Works and Emergency Services

Councillor Disero thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and introduced the councillors present. Staff then made a presentation.

After the presentation, Councillor Disero asked the participants how they had heard about the meeting. A few indicated they had heard via the advertisement in the Toronto Star and the flyer. The majority indicated they had seen the advertisement in the local paper.

Participants were then invited to ask questions and provide comments. About midway through the Q&A session Councillor Disero asked the participants if, when they speak, they could also give their thoughts on removing the cost of waste management from the property tax bill and putting it on a separate bill.

The following represents a summary of those questions/comments and responses:

Questions/Comments/Suggestions	Response
Landfill	
What will Mississauga do after their landfill closes?	Peel Region has an incinerator and waste diversion program.
Does the private sector pay for the 610,000 tonnes that they produce?	Yes, they pay market price. In fact, the City of Toronto makes money from that collection which it uses to fund the recycling program.
Is there a parallel initiative for the private sector to move towards 0%?	The cost for private disposal will increase once Keele Valley landfill closes. The private sector also already does a lot of diversion.
I don't believe each household generates 1 tonne of waste. That seems high.	That is an average per household and includes yard waste, fridges, etc. but the value is accurate.
We should have a charge per bag.	
Rob Summers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We'll always have some waste because some things can't be recycled. • Shipping to Michigan is a bad idea because the roads will be damaged. 	
W.A. Jackson: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landfilling is a temporary solution so get rid of it. 	
Alex Romansky: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charge for garbage collection. • To reduce costs, have adjacent neighbours put their garbage together in one spot so the truck only has to stop once. 	
M. Sawarna: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate homeowners to put their garbage together in one location instead of two. 	
P. Nagel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If we implement a user-pay system, people will just dump their garbage on your lawn. You can't police this. 	
H. Ramsey: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congratulations on the 100% target however this is only residential so really only represents about 50%. The private sector and commercial groups must be added to create a 100% target. 	

Programs	
B. Clarke: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We shouldn't cut back on small programs like collecting Christmas trees. 	
Organics	
P. Nagel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We need smaller composters for people with small yards. Use organics at the source – don't use them to generate electricity 	
Reduction/Packaging	
Alex Romansky: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste reduction must be at the grassroots level. 	
H. Ramsey: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We should also incorporate more "upstream" thinking i.e. reduce at source (see one page handout). Much of the problem is a design issue. Producers must take responsibility for products to the end of their life. They should also design with products that have a lower impact on the environment. 	
B. Clarke: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We should stop the packaging in the first place and stop creating garbage. 	
Reuse	
P. Nagel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We need to have a deposit/return program for bottles. 	
For larger items, direct garbage collectors not to pick them up but rather put educational stickers on them. These stickers will have a phone number of a group (such as the Salvation Army) to whom the items can be donated.	
Recycling	
P. Nagel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City does not separate coloured from non-coloured glass and, as a result, the glass gets contaminated and is used to build roads in Keele Valley. 	<p>Packaging is a Provincial responsibility.</p> <p>This was a cost-effective way of using the glass and allows us to avoid using our natural resources. Some bottles do survive the collection process.</p>
J. Nowakowski: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am using a diaper recycling service, am paying \$20/month and am not getting reimbursed/a tax break. 	

It is wrong to say apartments don't recycle. My condo has a 75% reduction in the last 5 years.	Many apartments don't have the capacity to recycle.
If apartments don't have the capacity to collect/store recyclables, why don't we make collection more frequent?	There is not room for the tenants to put the recyclables in the building.
Are we going to be able to recycle #3,4,5 plastics now?	
Other Technologies	
Rob Summers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking at the European experience, state of the art energy producing incineration (co-generation) is a good alternative. The Provincial and Federal governments should assist. 	
W.A. Jackson: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have modern technology for incineration and should use it. Convert the five coal burning hydro plants to burn organic waste. This will be cheaper than burning natural gas. Make a partnership with Hydro – we may even make money. 	
P. Nagel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incinerate what we can't recycle or compost. 	
Why don't we separate and pelletize different classes of plastic, use them as fill material to build, for example, a ski hill then mine them later when there is a demand in the market?	
General Comments	
P. Nagel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Congratulations on holding the meeting but it is sad that the turnout for the meeting is so small and that there are few young people. We should educate young people in school (Grade 1) about how to compost. This should be part of their curriculum. Send someone around to educate homeowners. Put a pie chart on the tax bill to identify what proportion goes to schools, garbage, etc. 	We had a good turnout at the North York meeting last week. People came from all over the City.
H. Ramsey: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't have an extra bill dedicated to garbage. Identify it on the existing bill. 	

<p>B. Clarke:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's time for the City to do something now – why do we have to study more or wait for the timelines presented? • I would be happy to pay an extra \$2/week now. 	
<p>J. Nowakowski:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An extra \$2/week is too much. • People don't pay attention to separating garbage into the different holes in the containers. People just don't care. The system (of separating) has to be simple. • Start by educating the parents. 	
<p>P. Nagel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there something in the Building Code that ensures that apartments have >1 chute i.e. for garbage and recycling? 	<p>Some buildings are equipped with a button on the chute which can change the direction the waste goes down the chute but these often jam. Apartments have to be designed to have larger garbage rooms on each floor so recycling can be put there.</p>