

# RECYCLING COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24



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# A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## **Key Reflections from 2023/24**

When our organization was formed 50 years ago, the commitment then was to see the 3Rs implemented in B.C., and in particular to see recycling options created for the public good. Today the Recycling Council of B.C. is turning a corner and is committed to working toward creating a circular economy in our province.

We're pleased to be able to reflect on a remarkable year for our organization. We have made significant strides in several key areas: enhancing our technology infrastructure, strengthening stakeholder relationships and improving our Information Services to become the most robust and reliable source of information on recycling, waste diversion, and the circular economy in the province.

## **Advancements in Technology Infrastructure**

During the past year we dedicated considerable effort and resources to refurbishing and updating our foundational technology systems. With these upgrades now nearly completed we can focus on our core mission of sharing strategies to decrease waste and divert material from landfills.

Funding from the Vancity enviroFund and the Capital Project Grant program through BC Gaming has enabled us to rebuild the proprietary database that powers our Information Services program, including the Recyclepedia.

We answered nearly 300,000 inquiries from BC residents this past year, and the new database will soon feature information on the 4th and 5th R's: reuse and repair. With our technology backbone now updated and fortified we now provide improved data collection and reporting, enhancing recycling programs throughout the province.

### **Strengthening Strategic Stakeholder Relationships**

In June 2023, the Provincial government released the Single-Use and Plastics Waste Prevention Regulation. Single-use plastics are a critical issue at the intersection of human and environmental health, contributing to climate change and creating millions of tonnes of garbage each year, much of which ends up as litter. Our organization was proud to be invited to speak at the press conference alongside Minister Heyman.

In November, we co-hosted a workshop at the National Zero Waste Council conference titled Are Textiles Next for EPR? This event spoke to the importance

of having a management framework when combating textile waste, and explored the potential of Extended Producer Responsibility regulation for textiles in BC.

### **Enhancing Information Services**

We have continued to improve our Information Services, ensuring it remains the most dynamic, up-to-date and reliable source of information on recycling, waste diversion, and the circular economy in British Columbia.

A new layer has been added to our communications system enabling our Environmental Advisors to interact with the public through digital channels such as online chat and SMS text. This robust and efficient system reaches new and different audiences while enhancing the effectiveness of our service.

Our new membership management platform offers a seamless experience for both our members and our staff. With automated communication and online payment options, becoming a member is now easier than ever.

### **Comprehensive Business Plan**

With the support of Innoweave, the McConnell Foundation, and Scale Collaborative, we completed a comprehensive business plan for our

Information Services. As a unique organization in the recycling sector, we rely on collaboration with many organizations. Our planned improvements will further enhance our leadership in communication and education on behalf of our clients.

### Looking Ahead

RCBC is committed to reducing waste and promoting recycling and sustainability across British Columbia. We look forward to building on this year's achievements and continuing to drive positive change in zero waste and circular economy policies and practices.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to our dedicated staff, board of directors, partners and stakeholders for their unwavering support throughout this transformative journey. Your commitment

and collaboration has been instrumental in helping us to reach beyond our traditional business model and begin the work of realizing a circular economy.

Our Board is confident that our strategic vision, technology upgrades and partnerships serve to strengthen RCBC's leadership in zero waste. We are committed to our mission of working towards a more circular economy in British Columbia, and we will continue to innovate, advocate, and educate.

RCBC's journey of transformation and growth is fueled by our collective commitment and shared vision. As we continue our journey, we invite all our stakeholders to join us in creating a more sustainable future for British Columbia.

Thank you for your continued support and belief in our mission.

**LYNDSAY POAPS**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

LAURA MIDAN

It has been another busy year at RCBC as work continues to ensure that our services are relevant and accessible to British Columbians. To that end, RCBC embarked on a number of projects focused on increasing efficiencies and enhancing service delivery including the implementation of a new comprehensive business plan for the organization and the development of a new database for our information services which will provide a solid foundation for the future.

RCBC has also maintained a strong voice on emerging issues in the sector and remains focused on the goal of a truly circular economy. All of this important work is completed by a small, dedicated staff team who are passionate about protecting BC's environment from the impacts of waste. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank the staff for their efforts and accomplishments this past year.





# AUDITOR'S REPORT

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# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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To the Members of  
**Recycling Council of British Columbia**

**Opinion** We have audited the financial statements of Recycling Council of BC (the Council), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2024, and the statements of changes in net assets, operations and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 2024, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

## **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Council in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

**Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements** Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Council's financial reporting process.

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements** Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

□ Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

□ Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.

□ Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.





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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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□ Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Council to cease to continue as a going concern.

□ Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements** As required by the British Columbia Societies Act, we report that, in our opinion, the accounting principles used in these financial statements, Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

*Tompkins Wozny LLP*

Vancouver, Canada  
May 29, 2024

Chartered Professional Accountants



## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at March 31

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash - operating	62,580	118,327
- gaming	14,000	—
Short-term deposits [note 3]	201,750	125,000
Accounts receivable [note 4]	73,903	252,738
Prepaid expenses	6,862	6,699
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>359,095</b>	<b>502,764</b>
Prepaid deposits	3,881	3,881
Capital assets [note 6]	49,390	38,597
	<b>412,366</b>	<b>545,242</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accruals [note 7]	130,023	86,717
Deferred gaming revenue	14,000	—
Deferred revenue - memberships	22,096	24,518
- other	185,691	366,137
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>351,810</b>	<b>477,372</b>
Deferred contributions related to capital assets [note 8]	42,604	28,602
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>394,414</b>	<b>505,974</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		
Invested in capital assets	6,786	9,995
Internally restricted [note 9]	11,166	19,097
Unrestricted	—	10,176
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>17,952</b>	<b>39,268</b>
	<b>412,366</b>	<b>545,242</b>

Commitments [note 11]

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

On behalf of the Board:

*Laura Midan*

Director

*Karen Mason-Bennett*

Director



## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Year ended March 31

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Service agreements - Industry	248,547	251,101
- Government	75,750	77,000
British Columbia Ministry of Environment	100,000	100,000
Project revenue	52,736	12,500
Sponsorship - Government	44,887	42,308
- Industry	8,750	5,000
Gaming	30,000	37,042
Memberships	27,396	29,049
Donations and interest	11,011	3,782
Amortization of deferred contributions related to capital assets <i>[note 8]</i>	10,998	4,395
	<b>610,075</b>	<b>562,177</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Advertising and promotion	—	1,497
Amortization of capital assets	14,820	6,777
Bank charges and credit card merchant fees	3,800	4,005
Board expenses	1,890	3,405
Computer - supplies, maintenance and support	9,914	12,915
Conference and workshops	7,433	3,843
Contracting and consulting	20,173	22,278
Equipment leases and rentals	2,049	3,559
Insurance	3,529	3,347
Internet - web services	6,480	15,253
Office, supplies and other	1,678	1,650
Postage and courier	—	42
Professional fees	7,630	6,364
Rent and utilities	86,992	83,869
Salaries and benefits <i>[note 12]</i>	456,117	518,148
Telephone and facsimile	6,614	5,453
Travel	2,272	457
	<b>631,391</b>	<b>692,862</b>
<b>Excess of revenues under expenses</b>	<b>(21,316)</b>	<b>(130,685)</b>

*See accompanying notes to the financial statements*



## OUR SUPPORTERS

THE OPERATIONS OF THE RECYCLING COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA ARE FUNDED BY A DIVERSE GROUP OF SUPPORTERS INCLUDING GOVERNMENT, INDUSTRY, GRANTING ORANIZATIONS AND MEMBERS. THANKS TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THESE INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN THE 2023/2024 FISCAL YEAR.

### SUPPORTERS

BC Ministry of Environment	Interchange Recycling
Brewers Recycled Container Collection Council	Major Appliance Recycling Roundtable
Call2Recycle	Metro Vancouver
Canadian Battery Association	Outdoor Power Equipment Institute of Canada
Canadian Electrical Stewardship Association	Product Care Recycling
City of Surrey	Province of British Columbia, Community Gaming Grant
Electronic Products Recycling Association	Recycle BC
Encorp Pacific (Canada)	Thermostat Recovery Program
Health Products Stewardship Association	Tire Stewardship BC
	West Coast Reduction

### IN-KIND DONATIONS

Urban Impact Recycling (recycling services)	Business in Vancouver (subscription)
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### REGIONAL DISTRICT SUPPORTERS - INFORMATION SERVICES

Cariboo	Fraser Valley	qathet
Central Kootenay	Metro Vancouver	Peace River
Central Okanagan	Kootenay-Boundary	Squamish Lillooet
Cowichan Valley	North Okanagan	Sunshine Coast
Fraser-Fort George	Okanagan-Similkameen	Thompson Nicola

# ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

## BOARD OF DIRECORS

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### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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Chair	Laura Midan	Archway Community Services
Vice Chair	Jamie Benton	Formerly Fraser Valley Regional District
Treasurer	Karen Mason-Bennett	Individual
Secretary	Mairi Welman	Individual
Past Chair	Ken Ingram	West Coast Reduction

### DIRECTORS AT LARGE

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Marcia Dick	City of Kamloops
Karen Massicotte	Pacific National Exhibition
Louise Schwarz	Recycling Alternative
Ed Walsh	Encorp Pacific
Sarah Willie	Comox Valley Regional District

### POLICY COMMITTEE

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Jamie Benton, Marcia Dick, Louise Schwarz, Sarah Willie (chair)

### AWARDS COMMITTEE

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Jamie Benton, Mairi Welman

### AGM COMMITTEE

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Karen Mason-Bennett, Laura Midan

# ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

## STAFF

Lyndsay Poaps  
Eric Hargrave  
Aliyyah Abdullah  
Jennifer Helman  
Justin Leblanc  
Eileen Xu  
Sukhman Bajwa  
Beatrice Li

Executive Director  
Operations Manager, Information Services  
Finance and Administration Manager  
Program Coordinator  
Environmental Advisor  
Environmental Advisor  
Environmental Advisor  
Environmental Advisor

