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www.cmei.ca

Chair's Report

Annual General Meeting May 5, 2015

When construction of the landfill at Crane Mountain was approved, two conditions were imposed by the Minister of the Environment that impact the operation of Crane Mountain Enhancement Inc. (CMEI)

Firstly, that the Fundy Region Solid Waste Commission would establish a community based environmental monitoring committee with a mandate to monitor all aspects of the landfill. CMEI is that committee. To fulfill our mandate we review and/or hire experts to review the operation of the landfill and its potential impact on the environment in the host community. Based on these reviews we make recommendations for improvements at the landfill.

Secondly, that a portion of the tipping fee be used for enhancements beneficial to residents of the host community. The CMEI Special Projects Committee reviews and recommends the enhancement projects. To date this has resulted in funding for community facilities and organizations amounting to over \$1,200,000.

CMEI works with Fundy Region Solid Waste (FRSW) to represent the residents of the host community on issues of concern and will present such issues to the Fundy Regional Service Commission (FRSC) and/or the Department of the Environment, if they are not resolved with management at FRSW.

The monthly meetings of the FRSC are open to the public. CMEI monitors the issues to be brought before the commission and when there are issues regarding FRSW that may impact the host community we have representatives at the meeting.

CMEI supports the FRSW Environmental Education program with a contribution of \$1000.00 per year toward the bussing of grade 4 students from the Host Community to participate in the program.

Highlights from the last year include the following:

- CMEI has undertaken several monitoring endeavours in the past including major reviews in 2005 and 2009 by ADI Limited and a review of Gemtec's (consultant to Fundy Region Solid Waste) response to the ADI 2005 report by Craig Hydrogeologic Inc. in 2007. Over the past year CMEI has been working with **exp.** (our hydrogeology consultants) to develop a set of recommendations to be presented to the Department of the Environment (DoE) for inclusion in the new Certificate of Approval to Operate for 2016 thru 2019 based on the above reports and recent reviews of 2012 and 2013 Annual Monitoring Reports, the Statistical Analysis Protocol developed for FRSW by Dr. Jacques Allard (Universite de Moncton), a report on the adequacy of the EIA by Fracflow Consultants Inc. in 1997, and work done for two undergraduate theses by students under the guidance of Dr. Tom Al and Dr. Kerry MacQuarrie from UNB. These recommendations will be presented to the DoE on May 7, 2015.
- In December 2012, FRSW and UNB entered into a contract to conduct hydraulic head testing on the monitoring wells associated with the landfill. This work was completed and two undergraduate theses were presented by two students graduating in 2014. One thesis by Michelle Jacobs covered the work carried out to determine the effect that pumping the water heads in three water supply wells down would have on monitoring wells. From these test results a general understanding of the groundwater flow onsite can be determined. The other thesis by Marc Boucher developed a numerical simulation based the results from the pumping tests done by Ms. Jacobs.
- All approved 2014 Special Projects were completed and all funds used with about \$1653.48 going to the B list.
- In September, 2013 Fundy Region Solid Waste formed a committee to study options for waste diversion going forward and to make a recommendation to the Regional Service Commission. Three options were considered 1). Status quo – Recycling Depots & Curbside Compost; 2). Curbside Recycling and eliminate Composting; 3). Curbside Recycling and continue Composting. The committee was made up of representatives from each of the municipalities and two from the LSD's. In addition a representative from small business and I represented CMEI. A consultant from **exp.** was hired to assist in analysis of the various impacts of each option. The committee recommended Option 3 - Curbside Recycling and continue Composting, first

to Jack Keir, Executive Director of the FRSC then to the whole FRSC on July 22, 2014. The commission passed it back to Mr. Keir to bring his recommendation back to them in the coming months. At the FRSC meeting on September 23, 2014 Mr. Keir recommended against Option 2 that would remove the compost program and a motion passed to take it back to their councils and LSD's and the vote would be in October. On October 28, 2015, the options were brought to FRSC for a vote. Mr. Keir advised the commission that to pass a motion would require a 2/3 of members with 2/3 of the population. The vote on Option 1 was 7 yea and 2 nay but was defeated on population. The vote on Option 3 was 2 yea and 7 nay but was defeated on members. At the FRSC meeting on April 28, 2015, Marc MacLeod, General Manager of FRSW was asked to address the waste diversion issue. Mr. MacLeod explained that an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program is being seriously considered for Atlantic Canada. This program would cover Packaging and Printed Paper (PPP) and could be implemented in the 2018 – 2020 time frame. If FRSW were to proceed with curbside recycling at this time and the new program was implemented with a different collection protocol or if it were centralized in another region then the startup money for curbside recycling would be largely wasted. Mr. MacLeod suggested that the FRSC proceed with the upgrade to the composting facility and authorize funding needed to maintain the depot facilities in good and safe condition and continue with the depot system until a decision on EPR is made. A motion was made and passed.

Final Note

To bring concerns to CMEI, residents can contact any member of the Board of Directors or send an email to one of our contact email addresses, see the “Contact Us” page on our website. www.cmei.ca

Residents can also contact the landfill directly by calling the hotline 738-1212. At our request, the Commission has installed a menu on its hotline that includes an option to “leave a recorded message with your comments,” this option can be used for officially registering concerns or complaints.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Tom Simpson
Chair, Crane Mountain Enhancement Inc.