

April 26, 2018

Dear Resident(s),

The Town of Indian Head's landfill operations and curbside garbage collection will be evolving in the near future. These updated operations will be based off of the results of a study that was conducted after the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment implemented stricter landfill operating regulations and guidelines. The goal of the study was to confirm a sustainable solution to best serve the disposal needs of the Town now and into the future.

After review of the study it was determined that traditional landfill facilities are no longer feasible to operate for small towns. The updated regulations require modern landfills to develop engineered designed pits constructed by qualified contractors, monitoring wells must be drilled and tested every six months on the landfill site, leachate ponds must be again designed by engineers and constructed by qualified contractors and all landfill pits must be plumbed to drain to the pond, leachate must then be transported to the Town lagoon facility. Finally, when the time comes, an engineered designed closure plan must be developed and followed. In addition to all of this, larger more specific heavy equipment would be required to maintain the landfill site to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment standards. In addition to these new expenses, a modern landfill operating on the Town's current site would run out of physical space in approximately 2-5 years.

The study provided the following three options to Town Council;

- **Option 1** – The landfill would phase out traditional dumping in 2018 and a transfer station facility will be constructed to collect garbage. Curbside garbage collection would be contracted to a third-party.
- **Option 2** – Operate the landfill following the new Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment regulations and guidelines for the next 5 years (assuming current location has the required space), then close, and a transfer station will be constructed. Curbside garbage collection would be contracted to a third-party.
- **Option 3** – Operate the landfill following the new Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment regulations and guidelines for the next 10 years (assuming current location has the required space), then close, and a transfer station will be constructed. Curbside garbage collection would be contracted to a third-party.

After reviewing the options, the study's final recommendation, and weighing the costs associated with each option, Town Council has determined the first option to be the most financially responsible. Planning for the phased transition is now underway. The Town will continue to accept grass, leaves and yard waste for composting, clean wood for burning, construction material and household garbage.

In the near future, landfill users will notice large bins near the household pits at the landfill. Public Works will be utilizing these bins to divert the curbside waste they collect in an effort to extend the capacity of our remaining household pits. These will remain in use until the full Transfer Station is completed.

Lastly, the Town would like to invite you to an informational meeting being held in Memorial Hall on **Wednesday May 16th, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.** Here we hope to answer any further questions you may have and address any concerns. We also ask that all landlords share this information with their tenants. Questions can be directed by email to townofindianhead@sasktel.net.

Sincerely,

Cam Thauberger
Town Administrator
Town of Indian Head

