



BC First Nations Recycling Initiative

BC First Nations Recycling Initiative **2022 IN REVIEW**



ABOUT US

The First Nations Recycling Initiative (FNRI) supports recycling in First Nation communities throughout British Columbia. We collaborate directly with First Nation communities across BC to provide information about BC's recycling stewardship programs and support local community collection events and existing recycling programs. The participating stewardship programs work together on projects to remove and recycle household batteries, small corded and cordless electrical household appliances, household electronics, large appliances, corded and cordless electrical outdoor power tools, and automotive and light duty truck tires, as well as gather information to inform and update on health products, paper and packaging and beverage containers. The following stewardship programs were partners in the First Nations Recycling Initiative throughout 2022: Call2Recycle, ElectroRecycle, Electronic Products Recycling Association, Health Products Stewardship Association, Major Appliance Recycling Roundtable, Outdoor Power Equipment Institute of Canada, Recycle BC, Return-It, and Tire Stewardship BC.

THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS!



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Field Services Specialist for the FNRI actively engaged with communities in 2022 as the challenges and restrictions largely due to the pandemic began to ease. With most First Nations communities allowing in person visits again the year was a busy and successful one with many spring and fall community clean-ups planned and completed. When not making in person community visits active communication was maintained with community contacts via virtual meetings, emails, and phone calls to facilitate removal of recyclable FNRI program material during collection events in conjunction with communities and local governments. In addition the Field Service Specialist also maintained ongoing relationships with First Nation communities, participating stewardship programs, other Indigenous industry groups and local, regional, and federal governments.

Community engagement often involves an in person site visit, to determine FNRI support and assess participation. In some cases, the community contacted the FNRI to participate in a scheduled site visit, while at other times FNRI was asked by the local government to participate.

Prior to site visits, there are many contacts made and emails exchanged during the coordinating process, not only with the community but also the local government. Typically, the individuals involved with recycling work within the public works, operation and maintenance or housing departments of First Nation communities.



Total number of in-person community clean-up events (14):

- 1 Leq'a:mel First Nation
- 2 Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k:tles7et'h' First Nation (Kyoquot)
- 3 Pauquachin First Nation
- 4 Soowahlie First Nation
- 5 Penticton Indian Band
- 6 Kitasoo First Nation
- 7 Heiltsuk First Nation
- 8 Zeballos First Nation
- 9 Tsartlip First Nation
- 10 T'it'q'et First Nation
- 11 Takla First Nation
- 12 Tahltan Band Council
- 13 Namgis First Nation
- 14 Aq'am First Nation

LOCAL GOVERNMENT/REGIONAL DISTRICT ENGAGEMENT

FNRI engaged with the following Regional Districts (10) this year:

- Regional District of Mount Waddington
- Cowichan Valley Regional District
- Comox Strathcona Waste Management (Comox Valley Regional District & Strathcona Regional District)
- Kootenai Regional District
- Thompson-Nicola Regional District
- Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
- Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
- Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine
- Capital Regional District

Some correspondence was done through video meetings, emails, and phone calls.

OTHER COLLABORATIONS

The FNRI continued to place priority in 2022 on collaborating more closely with other existing groups which share goals of supporting recycling programs within Indigenous communities. These groups include the Indigenous Zero Waste Technical Advisory Group ([IZWTAG](#)) and Indigenous Services Canada ([ISC](#))'s First Nations Waste Management Initiative. Collaboration took place through FNRI's attendance at some of IZWTAG's quarterly and annual general meetings (upon invitation) as the FNRI is an associate member of IZWTAG. The FNRI also attended and had an information booth at the April IZWTAG day and presented FNRI information to the attendees in a breakout session. During 2022 collaboration meetings were held more frequently along with coordinated visits to Bella Bella and Klemtu island to assess and assist with FNRI materials removal.

The FNRI team also continued to sit as a representative on MARR's Local Government Advisory Council Meeting.

NEWLY UPDATED RESOURCES

The revised First Nations Recycling Initiative Resource Guide was a popular information piece as the initial print run was completely distributed by the fall of 2022. To ensure that the guide continued to be available to individuals and communities a further print run was ordered. The guides focus on individual stewardship program information, including what items are accepted by each program and what to consider when collecting program material for responsible disposal.

Below you can continue to access the FNRI published revised versions of the [First Nations Recycling Initiative Resource Guide](#) and [BC First Nations Recycling Initiative Program Overview](#), which provide the most-up-to-date information about each participating stewardship program.



We are happy to share electronic or paper copies with anyone interested!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please feel free to visit our website to learn more about the FNRI, read past annual reports, and access other resources: RecycleBC.ca/First-Nations-Recycling-Initiative

You can contact us by email at info@fnri.ca.