



**TOWN OF CRESTON**  
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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Town of Creston Launches Curbside Consultation Campaign**

**Creston, B.C., October 27, 2020:** From Monday, October 26 to Monday, November 9, the Town of Creston is leading Phase 1 of 3 in a community consultation campaign to support improvements to residential curbside collection. Council is hoping to hear from as many residents as possible to gain direction for enhancing this service in 2021.

There are many drivers behind the Town's plans for enhancements. A central factor is citizen direction. Past planning and engagement processes suggest that residents expect the Town to make recycling and other waste diversion strategies, such as composting, more accessible and convenient. Council appreciates that protecting Creston's natural resources and environment is always a priority for the community.

The timing of the changes is linked to the anticipated opening of the Regional District of Central Kootenay Organics Composting Facility at the Creston Landfill site in Fall 2021. The Town is working to launch an enhanced service model to coincide with the opening of the new facility.

At minimum, the Town plans to collect kitchen scraps and recycling at the curb. This would be in addition to garbage and seasonal yard waste collection. There are still critical design decisions to be made, including considering various yard waste options.

The main goal for this phase of community engagement is understanding the community's expectations for a convenient, accessible, affordable, and sustainable service. To gain that understanding, the Town is hosting a 10-minute Curbside Consultation Survey.

"Citizens, Council, and other members of our community came together to create an award-winning Official Community Plan for the Town of Creston which lays out goals for everything from neighbourhood vitality to greenhouse gas reductions", said Mayor Ron Toyota. "Enhancing the Curbside Collection Service will certainly advance the community's shared vision for livability, prosperity and sustainability."

The survey asks about residents' experience and satisfaction with the existing service. It describes a new service scenario that has been recommended for Creston, including its estimated cost. Respondents are asked to rate how well that level of service would work for their household and its value. The survey asks specific questions about yard waste and presents related service level scenarios.

The Town is working with Vernon-based Discovery Research to administer the survey. 360 Creston households will be randomly selected to take the survey by telephone. Residents are also invited to complete the survey online at [creston.ca](http://creston.ca) or at the digital kiosk at Pealow's Your Independent Grocer. To help ensure that the process is accessible to as much of the community as possible, Town residents can also choose to call and arrange to complete the survey by telephone if online participation is not possible.

The survey is part of a broader community engagement campaign. The focus for the current first phase is on understanding citizen needs and expectations. That knowledge will help Council set a direction for future curbside options.

Phase 2 is planned to start in 2021. The Town will work with the community to follow the direction set by survey results, reporting back to the community on what was learned, and working with residents to ensure that any changes are designed to be convenient and inclusive. Phase 3 will begin when the Town is ready to offer a new service. At that stage, the focus will be on helping households to prepare for and adapt to the changes. Resources and supplies designed with input from the community will be offered to households and other stakeholders.

Mayor Toyota added, "on behalf of Council, I encourage our Town citizens to participate in the Curbside Consultation campaign by taking the survey. We want to hear from you! Your comments and suggestions are welcomed."

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