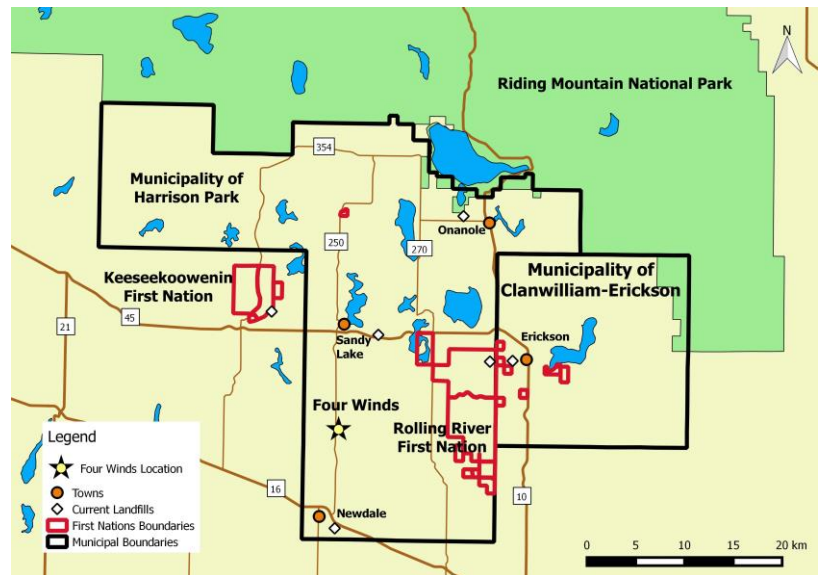


Four Winds Environmental Management Regional Solid Waste and Recycling Facility Informational Package - June 2018

The Issue

The communities of Keeseekoowenin First Nation, Rolling River First Nation, Clanwilliam-Erickson, Harrison Park and Riding Mountain National Park are facing serious waste management issues. Landfills in the communities are filling up. There are newly enforced regulations by the Province, which means adjustments and modernization in operations is needed. There are inherent inefficiencies in the operation of numerous small landfills, which would be improved with a Regional Approach. Recycling levels are below provincial standards. There are limited locations to dispose of hazardous waste, bulky goods and other products. In summary, the level of service generally falls below the standards and regulations of the Manitoba Environmental Protection Act.



The Project

Over the past three years the group of partners - the Municipalities of Clanwilliam-Erickson, Harrison Park, Rolling River and Keeseekowenin First Nations, and Riding Mountain National Park - have been exploring ways to consolidate waste management in the region and maximize the cost efficiencies for each community.

This partnership group is developing one central landfill / processing area to service the region's solid waste management needs. Three transfer stations will be created to serve people with as little disruption to the present service as possible. The new facility will manage solid waste for the region and work towards diverting 60% of the waste that comes to it through recycling and composting, which is crucial to our environment. There would be a number of seasonal and full-time jobs created as part of this project.

Why?

There are many reasons to pursue this partnership. The Manitoba government has updated its landfill regulations making the management of landfills much more complex and costly. The recent amalgamation of municipalities has mixed different landfill management philosophies together, which is very inefficient in the management and diversion of waste. First Nations have limited land base and see this partnership as a positive alternative solution. In the 2016 budget announcement, the Federal government allocated \$403 million to First Nations solid waste management. Rolling River and Keeseekoowenin therefore bring considerable funding and technical expertise to this partnership.

Landfills have been identified as a major generator of greenhouse gases. By closing three landfills and converting the other three to transfer stations, the project will help mitigate the impacts of climate change and support provincial and federal climate change mitigation strategies. The main site will manage gases (eg. methane) in the most advanced ways possible. New Federal and Provincial legislation will make that a priority for all of us.

How?

After hundreds of hours of negotiation, completion of a feasibility study, investigations into suitable locations and a geotechnical assessment, the group has decided to form Four Winds Environmental Management (FWEM). This company is equally owned by the two municipalities and two First Nations (25% ownership each) and will be responsible

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for managing waste and recycling in our combined jurisdictions. Riding Mountain National Park will not be an official partner but will be considered a preferred service user due to its involvement throughout the planning phases of the project.

Funding is to be shared by the Federal and Provincial governments as well as the municipalities, First Nations, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. With continued dialogue and trust this project will benefit each jurisdiction economically, as well as environmentally and will meet all of the expectations of new legislation.

Other Options

Several options were investigated and then screened out as not applicable in the initial stages of the project.



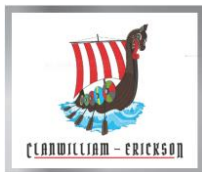
Other Parts of the Solution

Additional solutions would include:

- Increased recycling capabilities
- Expansion of the types of materials which can be recycled in the communities
- Construction of a reuse center
- Waste management innovations and new technologies
- Closing existing landfill sites as required

Let Us Know Your Thoughts...

We are interested in hearing your comments, addressing your questions and working with the Partnership to address your concerns regarding the project. You may provide comments at any point in the process. Stay tuned for notifications of upcoming public forums.



*Keeseekoowenin Ojibway Nation
Treaty No. 2 - The Riding Mountain Band*



Parks Canada Parcs Canada



Indigenous and
Northern Affairs Canada

Affaires autochtones
et du Nord Canada

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