Sechelt, BC – May 27, 2011: The Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) invites residents and businesses to get in the loop by “talking trash” – in the literal sense.

“We’re reviewing our Solid Waste Management Plan and we need feedback from residents and businesses about how we plan to manage our waste and recycling in the future,” said Garry Nohr, Sunshine Coast Regional District Board Chair. “An updated plan will build on the Regional District’s goal of being a Zero Waste community. It will set out programs, policies and actions to manage the region’s waste - and resources traditionally viewed as waste - over the next five years, with strategic direction for 10 to 20 years”.

The SCRD will be providing information and collecting input during the month of June starting with an information newsletter distributed through the Coast Reporter the week of June 3, then meeting with community groups, conducting a community survey and hosting three public open houses.

The open houses are being held across the region so participants can view display panels, talk to SCRD representatives and learn more about proposed programs. Most importantly, residents and businesses will be able to tell the SCRD what they think about proposed options through the survey and at the open houses. To make the open houses even more interesting, Deer Crossing The Art Farm will provide a local “art from waste” display and a free children’s art area at each event.

Open house hours are from **3:30 until 8:00 pm** in each of the following locations:
- June 20 at Gibsons and Area Community Centre, Room 209 – 700 Park Road, Gibsons
- June 21 at Sechelt Indian Band Hall, 5432 Xenichen Avenue, Sechelt
- June 22 Pender Harbour Community Hall, 12878 Madeira Park Road, Madeira Park

Additional information and opportunities to give feedback on the proposed Pender Harbour Resource Recovery Facility will be available at the June 22 open house in Madeira Park.

Can’t make it to an open house? Simply get the information online starting June 3 at www.scrd.ca where you’ll find background information, plan documents, open house materials and the community survey.

The survey can be filled out online or you can pick up the newsletter and survey in hard copy from community locations throughout the region including:
- Pender Harbour Landfill, 5545 Garden Bay Road, Garden Bay
- SCRD Pender Harbour Office, 12828 Lagoon Road, Madeira Park
- Sechelt Aquatic Centre, 5500 Shornecliffe Avenue, Sechelt
- District of Sechelt Town Hall, 5797 Cowrie Street, Sechelt
- Sechelt Landfill, 4901 Dusty Road, Sechelt
- Welcome Woods Market, 7816 Fawn Road, Halfmoon Bay
- Roberts Creek Community Library, next to the General Store, Roberts Creek
• Gibsons Town Hall, 474 South Fletcher Road, Gibsons
• Gibsons and Area Community Centre, 700 Park Road, Gibsons
• SCRD Field Road Office, 1975 Field Road, Sechelt

All surveys and other feedback returned by **Thursday, June 30, 2011** will be considered for inclusion in the plan with other technical and financial information. The plan will then go to the Regional Board and the Ministry of Environment for final approvals.

For more information or to provide your input, come in to one of the open houses, visit www.scrd.ca, fill out the survey, email comments or questions to zerowaste@scrd.ca or phone 604.885.6806.

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