

# Showcasing Innovation in the Comox Valley

Connecting to Sustainability

**MUNICIPAL COLLABORATION  
MAKING IT HAPPEN AT THE OPERATIONAL LEVEL**

Joint Presentation  
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*Village of Cumberland*



# Municipal Collaboration

## Making it Happen at the Municipal Level

How, Why and What We Do To Collaborate

Water Supply

Liquid Waste Management



provides these services to other municipalities in  
the Comox Valley

Solid Waste – Landfill

Transit Services

# Water Supply Joint Administration

The RDCS operates and manages the raw water source, treats and then delivers bulk potable water.

The Municipalities (City of Courtenay and Town of Comox) and specified areas purchase the bulk treated water and distribute it to customers.

Monthly Technical Advisory meetings provide Operations technical staff and Administrators from the Municipalities and the RDCS the opportunity to coordinate common interests and objectives.

The political decision makers then meet as the Comox Valley Water System Committee to consider the Technical Advisory Committee recommendations.





# Water Supply - Cooperation

## Operational Cooperation:

Ten years ago all 3 local governments (RDCS, Courtenay and Comox) agreed to have one consultant model the three systems - this put all partners on the same page for capital work, year of implementation and operational changes

In 2002 the seven pressure zones in the system were rationalized to five.

Universal water metering of the non-metered users was proposed. The RDCS managed the study and made the grant application – Application denied by the Canada /British Columbia Infrastructure Program.

Agreement on water sprinkling and staged water use through the RDCS – Comox Valley Water System Committee.

Technical Advisory Committee agreed on Development Cost Charges (DCCs) and the DCC bylaw was passed.

RDCS/Courtenay/Developer for Mazda and Toyota agreed on standby generator.

Combined efforts in joint water conservation/power smart educational programs





# Sewage Collection and Treatment Joint Administration

The RDCS operates and manages the Comox Valley Water Pollution Control Centre for the the City of Courtenay and the Town of Comox.

Both municipalities collect, pump and discharge sewage into the RDCS administered system of large pump stations, force mains and the sewage treatment plant.

Monthly Technical Advisory meetings provide Operations technical staff and Administrators from the Municipalities and the RDCS the opportunity to coordinate common interests and objectives.

The political decision makers then meet as the Comox Valley Sewage Commission to consider the Technical Advisory Committee recommendations.



# Sewage Collection and Treatment

## Operational Collaboration:

Municipalities have implemented inflow and infiltration reduction programs to assist in deferring regional transmission and treatment upgrades.

### City of Courtenay

- Low flow program changed 120 municipal washrooms from 23 litre per flush to 6 litres per flush
- Requires builders to use low flush toilets (6 litres/flush) and shower heads.

New Regional Master Sewerage Plan for ultimate urban build out of Comox Valley was recently commissioned.







# Solid Waste

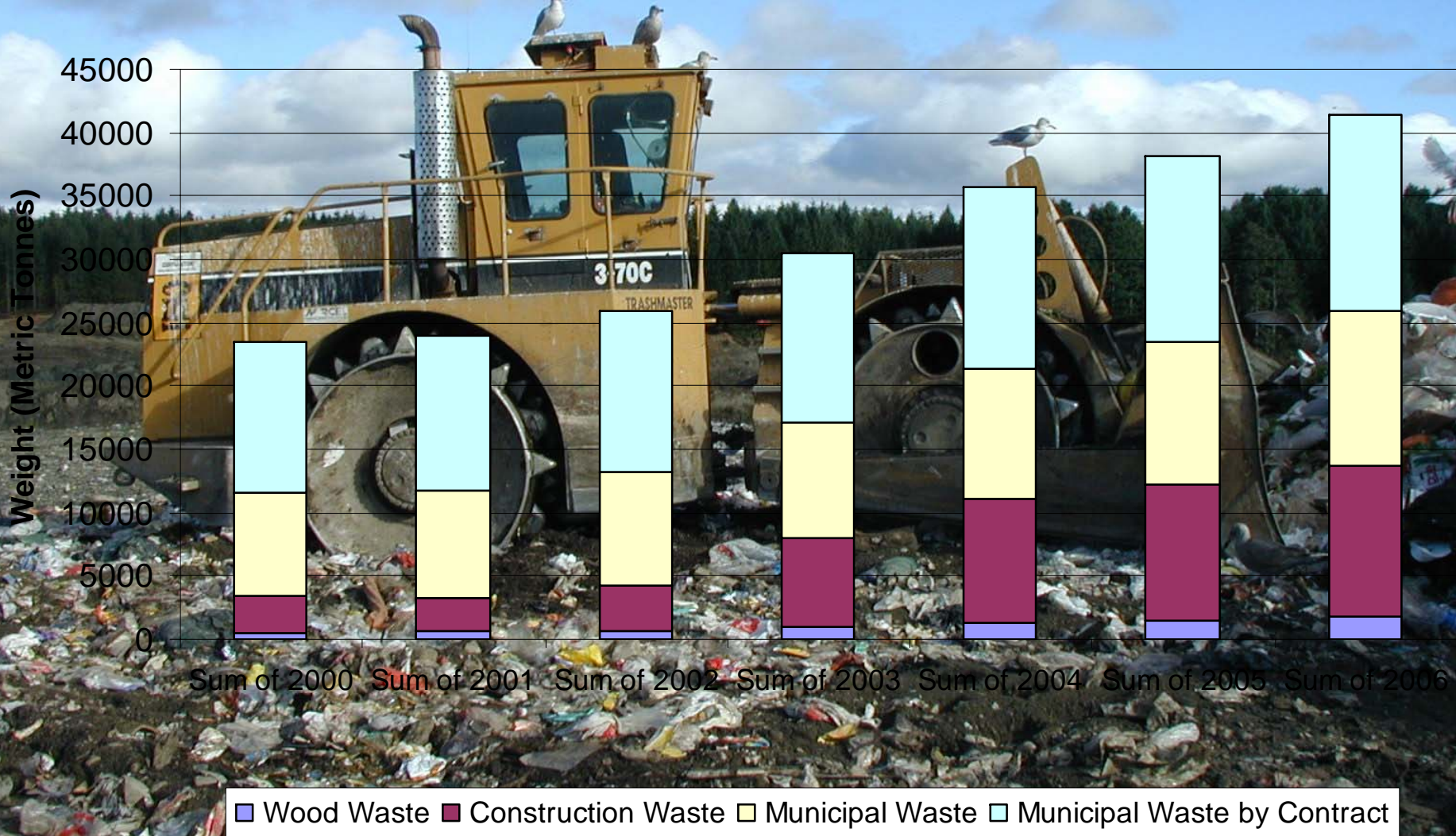
The RDCS operates the Comox Valley Waste Management Centre for the Comox Valley region





# Solid Waste

## Comox Valley Waste Management Centre





# Solid Waste

Courtenay and Comox jointly tendered for a garbage collection, blue bag and yard waste contract. These services are now in operation in both municipalities.

Discussions with the RDCS took place to ensure there would be no financial shocks due to tonnage reduction.





# SkyRocket

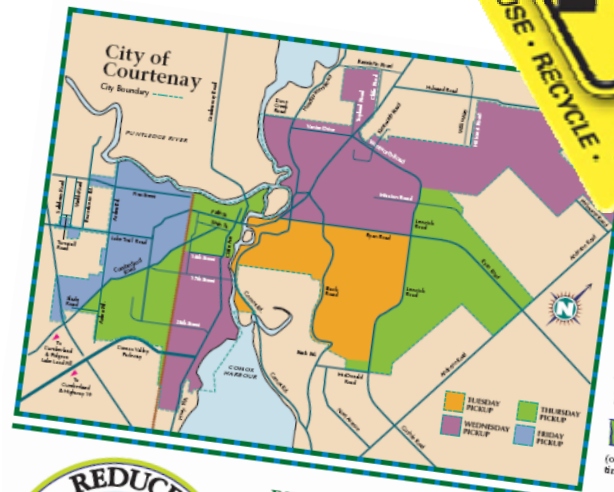
The CSRD's Biosolids Composting facility produces SkyRocket Compost which is seeing huge results and success. It is made of wood chips from processed wood waste received at the landfill and biosolids from the Comox Valley Water Pollution Control Centre.

## These vegetables were planted in...





# Recycling



The following services are provided for each residential household within the City of Courtenay.

- A basic weekly service of one 121 litre (26.6 imperial gallon) garbage receptacle with a water tight cover, a diameter of not more than 60 cm (24"), and a depth of not more than 90 cm (36"), and made of galvanized steel, plastic or rubber.
- Additional garbage over the one can limit will also be removed, up to a maximum of four 50 litre (24"x36") garbage bags, by attaching one extra purchased at City Hall, 830 Cliffe Avenue.
- Bi-weekly curbside pickup, as signified on the pickup schedule of cardboard and semi-transparent blue bag recyclables, if put out prior to 8 am. Detailed information on the semi-transparent blue bag recycling program is described herein. Recyclables are collected by a separate truck that may pick up recyclables at a different time than the garbage pick-up. If you think your garbage or recyclables were missed, please call IPI at 334-4427 (on the same day).
- The maximum weight in a 121 litre garbage can will be 25 kg (55 lbs). The maximum weight in a 50 litre garbage bag will be 16 kg (35 lbs).
- To ensure pickup, garbage and recyclables must be placed at the end of your driveway or in the back lane prior to 8:00 am including statutory holidays (other than Christmas Day and New Year's Day). Pick up times may vary between 6:00 am and 6:00 pm.



**REDUCE • REUSE • RECYCLE**  
*You can make a difference!*

Please refer to the calendar on this brochure for residential garbage collection dates in your area (as garbage above the one can limit can be picked up if tagged with stickers available from Courtenay City Hall, 830 Cliffe Avenue.

- International Paper Industries ..... 334-4427
- Courtenay Garbage & Recycling Collection Info ..... 334-4441
- Landfill, Recycling & Composting Information ..... 334-6000
- BC Recycling Hotline ..... 1-800-667-4321

By reducing, returning and recycling we can reduce garbage by more than 50%. Following is a list of opportunities to reduce, return and recycle.

**Courtenay Return Centre**  
 Tel: 338-6013 (bottle depot) 1255 McPhee, Courtenay  
 Now provides refunds for ALL beverage containers including plastic, metal, pop, wine, spirits, etc., in Terra Paks, plastic, metal or glass.

**Comox Return Centre**  
 Tel: 338-0599 678 Anderson, Comox. In addition to the above, it also the Comox Valleys' Paint and Paint Product Return Centre.

**RD-C's Recycling Centres** provide depots for the following materials: Plastic milk jugs, metal & glass food containers, newspaper and boxboard.

**Journey Program** Tel: 338-5884 Office Paper  
 1-800-GOT-JUNK? Tel: 1-800-468-5865  
 Provides the removal and disposal of junk and rubbish including the loading and clean-up. Some items include: old furniture and appliances, construction and renovation debris, branches and more. www.1800gotjunk.com  
 This service is provided as a courtesy in the public, they are not deemed to be specifically recommended by the City of Courtenay.

**Additional locations of Recycling Centres**

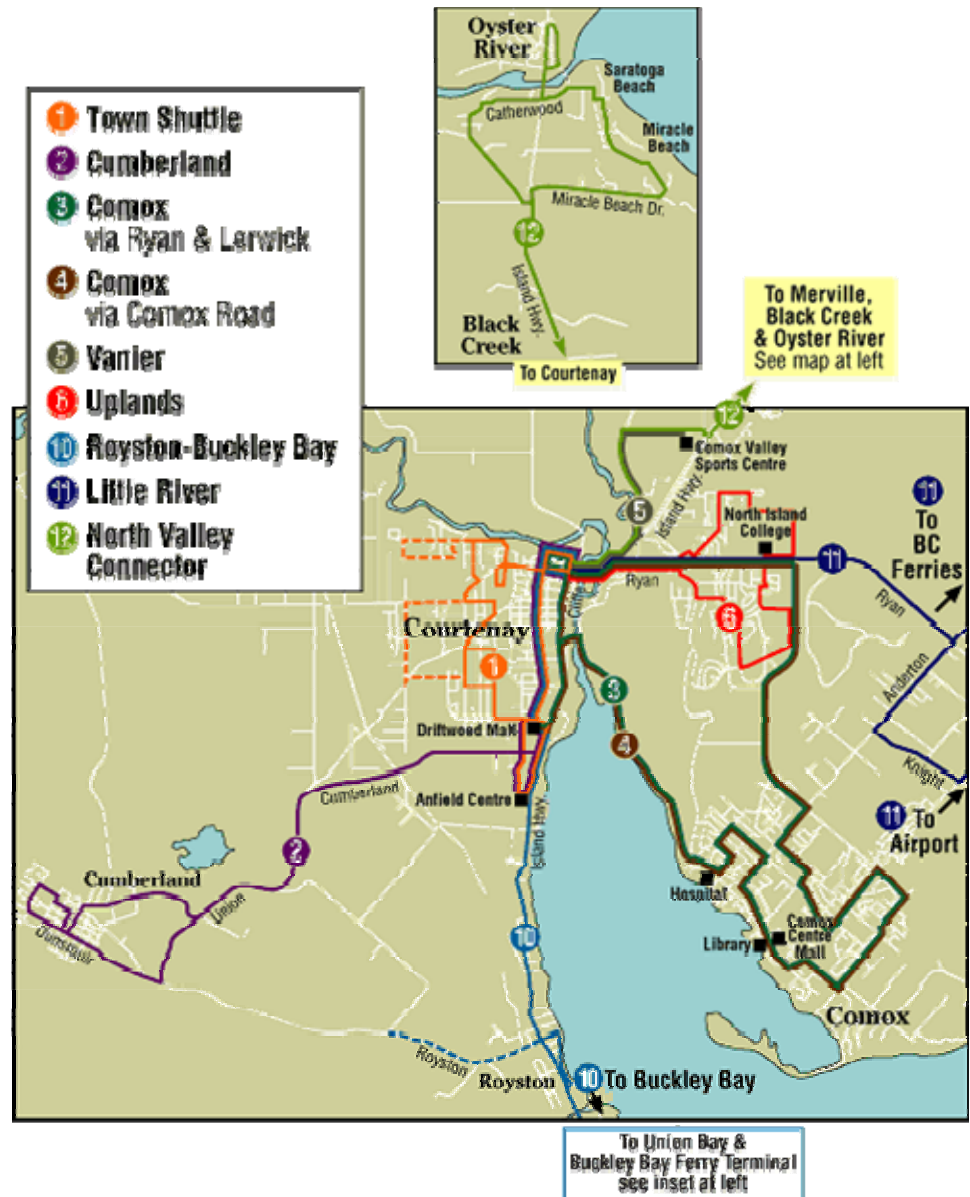
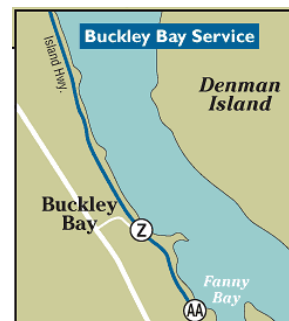
- Home Depot (Courtenay)
- Canex (GB Comox)
- Comox Mall
- Drifwood Mall
- Courtenay Country Market
- Quality Foods (Lerwick/Gaferle, Comox)
- Walmart (2199 Cliffe Avenue, Courtenay)
- Pigeon Lake Landfill  
 Also accepts metals, batteries and grass clippings free.  
 Waxy materials (\$65.00 a tonne).
- Pigeon Lake Landfill  
 Open Mon-Fri

- City of Courtenay and Town of Comox administer curbside recycling programs
- Regional District provides neighborhood recycling depots throughout the Comox Valley



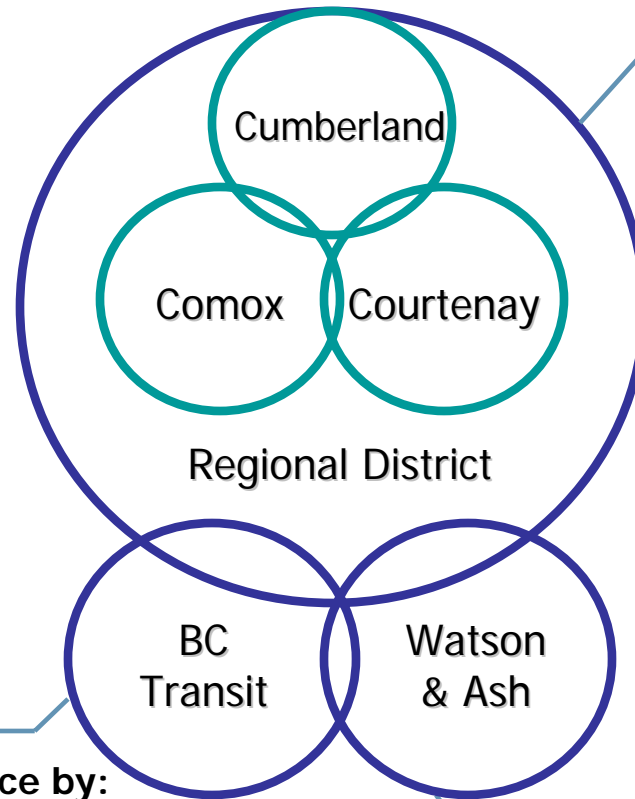
# Comox Valley Transit System

The regional transit service operates in Courtenay, Comox, Cumberland and the electoral areas south to Fanny Bay and north to Campbell River





# Operational Collaboration



## Regional District coordinates with Municipalities to:

- provide local funding
- approve fares and service levels
- set system service/ridership objectives
- promote ridership
- Implement on-street infrastructure upgrades

## BC Transit supports service by:

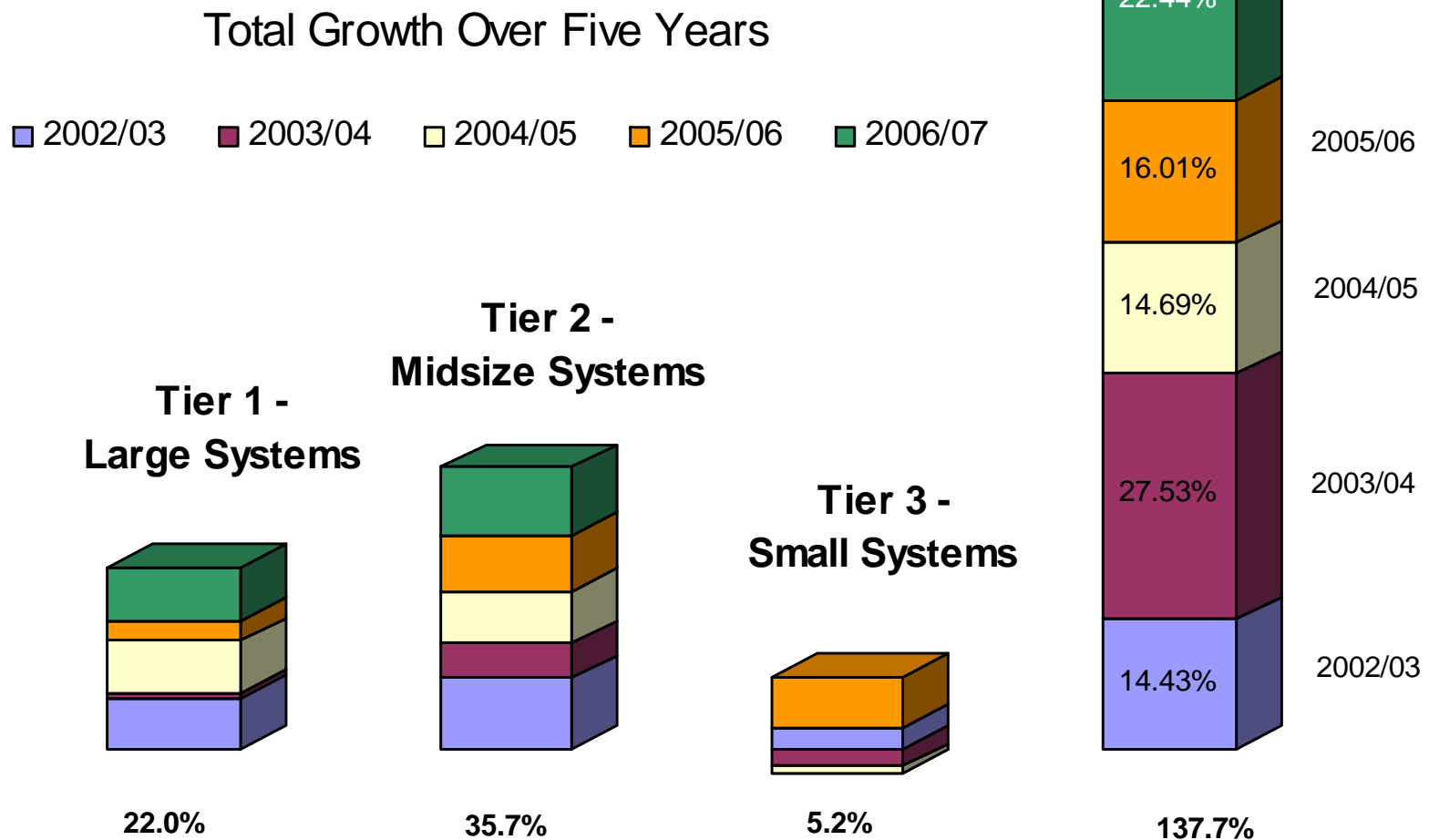
- provide provincial funding
- administer contracts
- RFP process to select operating company
- professional services (planning, marketing, fleet management)

## Local Operating Company works to:

- deliver specified transit service
- provide trained staff



For the past 2 years it has been the fastest growing transit system in BC





# Cooperative Approach

**Transit Committee:** Staff from each municipality involved in the system and other transit partners meet twice annually to discuss the transit service and projects underway to promote ridership.



**Clean Air Day:** The Comox Valley Transit system promoted Clean Air Day and Local Government staff supported the initiative by competing in the commuter challenge to be the local government who had the most people use alternate forms of transportation.





# Upcoming Initiatives:

**Seniors Transit Forum:** Working with the Courtenay Seniors Club to encourage seniors to begin using transit and receive feedback to enhance system to better meet seniors needs.

**Regional Dual Pass:** Discounted rate for monthly pass to use both Comox Valley and Campbell River Transit systems



**Wi-Fi Buses:** Pilot project that will have buses equipped with free wireless internet service for all riders – focused on making the transit system more attractive than SOV for commuters





# Questions?

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