

MARR is a not-for-profit, membership-based and volunteer-governed organization that plays a unique and valuable role in helping Manitoba communities and their many partners implement effective and efficient waste reduction, reuse and recycling programs.

MARR members include individuals who are the "implementers" of recycling and waste reduction at the community level.

MARR provides a central place for information sharing and dialogue between communities and their peers.

MARR also provides an efficient and effective forum for government policy makers and PROs (industry stewardship program administrators) to interact and communicate with those who implement recycling and waste reduction activities at the community level.

MARR

204-573-8693

office@marrmb.com

www.marrmb.com

SAVE THE DATE! 2018 MARR Forum Will Take Place on November 7th-8th, 2018 in Winnipeg

MARR's annual Forum has become the premiere learning and networking opportunity for anyone involved in Manitoba's recycling and waste reduction sector. Last year's Forum was a highly successful, two-day event that attracted over 170 participants as well as many wonderful sponsors and exhibitors at the trade show. (You can still view event proceedings at <http://www.marrmb.com/fall2017/index.html>)

We are pleased to announce the dates for this year's Forum have been set for **November 7th and 8th, 2018**. The Forum will take place in Winnipeg. Mark your calendars, share the date with your colleagues, and plan to join us in Winnipeg. We'll be sending more details as they take shape.



"every year I learn something new, get important updates, and have returning opportunities"

"all presenters were excellent and the tour was fantastic"

2018 MARR Board of Directors

Dan Robidoux (Chair),
Director, ECO West

Darryl Marsch (Vice-Chair),
Vocational Services
Coordinator, Eastman
Recycling Services

Pam Penner (Secretary-
Treasurer), Manager Public
Works City of Brandon

Laurie Hunt,
Councillor/Deputy Mayor,
RM of St. Andrews

Deb Odegaard,
Administrator, Flin Flon &
District Environmental
Council

Dave Sutherland, Councillor,
RM St. Clements

Billie Jo Thompson,
Manager, Thompson
Recycling Centre

Art Goudy, Councillor, RM of
Rockwood

New! Orest Horechko,
Councillor, RM of East St.
Paul

New! Susan Smerchanski,
Councillor, RM of Armstrong

MARR Administrator: Karen
Johnston

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Outcomes from MARR's Annual General Meeting & Spring Tour

MARR's 2018 Annual General Meeting & Spring Tour Event took place on Thursday, April 19, 2018 in Portage La Prairie. The following outcomes were voted and passed by members in accordance with MARR's by-laws:

- ✓ Annual Report from Chair was received by members
- ✓ 2017 Financial Statements were received by members
- ✓ 4 serving Directors were re-elected to the Board for another term and 2 new directors were elected

Following the AGM, guests heard an informative presentation from Randy Webber of the Product Care Association who shared information about how to manage Household Hazardous Waste safely and efficiently. Participants were then given a guided tour of Portage & District Recycling Inc.



The 2018 AGM/Spring Tour was sponsored by:



MARR is a volunteer-led, member-driven organization. Here are three ways you can help us make MARR responsive to your needs...

1. Encourage your colleagues and peers to become members of MARR. Contact us for details and application forms.
2. Consider volunteering or nominating someone from your organization to stand for election to MARR Board of Directors.
3. Send us your ideas for MARR site tours, events, topics, speakers, etc.

You are the grassroots of Manitoba's community and regional recycling and waste reduction efforts. Get engaged in MARR activities.

Please Encourage Membership MARR

Do you know someone who needs to stay connected to Manitoba's recycling and waste reduction sector? Someone whose team would benefit from sharing ideas and information with their recycling and waste reduction peers across Manitoba? Someone whose team needs to keep up to date on Manitoba's solid waste and recycling regulations, policies and funding programs?

Encourage them to join MARR today.

MARR memberships are available in a wide range of categories.

Details and Membership Application Forms are now available online. Just click on the appropriate link below:

[Municipalities and First Nations/Northern Affairs Communities](#)

[Recycling collectors, processors and service providers](#)

[Industry/Corporate entities, Producer Responsibility Organizations, Government and public sector agencies, ENGOs and other interested groups or individuals](#)

- ✓ *Members received priority registration and special discounted rates for all MARR events, including the Annual MARR Forum*
- ✓ *Members also receive priority registration and special discounted rates on exclusive site tours and educational visits to see Manitoba's innovative recycling and waste reduction operations*

Before we forget, if you have an idea for a topic, question, speaker or tour you would like us to try to include at this year's Forum? Email us at office@marrmb.com

Remember to tell your colleagues...2018 MARR Forum...November 7th-8th, 2018 in Winnipeg

Dear MARR members, we are always looking for new ways to share information that is useful and relevant to members. Usually it's in the form of news and announcements as you can see in the first two pages of this newsletter. Based on feedback we've received from members, we're trying something new this issue. The Recyclers' Perspective is intended as a way for MARR members to share valuable insights that go beyond facts and figures, news and announcements.

Please tell us what you think. Should we keep it? What topics would you like to see written about?

And if you would like to submit an article for consideration? Let us know.

The Recycler's Perspective

Sometimes trying to do the right thing can feel like a lonely and difficult pursuit. MARR members who have been at this recycling thing for a while know this all too well. There are recycling critics and conspiracy theorists in every community and it's not hard for them to gain an audience. Sometimes there is wisdom behind their bluster so don't ignore them when they're right. But, often times they are misinformed, or just plain wrong. That's when you have to stand up and set the record straight. With that in mind, here are three things you need to tell your residents about recycling if you want to keep them onside and participating:

1. *Dear resident, don't blame recycling for all of the environmental problems created by our over-consumption and wasteful habits.*

Recycling is one small, but highly important part of the war on waste. By recycling you are helping to conserve resources and reduce waste, but let's be clear, recycling is a step that takes place AFTER the waste has been created. Occasionally you hear someone say that recycling doesn't work because it doesn't really help the environment (as they sip coffee from their disposable polystyrene cup). Truth is, if we as a society continue to use single use items like plastic beverage containers, plastic grocery/retail bags, etc. there will continue to be a waste problem. Recycling will help conserve resources but it does not replace the need for us to REDUCE and REUSE too. Blaming waste on recycling is like blaming lung cancer on doctors instead of cigarettes...wrong target!

2. *Dear resident, not everything we collect will actually be recycled.*

Every once in a while I run across someone who tells me they've seen recycling trucks dumping baled materials at the landfill. I believe them...because it does happen. Some of the material collected in community programs is not recyclable, either because it is not one of the categories accepted by end market users (ex. PVC plastic) or it has been damaged or contaminated (ex. newspapers covered in paint). This "recycling

residue” cannot be sold or used so it goes to landfill. The good news is that in most programs, this residue is a tiny percentage of the materials collected. The vast majority is collected, sorted and shipped to end markets where it is re-manufactured back into good use. (This is not an excuse for dirty business. MARR members have proven their recycling integrity through decades of good work. Don’t change that!)

3. *Yes dear resident, our community recycling program costs money. Not having a recycling program would cost us significantly more.”*

As a society, we’ve become very good at keeping track of the costs and revenues associated with recycling and those costs show up clearly in community budgets. This means they’re easy to point at for debate. However, a significant portion of the total cost of landfilling our waste is usually hidden...at least until we see the projected bill for transferring our waste or building a new landfill cell. (It’s no coincidence that communities often become most interested in recycling and waste diversion when they’re facing a landfill that is reaching capacity). I’m all for reducing costs, which is precisely why I’m all for recycling as one important and effective way to reduce a community’s waste management costs over the long-term.

The main point is this...be candid with residents about what recycling can and cannot do but never, ever apologize for doing your part to help the residents of your community conserve resources and reduce waste.

A clever person solves a problem. A wise person avoids it.

· Albert Einstein

This issue of Recyclers’ Perspective was written by Mike Fernandes, StrategyMakers Consulting Inc. and wholly reflects his own opinion.