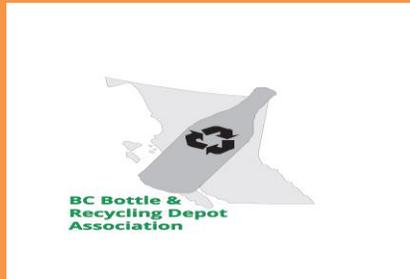


Message in a Bottle



BCBRDA Directors

- + Dave Fowler: Chair,
Director: Kootenay Region
- + Jeremy Parslow: Incoming Chair
Director Northern Region
- + Kulbir Rana Treasurer / Sec
Director of Lower Mainland
- + Grant Robertson: Past Chair
Director at Large
- + Jay Aarsen:
Director Okanagan Region
- + Earnie Harding:
Director at Large
- + Mary Lou Van Deventer:
Associate Director at Large

Directorships Available

Staff

Corinne Atwood: Executive Director



BCBRDA Attends Swearing in of BC Premier John Horgan

BC's 36th Premier John Horgan was sworn in on July 18th. BCBRDA Director and Secretary / Treasurer Kulbir Rana and BCBRDA Executive Director Corinne Atwood traveled to Victoria to join the festivities as invited guests. The BCBRDA as a non partisan organization has been advocating to all political parties, the creation of an independent governing agency to protect all stakeholder interests under EPR programs.

Prior to the Election the BCBRDA had worked with the existing government to identify methods to improve the recycling programs reporting and operational systems. As part of our non partisan approach to politics the BCBRDA also met with members of the opposition. Discussions have already taken place in support of our request for an independent governing agency and will be ongoing. The Green Party has also indicated their support.

The BCBRDA strongly urges its members to submit their concerns in writing to the BCBRDA so that we can make sure your concerns are heard. Examples of depot and industry issues have in the past been strongly embraced by our provincial and local politicians, and now with a new government we have an opportunity for significant change to our industry.

BC Bottle and Recycling Depot Association
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Phone 604 930-0003 Fax 604 930-0060



George Heyman becomes Minister of Environment and Climate Change

The BCBRDA is looking forward to working with George Heymen to further our efforts to level the playing field and advocate for improved and fair EPR programs protect the interest of all stakeholders under BC's EPR programs. The previous government preferred a "hands off" approach to EPR programs in favour of brand owner's. The Green party has already stated support for our efforts as well.

Meanwhile conservationists and environmentalist alike are rejoicing and are giving glowing endorsements of the appointment of George Heyman, a Vancouver-based MLA with a background in unionism and the environment, as Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy.

Heyman served as president of the B.C. Government Employees and Service Employees' Union from 1999 to 2008, and as Executive Director of the Sierra Club B.C. from 2009 to 2013. That mixed background is expected to serve him well in his new job.

Heyman's time with the BCGEU, he "brought together a coalition of union representatives and environmental representatives and made the argument that it didn't need to be jobs versus the environment." Heyman's career has been leading to environment minister and is expected to act swiftly to pass legislation to protect endangered species across the province.

The name of the new ministry more closely aligns B.C. with the federal government's Environment and Climate Change Canada. Eugene Kung, a staff lawyer with West Coast Environmental Law, said that decision indicates the province is serious about climate change, "an issue that is felt in every other area of government." He added: "With the wildfires, we're seeing first hand right now the impact of climate change."

Tim Pearson, spokesman for Sierra Club B.C., urged Heyman to be a strong advocate on all issues that touch upon the environment whether or not they fall directly into his portfolio. "He's got a strong track record and has shown as a critic that he understands the issues. We're looking forward to working with him."

Pearson urged Heyman to protect remaining old-growth rainforests on the B.C. coast, including Vancouver Island, and to focus on forest health, especially in light of the wildfire situation. Environmentalist and broadcaster David Suzuki noted that people are at the core of the "eco-crisis, as the cause, victims and solutions. We can't have a genuine sustainable society without social justice and greater gender and financial equity. George Heyman is an environmentalist with a track record as a social and labour activist. A great start for this young government."

Heyman was first elected to the B.C. legislature in Vancouver-Fairview in 2013 after beating out Vancouver city councillor Geoff Meggs for the party's riding nomination. He's been serving as Opposition critic for the environment. Geoff Meggs is now in charge of Horgan's office



David Eby is BC's Attorney General (pictured with BCBRDA Director, Secretary/Treasurer Kulbir Rana)

The BCBRDA has met with David a number of times prior to the election to bring to his attention that fact that consumers are paying out millions of dollars in EPR related eco fees but taxpayers continue to also pay recycling fees as homeowners as part of their property taxes in contradiction of the BC Recycling Regulations. This adds substantially to the cost of living in BC.

In addition EPR stewardship agents have used these consumer paid eco fees to amass approximately \$100 million dollars in contingency/slush funds while collection service providers like depots and other industry partners are shorted the true cost of handling fees.

Notice of BC Bottle and Recycling Depot Association Annual General Meeting

This year the BCBRDA will host its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday October 3rd at 4 pm at the Cedar Hills Vancity Community Room. Webinar attendance is an option for those unable to attend in person. You must be a member in good standing and registered in advance to attend.

This year we will amend our Bylaws with a Special Resolution to include clauses for transition as per the Societies Act changes. The BCBRDA will transition into a Member Funded Society. Currently the BCBRDA does not receive any government funding. Under the new Societies act we can receive a portion of our revenues from non membership sources.

A complete copy of the BCBRDA proposed transition bylaws will be available to BCBRDA members on request and will be distributed, viewed by webinar and discussed at the AGM and for put forward for a membership vote.

Please provide written confirmation by email or fax of your intent to attend the BC Bottle and Recycling Depot Association Annual General Meeting in person or by webinar by September Friday September 17th so that we can plan appropriately.

If you would like to join the BCBRDA Board of Directors or would like to nominate someone for Directorship please contact the office immediately.