

## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 8, 2018



### **New Flexible Plastic Packaging Materials Now Accepted at CVRD Recycling Centres**

**Duncan, BC** – CVRD Recycling Centres will now accept a new stream of recycling labelled “Other Flexible Plastic Packaging”, which includes chip bags, snack bar wrappers, stand-up food pouches and many other types of flexible plastic packaging. The new stream is free to drop off at both public Recycling Centres and other depot locations in the Cowichan Region, but these items are not recyclable in curbside collection blue totes.

“It’s exciting that materials which were previously garbage can now be collected at depots,” says Tauseef Waraich, Manager of the Recycling and Waste Management Division, “but it’s important to note that the materials accepted in residential curbside recycling haven’t changed.” Flexible plastic packaging, like chip bags and net produce bags, get tangled in the sorting machinery which is why they cannot be recycled in curbside totes.

The list of materials accepted in the “Other Flexible Plastic Packaging” depot stream will include stand-up and zipper lock food pouches, potato chips bags and crinkly candy wrappers, woven and net produce bags such as those for onions and citrus, and non-food plastic like bubble wrap. The items will be collected as part of a research and development project to determine how best to effectively recover useable plastic from these materials.

- 30 -

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