

# **Guiding Goals & Principles**

## **City of Guelph Solid Waste Management Master Plan**

### **Purpose:**

To develop a 25-year plan for managing Guelph's waste in a sustainable, service-focused and fiscally responsible manner.

### **Goal 1: To minimize solid waste disposal requirements.**

1. Waste management plans emphasize prevention, followed by the 3Rs hierarchy: 1) reduce; 2) reuse; and 3) recycle.
2. Environmental protection is a shared community responsibility.
3. Diversion goals are definable, measurable, achievable and maximized.
4. Innovative waste management technologies and incentives are incorporated where appropriate.

### **Goal 2: To minimize the environmental, economic and social impacts of solid waste diversion and disposal.**

1. The triple-bottom-line is balanced – environmental, social and economic impacts are minimized.
2. Local solutions and benefits are prioritized wherever possible.
3. Waste is managed as close to the source of generation as possible and encourages producer responsibility.
4. Flexibility is incorporated into programs and infrastructure in order to respond to changes in waste composition, generation rates, growth and diversion and disposal requirements.

### **Goal 3: To ensure fiscal responsibility.**

1. Regional and private sector partnership opportunities for both waste diversion and disposal management are explored.
2. Decision-making considers existing City policies and plans and, where possible, uses existing programs, procedures and infrastructure.
3. A financial life-cycle analysis is applied in the evaluation of system options.
4. Key performance indicators are developed that can be communicated to the community and the province.

### **Planning Process:**

The planning process is open, collaborative and transparent with opportunities for public participation. Best Practice approaches are applied, drawing from other resources and experiences.