

Q-City News



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MARCH 2008

The information contained in this newsletter will better acquaint you with the new solid waste collection system and show how the changes will affect your garbage collection.

If you have any questions after reading through this brochure, please call the City at the numbers listed below.

Public Works 992-6330

City Hall 992-2111

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An added bonus . . .

The City is committed to being an environmentally conscious organization.

By adopting a new solid waste collection system, the City is able to take one garbage truck off the road, considerably reducing the amount of vehicle emissions over the course of a year.

In addition, as you can place your smaller garbage bags directly in the new containers, you no longer need to purchase larger garbage bags, resulting in less plastic bags ending up in the landfill.

You can see that this new system is not only financially responsible, but environmentally responsible as well.

Special Edition

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CITY RESIDENTS CURRENTLY PROVIDED WITH GARBAGE COLLECTION



New residential garbage collection system on the way

The City of Quesnel is committed to financial and environmental sustainability. To achieve these goals, we're always looking for ways to enhance our services for today and tomorrow.

Solid waste collection was an area in which the City felt we could make improvements.

To that end, City Council has approved the implementation of an automated system for residential garbage collection

starting in the fall of 2008.

More detailed information will be provided to residents later this summer, but this leaflet provides some basic information for residents.

Specially designed carts will be supplied to all residents who are currently provided with garbage collection. For those residents of multi-family units such as a four-plex, each unit will receive a cart.

The waste is collected from the carts using a special

truck, equipped with an articulating mechanical arm that automatically picks up the carts, empties them, then returns the carts to their original position.

This automated system of solid waste collection has been used successfully in many different municipalities throughout British Columbia.

This new system will result in significant positive changes to our present system.

The City of Quesnel will provide its residents with an outstanding quality of life in a vibrant, prosperous, diversified community, achieved through a process of public consultation and trust.



Frequently Asked Questions

Why are we changing the way we collect garbage?

The City needed to replace its two older garbage trucks. It was an appropriate time to examine the system and look for efficiencies. The City will see significant operational cost savings by using an automated system. Less manual lifting improves employee safety and reduces the number of on-the-job injuries. In summary, it's a far more efficient, safe and responsible method of garbage collection.

How will the new carts be distributed?

The City will, at no charge, supply and deliver one cart to every residence currently provided with garage pickup. Multi-family complexes will be supplied with carts to suit their needs. The standard size cart will be 250 litres, which provides more volume than two of the standard cans presently in use. Experience in other municipalities has shown this to be the best size for most residents, allowing sufficient capacity for seasonal fluctuations. Residents who require more capacity may obtain larger or additional carts for additional charges. However, residents are encouraged to use the standard cart for six months before considering larger or additional carts.

Who will own the carts?

The carts are the property of the City and will be replaced as they reach the end of their life cycle. The City will assign the

carts to each property. A serial number on each cart identifies the property to which the carts belong. If you move, the cart remains with the property for the next resident.

Who is responsible for cart maintenance?

Residents will be responsible for routine maintenance such as cleaning the carts, removing them from the street after collection and storing them in a safe place. The carts carry a 10-year warranty and the City will take care of any warranty repairs. Any stolen carts or those damaged through neglect or misuse will be replaced at the property owner's expense.

Where should I store the carts?

Residents may store the carts wherever it is convenient: outside a door, in a garage or carport, or some other easy-to-reach location. On collection day, the carts are wheeled to the street for collection. The carts have large wheels that make them easy to roll, even over curbs, gravel and snow.

Where will I put my carts for collection?

For most residents, carts should be placed on the street, with the wheels against the curb, if there is one, or just off the road, on the shoulder. Many residents who currently have back lane pickup will be required to move their pickup location to the street, as narrow lanes don't provide enough operating area for the truck's articulating arm. Most residents affected will be able to accommodate this change.

However, some may have an impossible situation and City crews are committed to working with these residents to find the best solutions.

Those residents with lane access only will continue to have their garbage collected in the lane. Those residents required to change their pickup location will be contacted by City staff on an individual basis.

I have physical limitations; how will I move the carts?

Some residents living with a disability may find it difficult to take their carts out for collection. For those who apply for and are granted an exemption based on a disability, City crews will move the carts on their behalf at no additional cost. The



exemptions will be considered on an individual basis. However, if other people in the household are capable of rolling the cart to the street, this service will not be offered.

Will my annual garbage levy change?

The new system will cost the taxpayers nothing extra when using the standard provided carts. In fact, residents may enjoy some savings as they will no longer need to buy large garbage bags or new metal or plastic garbage cans.

What am I going to do with my old garbage cans?

While the City will no longer be able to collect garbage in your old garbage cans, don't throw them out just yet - there are plenty of uses for them, such as:

- Storage for play equipment.
- Storage for returnable beverage containers.
- Storage for non-refundable glass items.
- Storage for paper or cardboard.
- Storage for tin cans and other recyclable materials.
- Use as a rain barrel.

If you already recycle, your old garbage cans will provide another means of collecting and transporting your recyclable materials.

If you're not already recycling, this would be a great time to start. Did you know that by diverting waste from the landfill we can add a number of years to the landfill's life cycle, saving our environment and valuable taxpayer dollars now and in the future.