

COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

From: Administration

Date: February 20, 2024

Subject: Food Cycler Pilot Program

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council receives this report for information.

BACKGROUND:

At the Regular Council Meeting held on June 26, 2023, Council took the step of endorsing the advancement of the Food Cycler Pilot Program. This initiative marked a stride towards sustainable waste management within the District of Mackenzie. The pilot program encompassed the deployment of a total of 100 units, comprised of 67 FC-30s, denoting the smaller units, and 33 FC-100s, representing the larger units.

Staff engaged with the community through social media, radio and in person to promote the program. This was aimed to foster widespread participation and ensure the program's efficacy. After the engagement period staff distributed the machines in September to begin the 12-week program. Now that the pilot program is complete, Food Cycle Science will report to the municipality on the results, including the potential waste that was diverted from the garbage stream. Below are some additional facts regarding the results of the pilot program.

REDUCTIONS & SAVINGS

Based on the average user from the pilot project running 3.19 cycles per week for the FC-30 and 3.36 cycles per week for the Eco 5 this would eliminate 247.7 kg of food waste per year per household. This translates to 24.7 Metric tonnes of waste per year per 100 machines.

Green House Gas Reduction

100 Food Cyclers in Mackenzie will divert 32.2 MT CO₂ equivalents per year, the equivalent of sequestering carbon from 38.4 acres of forest.

Financial Savings

With the 100 Food Cycler units reducing food waste by 247.7 kg per household annually this would translate into \$2,430.40 of savings annually for the District of Mackenzie in tipping fees.

Area Reduction

If each participating household were to save the project average of 36.8 bags of garbage annually, it would lead to a reduction of 14,800 cubic feet of waste at the transfer station every year. This reduction is equivalent to eliminating 6.5 truckloads of waste transported to Prince George annually.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the endorsement of the Food Cycler Pilot Program represented a meaningful step forward in the District's commitment to sustainable waste management practices. The deployment of 100 units marked a proactive approach towards reducing the environmental footprint and promoting community engagement.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Environmental Sustainability

- The way we operate has an impact on the environment. We are committed to integrating sustainability and Environmental, Social and Governance factors (ESG) into our decision making and business practices.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Luke Thorne, Land and Environmental Coordinator

Reviewed By: Corporate and Financial Services

Approved By: Chief Administrative Officer