

# Biosolids – Municipal Challenges

OBWB

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# What are the Challenges...

- ▶ Limited Market
- ▶ Public Nuisance
- ▶ Wood Waste
- ▶ Locating Facilities/ End Use
- ▶ Regulatory

# Limited Market...

- ▶ At this point our market is limited to landscaping, golf courses, landfill final cover and to cattle farming.
- ▶ International requirements prevent exported fruits that are grown with biosolids
- ▶ Because of the origin, Biosolids can not be sold as an organic product.

# Limited Market...

- ▶ Canadian Food Inspection has Tightened the Labeling requirements
- ▶ Compost created from Biosolids seems to have a negative stigma associated with it despite being a safer product than manure and without seeds.

# Public Nuisance...

- ▶ Many of the processing and storage solutions generate odour, dust and noise. Odour and Noise mitigation is not 100%, and is not practical after a point.
- ▶ Odour is subjective. An earthy compost smell at low levels may be acceptable to most people but not all. Acceptable frequency levels of odour are also subjective.
- ▶ Nuisance from other sources may be mixed up with nuisance from your facility.

# Public Nuisance...

- ▶ Some biosolids and food waste processing facilities are not controlling nuisances such as odour. This is having a detrimental affect on the industry.

# Wood Waste Amendment...

- ▶ Obtaining a secure and appropriate wood amendment for composting can be challenging.

# Locating Facilities/ End Use...

- ▶ No one wants a processing facility near their property irrespective of potential nuisance.  
NIMBY
- ▶ Even though a processing facility may have existed prior to further development, pressure to close or alter the facility will occur.



# Locating Facilities/ End Use...

- ▶ Amendment can be used for various purposes, but public acceptance is difficult and is not always rational. Options near Kelowna:

Market	Description	Size
<b>Wood Lot</b>	Purpose grown woody debris	150,000 ha
<b>Siviculture</b>	Forestry – 150 km radius	30,000 ha
<b>Soil Reclamation</b>	Mine/Gravel Pits – 200 km radius	100,000 ha
<b>Agriculture</b>	Fertilizer application – 400 km radius	>200,000 ha

# Regulation...

- ▶ Regulation and interpretation of the regulation is becoming more difficult.
- ▶ Permits are now required as opposed to regulation
- ▶ Complaints/Concerns without scientific backing or significant nuisance are causing significant harm to municipalities, even if the number of complainants is low.



*Questions?*

For more information, visit [kelowna.ca](http://kelowna.ca).