



Memorandum

TO: Committee of the Whole
FROM: Erin Mahoney, Commissioner of Environmental Services
DATE: April 16, 2015
RE: **Regional Municipality of York Ranks First among Large Urban Municipalities in Waste Diversion Ontario 2013 Report**

Waste Diversion Ontario has confirmed York Region's diversion rate for 2013 is 58.58 per cent, not including waste diverted through energy recovery. This is a 1.3 per cent increase over 2012. This places York Region first amongst large urban municipalities. Waste Diversion Ontario defines large urban municipalities as those with populations greater than 250,000 residents and population densities greater than 400 residents per square kilometre. The large urban municipal rankings are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1
Waste Diversion Ontario 2013 Large Urban Municipal Diversion Rankings

Rank	Municipality	Diversion Rate
1	Regional Municipality of York	58.58%
2	Regional Municipality of Halton	54.60%
3	City of Toronto	52.63%
4	City of Hamilton	47.70%
5	Regional Municipality of Peel	43.74%
6	City of London	43.73%

Urban regional municipalities similarly have a population greater than 250,000 residents but population densities less than 400 residents per square kilometre. The urban regional municipal rankings are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2**Waste Diversion Ontario 2013 Urban Regional Municipal Diversion Rankings**

Rank	Municipality	Diversion Rate
1	County of Simcoe	55.73%
2	Regional Municipality of Durham	53.75%
3	Regional Municipality of Waterloo	52.28%
4	Regional Municipality of Niagara	51.77%
5	City of Ottawa	47.27%
6	Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority	36.40%

The following table summarizes the top ten diversion rates Province-wide for all categories.

Table 3**Waste Diversion Ontario 2013 Overall Diversion Rankings of Municipalities with Greater than 50 per cent Diversion**

Rank	Municipality	Diversion Rate
1	City of Guelph	69.15%
2	City of Orillia	63.75%
3	Municipality of Meaford	61.11%
4	Regional Municipality of York	58.58%
5	City of Owen Sound	58.30%
6	Township of West Grey	57.79%
7	County of Simcoe	55.73%
8	City of Kingston	55.60%
9	Restructured County of Oxford	55.07%
10	City of Peterborough	54.71%

Overall, York Region's 2013 diversion rate of 58.58 per cent is the fourth highest diversion rate in the province.

In accordance with Council's direction on preferring energy from waste for residual waste management over landfill disposal, York Region also has an extensive energy from waste recovery program. This program accounted for 87,319 tonnes of waste diverted from landfill in 2013; however, diversion strategies employing the fourth 'R' Energy Recovery, are not credited by Waste Diversion Ontario.

York Region, in partnership with our nine local municipalities, continues to implement innovative solutions and continuous improvement in delivery of waste management services. Together, we have developed the SM4RT Living Integrated Waste Management Master Plan to direct planning and delivery of waste management within York Region over the next 25 to 40 years. The SM4RT Living Plan will allow the Region's communities to maintain their position as waste management leaders and continue moving toward more sustainable waste management by focusing on waste prevention and reuse, while maximizing diversion through recycling, composting and energy recovery opportunities.

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