



INFORMATION REQUEST

REQUESTED BY: Councillor Oldham

TOPIC: Opening Eco Centre on Sunday. Weekday visitation stats.

DATE OF REQUEST: November 6, 2023

DATE OF RESPONSE: November 8, 2023

QUESTION:

Could the Eco Centre could be open on Sundays versus a weekday while still maintaining six-day service? What day of the week has lowest visits?

Response

Current Eco Centre service hours are from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday to Saturday. The facility is closed on Sundays and Statutory Holidays. Staff assigned to work at the Eco Centre not only manage the day to day operations of the facility but they are also responsible for the distribution and repair of the waste carts used for our curbside collection program.

The Eco Centre is currently staffed with two full time workers and two half-time (0.50 FTE) workers and there is a current business case to add an additional 0.50 FTE position in 2024.

This new position is intended to help manage issues related to working alone, staff absences and collective agreement restrictions on the number of weekend shifts permitted in a schedule. The position also will ensure weekday cart delivery schedules can be maintained. Cart delivery and cart repair duties are currently being managed with temporary staffing.

If the Eco Center was opened on Sundays instead of a weekday (Wednesday and Thursday have the lowest visits), an additional 1 FTE position would be required to meet all the shift schedule, operational, and service level requirements. Due to shift scheduling realities the additional staffing would enable the extension of daily operational hours from 7.5 to 9.0 for each of the six opening days.

Background

Future impacts of the EPR program should provide the opportunity to explore options for Eco Centre service levels which will include assessing operational days and service hours. The City may want to look at a seven day service as some other communities have instituted. It is also important to consider aligning the service levels with our neighbouring municipalities to ensure wastes are managed within the communities where they are generated and not brought across municipal boundaries. Mondays may actually be the least busy day at the Eco Centre but our staff indicate many Parkland County residents access our site as their facility is closed on Mondays.

Financial Implications/Taxation Impact

2024 Maintenance Worker wage range

\$63,544 - \$66,685 plus benefits; (\$79,430 - 83,356)

Contact: Kevin Stener, Director of Public Works, Sustainable Growth and Development Services