

OPTIMIZATION OF THE REGIONAL ECOCENTER IN COWANSVILLE

Cowansville, August 22, 2022 – The MRC Brome-Missisquoi MRC and its Environmental Management Department, in collaboration with the *Régie intermunicipale de gestion des matières résiduelles de Brome-Missisquoi (RIGMRBM)*, are proud to announce several changes to optimize the Regional Ecocenter located in Cowansville. This optimization is made possible due to the financial participation of *RECYC-QUÉBEC* and includes, among other things, the creation of a new reuse space (eco-donation system)!

This new reuse space mainly targets construction, renovation and demolition (CRD) waste as well as bulky items – such as wood, doors, windows, patio sets, etc. – in order to divert some of these materials in good condition from the landfill and thus improve the territorial waste management performance. By specifically targeting these materials, it will fulfill the gap in the reuse offer since many thrift shops, already present on the territory, allow the recovery of smaller objects, such as dishware, clothing and toys. Citizens will now be able to drop off materials or grab them for their own use for free.

There are five major changes included in the global optimization of the Ecocenter :

1. the **creation of a reuse space** (eco-donation system) which includes paving and layout work, as well as the hiring of two new resources in charge of this new activity;
2. the **purchase of five new containers** in order to respond to the increase in volume received and possibly allow additional new materials while avoiding the rental of the latter;
3. the **creation of an unloading dock** for a safe access to three of the new containers;
4. the **optimization of household hazardous waste (HHW) storage**;
5. the **optimization of signage** to facilitate the circulation of citizens on site, including a new display and color system.

“The Environmental Management Service is proud of this project carried out in collaboration with the *RIGMRBM*! We would like to encourage citizens to make more use of the Regional Ecocenter and thus prevent materials that could be reused from ending up in the landfill. Therefore, we make it our mission to continually improve our services, but the fact remains that sorting by citizens is the key to guaranteeing the proper valorization of materials!” - Oriana Familiar, environmental management service coordinator and sustainable development advisor of the MRC and the CLD of Brome-Missisquoi.

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