



# **Collecting Food Scraps**

## ***Case studies and lessons learned***

Compost Matters BC 2020

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# TOPICS

- 1) Presentation Overview
- 2) The Case (Studies) for Collection
- 3) Lessons Learned, Resources and Tools

# WHO'S WHO?

Have you been involved in organics collection roll-out...

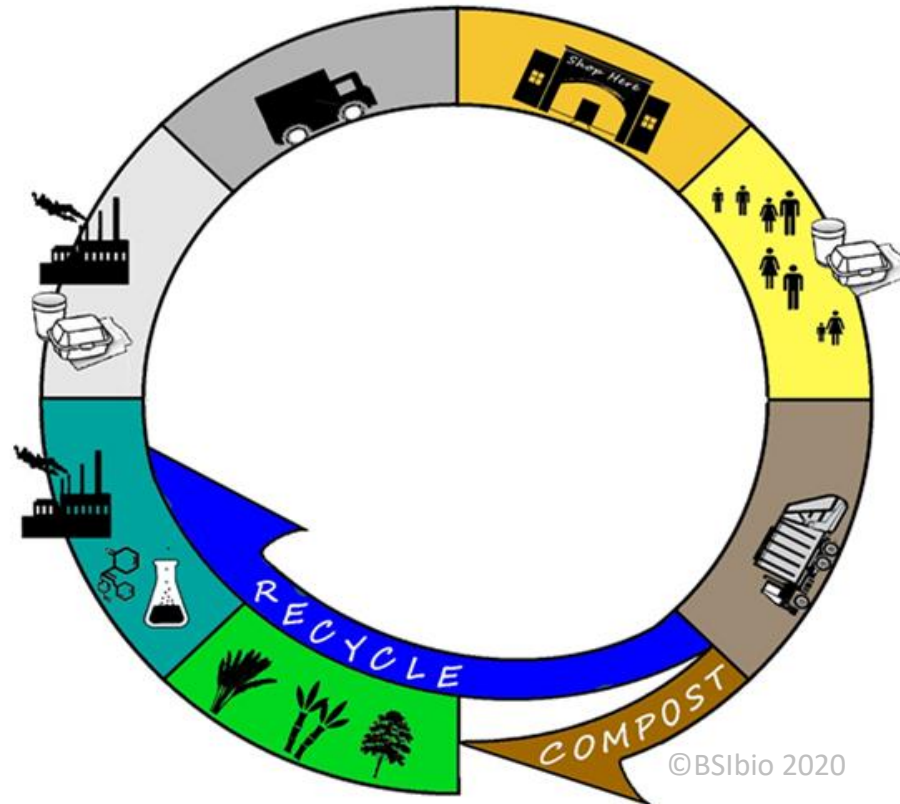
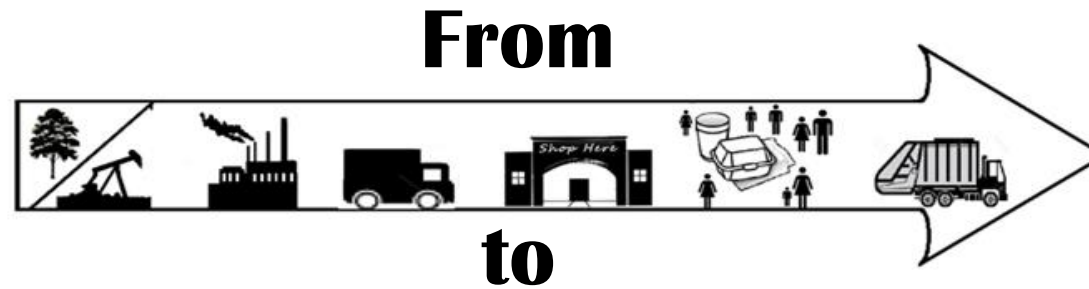
- As a municipal representative
- As a hauler or organics processor
- As a consumer
- Not at all!

# ABOUT BSIBIO

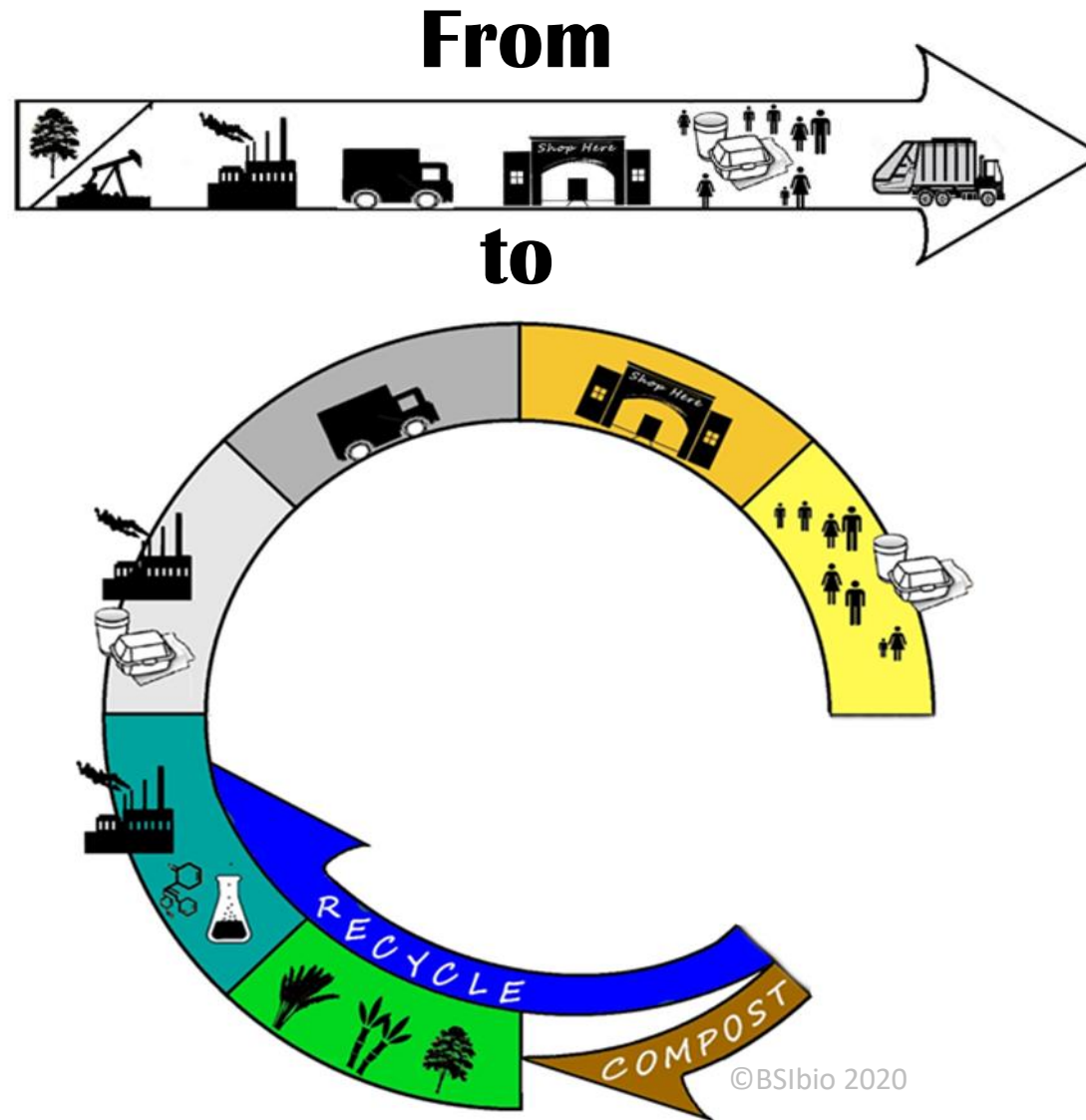
- 15 year old, woman-owned company
- South Vancouver HQ
- House brand **BÉSICS**  
COMPOSTABLES
- Design & distribute high-quality certified compostable tableware
- On-site disintegration testing since 2013, grown to an international field testing program



# WHY WE'RE TALKING ABOUT COLLECTION



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# THIS PRESENTATION





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*Food scraps*



*Yard waste*



*Biosolids*

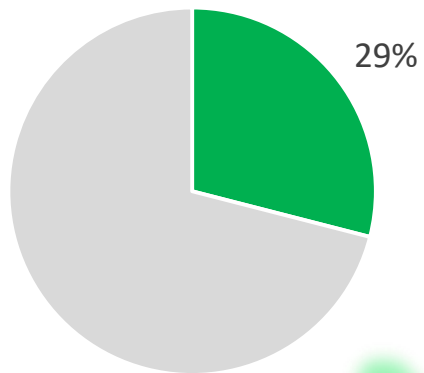


Today's  
focus

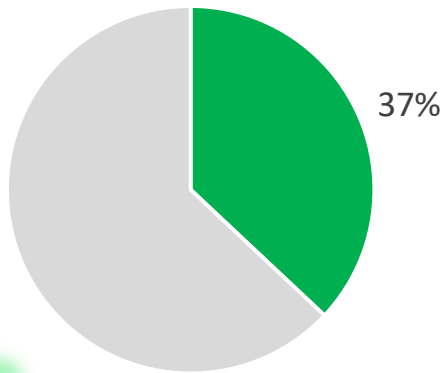


# THIS PRESENTATION

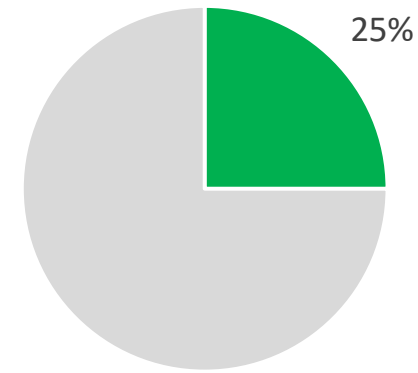
Single Family (SF)



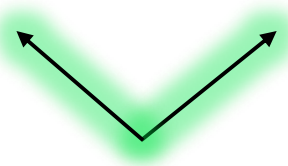
Multi Family (MF)



Institutional, Commercial,  
Industrial (ICI)

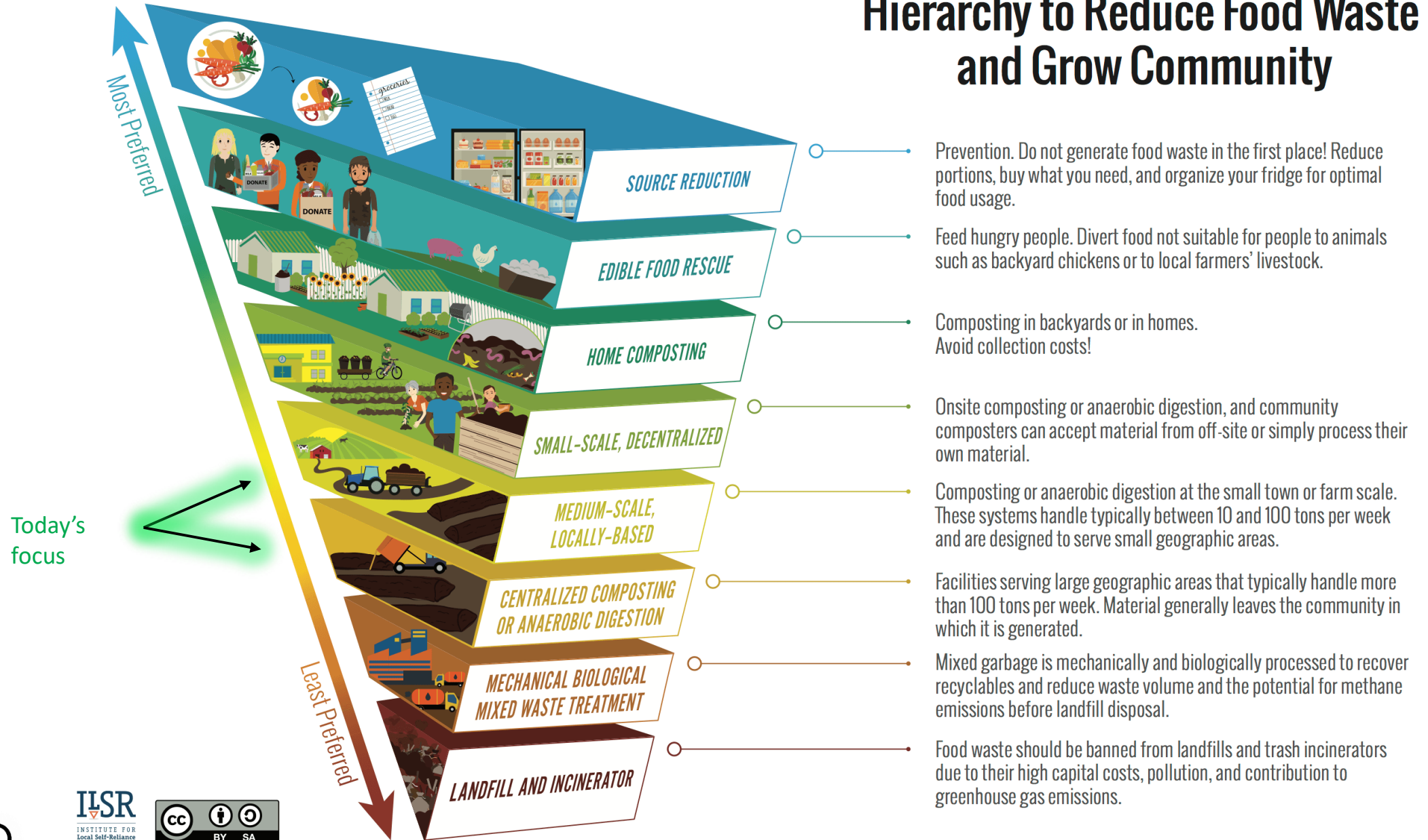


■ Organics  
■ Other waste



Today's  
focus

# Hierarchy to Reduce Food Waste and Grow Community

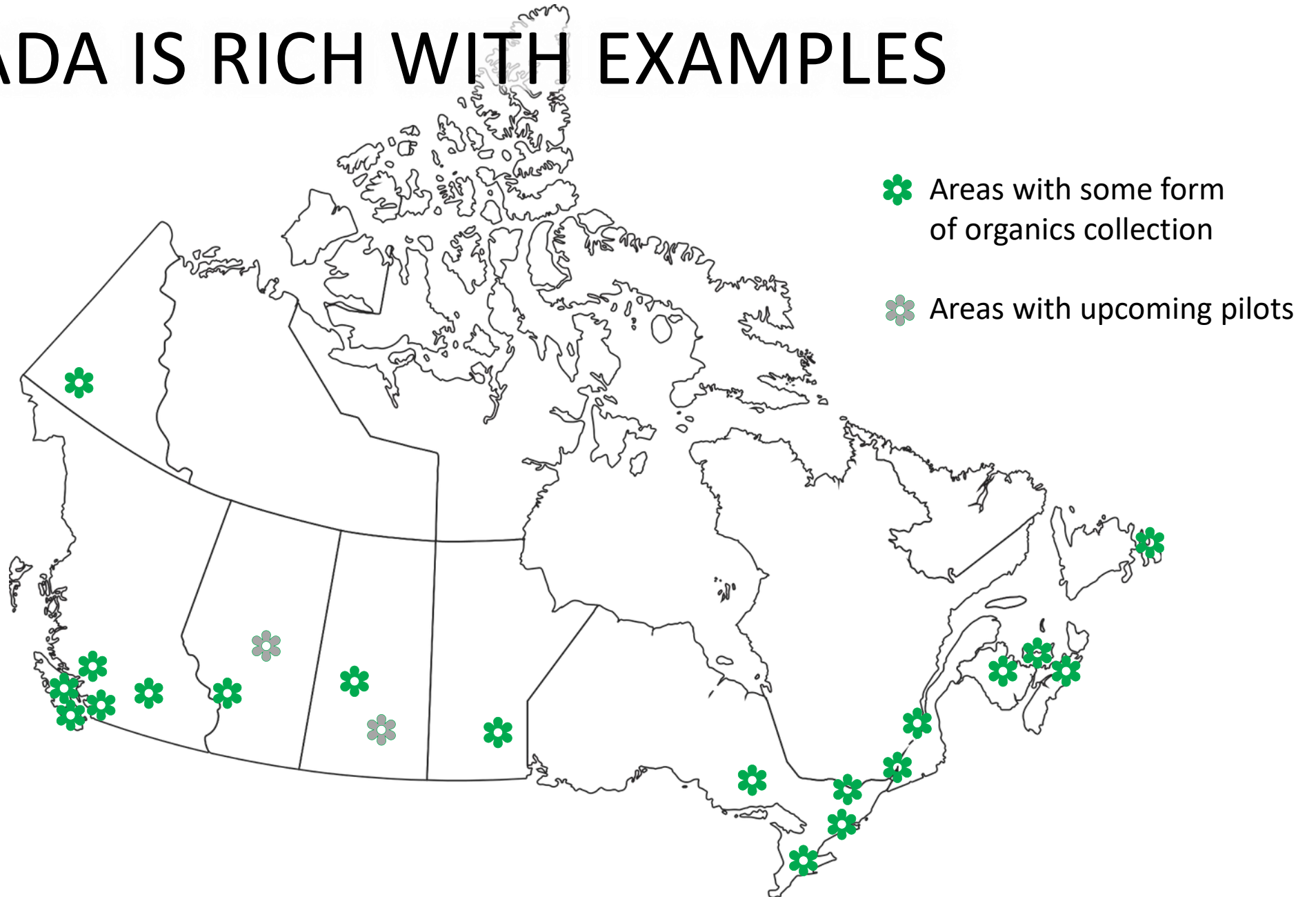




# CASE STUDIES

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# CANADA IS RICH WITH EXAMPLES



# SPOTLIGHT ON SASKATOON

- [Saskatoon's Green Cart program](#) is an optional, fee-for-service, biweekly for single family households with existing curbside pickup
- Yard, food waste, food soiled paper, wooden tableware, cardboard/newsprint, etc
- Charged seasonally (i.e. not per use)
- Available also for community gardens





# SPOTLIGHT ON SMALLER CITIES

- **Ladysmith, BC** was the first municipality in the province to collect recyclables curbside, and their organics program started [in 2006](#).
- Vying with **Grand Forks, BC** for claim to first curbside organics program
- An entrepreneurial resident of **Iqaluit**, Nunavut collected food scraps for composting between 2004 and 2013
- The **Village of Cumberland, BC** requires residents provide their own bins for collection

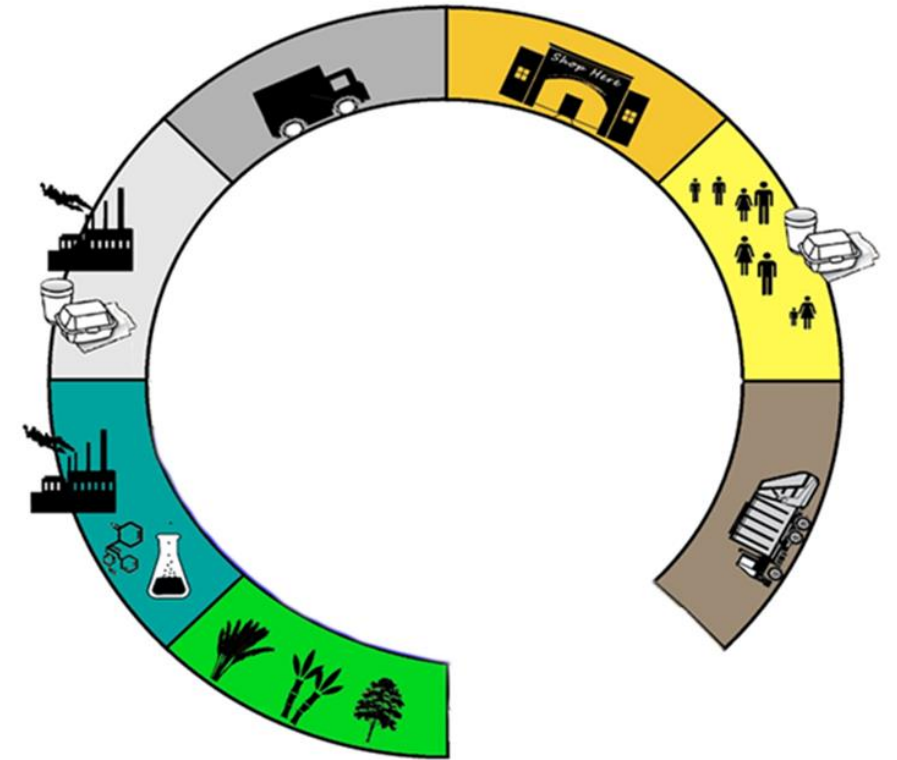



# SPOTLIGHT ON LARGER CITIES

- **Toronto, ON** uses thigh-high green totes for curbside with a locking lid designed to frustrate nimble-fingered rodents
- **Edmonton, AB** comingled yard and food waste with the trash waste stream, and separated at the facility (until it closed!) – they announced an upcoming Green Cart rollout in Sept 2019
- **Regina, SK** aims to launch its first organics collection program in spring 2020

# SPOTLIGHT – METRO VANCOUVER

- Region serves 52.9% of BC population
- Organics ban in 2015
- Odour issues with largest regional processor led to halving intake, then closure circa 2017/2018
- Organics temporarily released to landfill, including cross-border
- Mid-term impacts showing growth in remaining processors' capacity





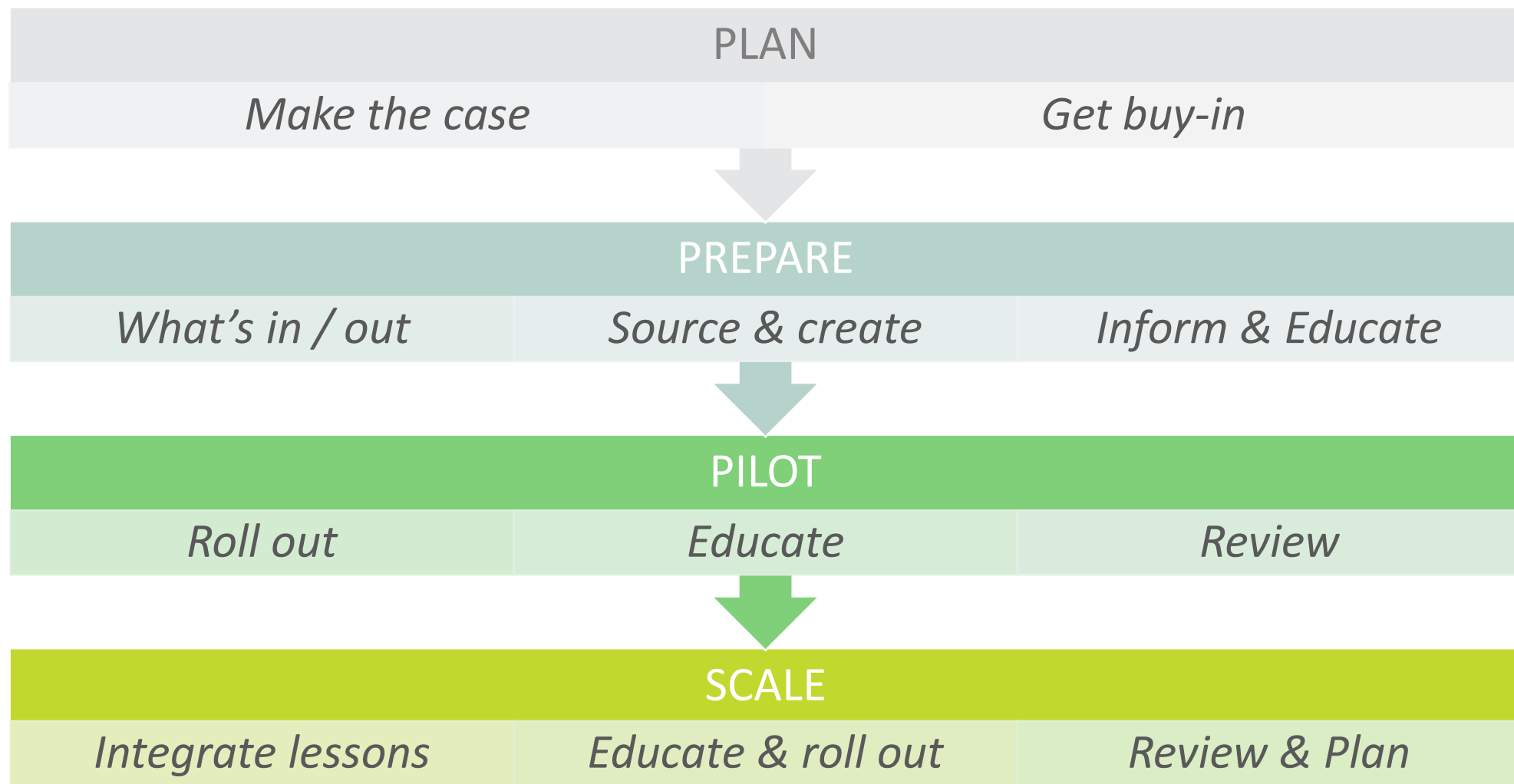
# TOOLS LESSONS RESOURCES

*takeaways*

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# A PATH TO COLLECTION



STOOL  
TOOLS



# PLANNING AND PREPARING

- Take the time to get it right the first time. Once collection is in place, residents expect it.
- Expect to ask and answer...
  - Private or public hauling and processing (any backups?)
  - Vehicle type (**hint:** split, automated)
  - Sector(s)
  - Bin sizes and types (**hint:** start small)
  - Location of pilot
  - Initial target audience
  - Accepted items/products/feedstock

# MAKING THE CASE

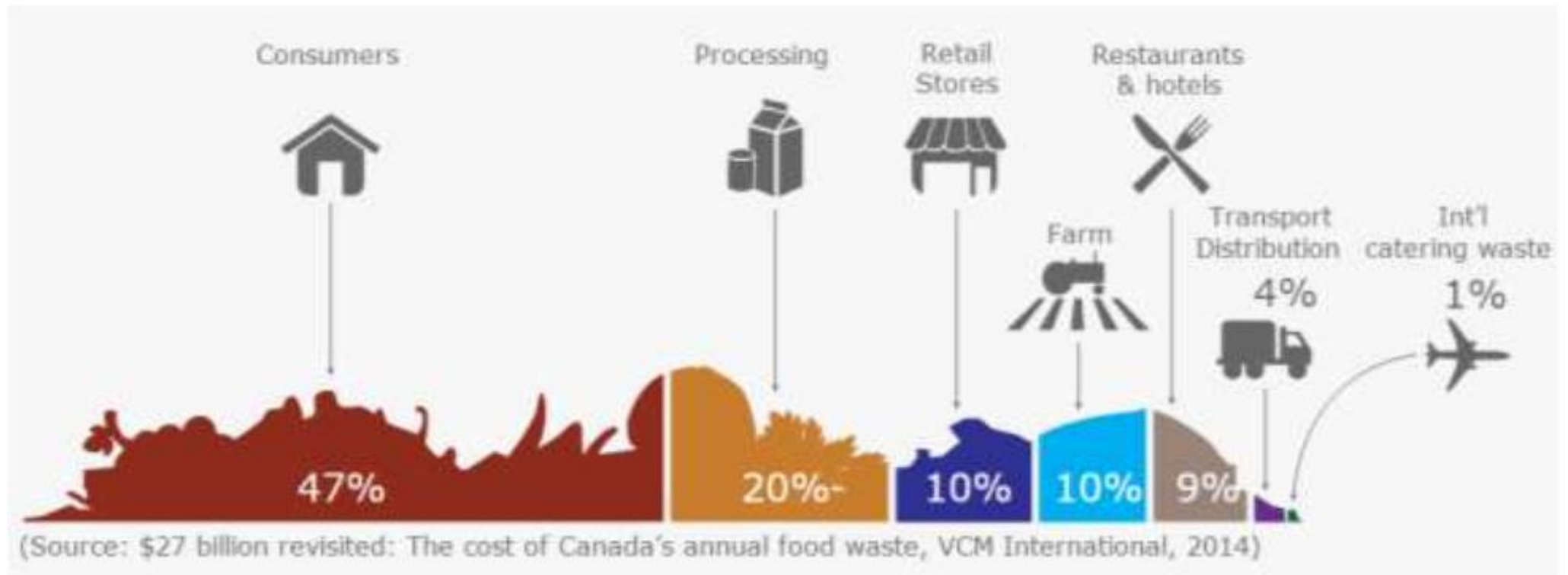
## Environmental & Cost Appeal

- Infographic: Food Loss and Waste (CEC) (and accompanying report)
- Project Drawdown: [Composting Food](#)
- Successful case studies featured on [Gov't of BC website](#)
- Conduct a Waste Composition Study –  
**Expect increased diversion from landfill from 30% to 50%+**
- Leverage federal infrastructure funds



# MAKING THE CASE

## Environmental Appeal Example



# SOURCING AND PLANNING SERVICES

## HAULING

- Check with existing haulers if they can expand services
- Use every other week garbage pickup along with weekly organics pickup
- Select a variety of carts for pilot, and track user preferences before placing an order to scale
- Tons of resources are readily available e.g. [Guide to estimate bins required for weekly recycling/garbage pickup in MF buildings](#) (Metro Van)



# SOURCING AND PLANNING SERVICES

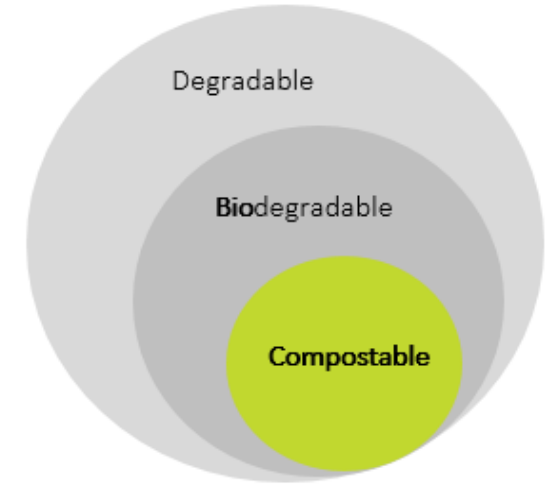
## PROCESSING

- Encourage backyard composting where possible
- Small to mid-range open windrows are a great place to start for central processing
- Consider co-locating organics processing with landfill in rural areas
- Get odour under control from the start



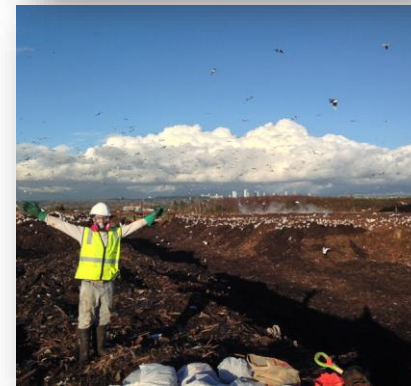
# WHAT'S IN / OUT

- Start conservatively; **it's hard to backtrack**
- Most programs include food soiled paper
- Base additional material acceptance on the processor's most conservative threshold
- Go beyond certification - consider testing compostable product disintegration on site



# COMPOSTABLE FIELD TESTING PROGRAM

- Non-profit, open source, free of charge
- Multi-stakeholder, international
- Standard materials tested in all facilities, custom products at facility's discretion
- Encourages diversity: scalable to any size facility, anonymized by default
- Platform for research and education



# INFORMING & EDUCATING - TIPS

- Communicate from start, to finish (i.e. from planning to scaling)
- Involve sectors beyond your target audience – they'll eventually be affected, and individuals will move between sectors throughout their life
- Prepare multi-lingual materials
- Use consistent colours between sectors and within regions



# INFORMING & EDUCATING - AVENUES

- Door to Door outreach
- Presentations given at schools “very successful”
- Ad and articles in local papers, local radio and TV stations
- Media coverage / press releases
- Posters
- Localized custom website
- “Campaign kit” – pamphlet, poster, bin tags, door hangers

# INFORMING & EDUCATING - INCLUDE

- What's accepted – and what's not!
- Collection schedule
- The WHY behind the change, the bigger picture
- Summary of costs
- Invitation for feedback

# INFORMING & EDUCATING - RESOURCES

- [Love Food Hate Waste Canada](#)
- [Food Scraps Recycling Campaign Materials](#) (Metro Van)
- [Recycling / Organics Signage, Photos](#) (Metro Van)
- [Food: Too Good to Waste](#) (King County)

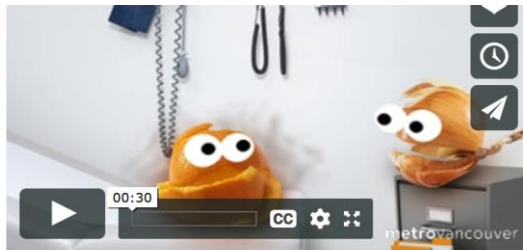
# INFORMING & EDUCATING

[Recycling / Organics Signage, Photos](#) (Metro Van)



# INFORMING & EDUCATING

[Food Scraps Recycling Campaign Materials](#) (Metro Van)



Doctor



Items You Didn't Know You Could Compost



STOOL



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# ROLLING OUT: PILOT AND AT SCALE

- “Be courageous”
- Communicate from start to finish
- Adapt to change and new information – be prepared to iterate

## REVIEWING AND REVISING

- Plan a ban or enhance enforcement
- Expand service area based on interest
- Share your knowledge!



# THANK YOU!

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Connect over field testing via: [compostfoundation.org/fieldtesting](https://compostfoundation.org/fieldtesting)

