

STEP 6

GET COMMUNITY SUPPORT

A successful recycling program needs community support.

Useful tips to gain and keep support:

- Align with community leaders who will champion your program.
- Ask the Chief and Council to endorse the recycling program.
- Educate community members on what items can be recycled and why it's important to participate.
- Make it simple and easy for people to take part in the recycling program, so that it gets off to a positive start. Then everyone can be proud of and share in its success.
- Let residents know how many recyclables have been collected and how they have helped to keep these out of your waste site and community.



Springtime Clean-up

Putting on a spring clean-up is a great way to get community members involved and learning how to recycle, re-use and reduce waste.



Creative Partnerships

Elvin Huntinghawk, Band Manager at **Rolling River First Nation**, and Don Huisman, Councillor with the **Rural Municipality of Clanwilliam-Erickson**, partnered to solve issues for both their communities.



Elvin Huntinghawk explains: "The partnership between our communities was created in part with the help of the Community Infrastructure Partnership Program (CIPP) back in the summer of 2014. This started things off, but to be successful we required **key people and key drivers**.

Luckily, for both of our communities, our respective elected councils had both the heart and the resolve to move forward. Our councils meet quarterly and Don and I meet for breakfast on a monthly basis. This provides a foundation towards other activities, plus keeps communication open and on-going. The other thing is to maintain a **working respect** for the cultural diversity of your partner. By being accepting to the cultural ways of the community and peoples it helps to establish and create trust. There has to be a willingness there and in some cases reconciliation for past deeds or misgivings. There has to be an honest capacity for reconciliation and recognition of the value each community played through history."

*"Our focus today is on addressing common issues that impact both communities. The key is to try and make it a **win-win for both communities**."*

They recently signed a **cooperation agreement** to work with two other Rural Municipalities and one additional First Nation. They are looking at options for regional solid waste management and recycling between their respective communities.

Contact them – Elvin and Don are both happy to share any information they can. (Rolling River First Nation: 204-636-2211 and RM of Clanwilliam-Erickson: 204-636-2431)

Get Kids Involved

Fisher River Cree Nation found that school workshops teaching children about recycling worked well. Many kids are keen to recycle and will influence their parents as well.

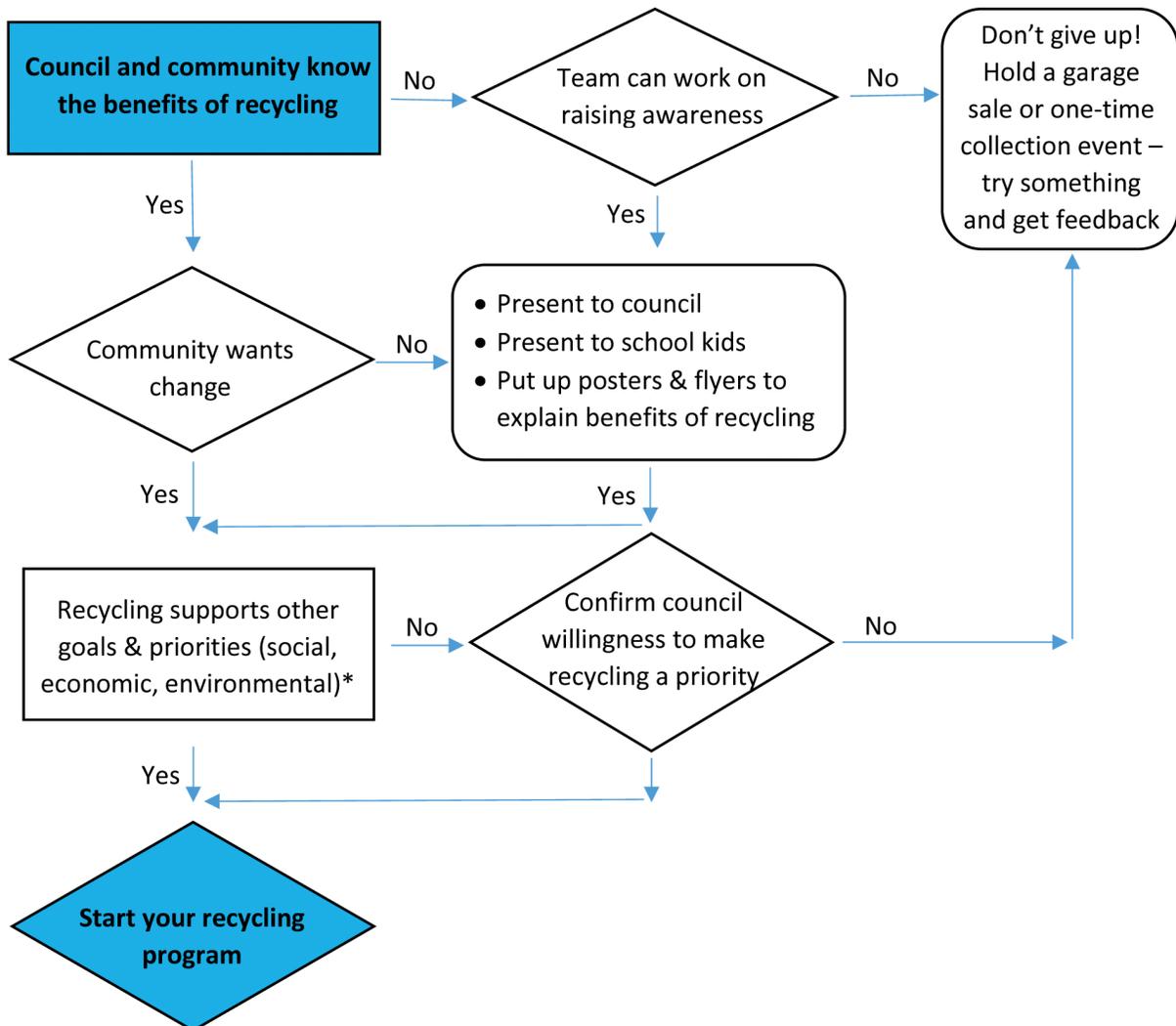


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Is your community ready to start a recycling program?

Follow the path below that best describes where your community is at in terms of being ready to start recycling. Each step shows one or two actions you can take to keep your community moving forward with its recycling efforts.



* *Examples include:*

Social goals and priorities – better housing, fresh food, good health

Economic goals and priorities – more jobs, training, local services

Environmental goals and priorities – safe drinking water, clean air, healthy soil