



## Direct Connections to Liquid Waste Facilities Policy

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Liquid Waste Committee – November 14, 2019

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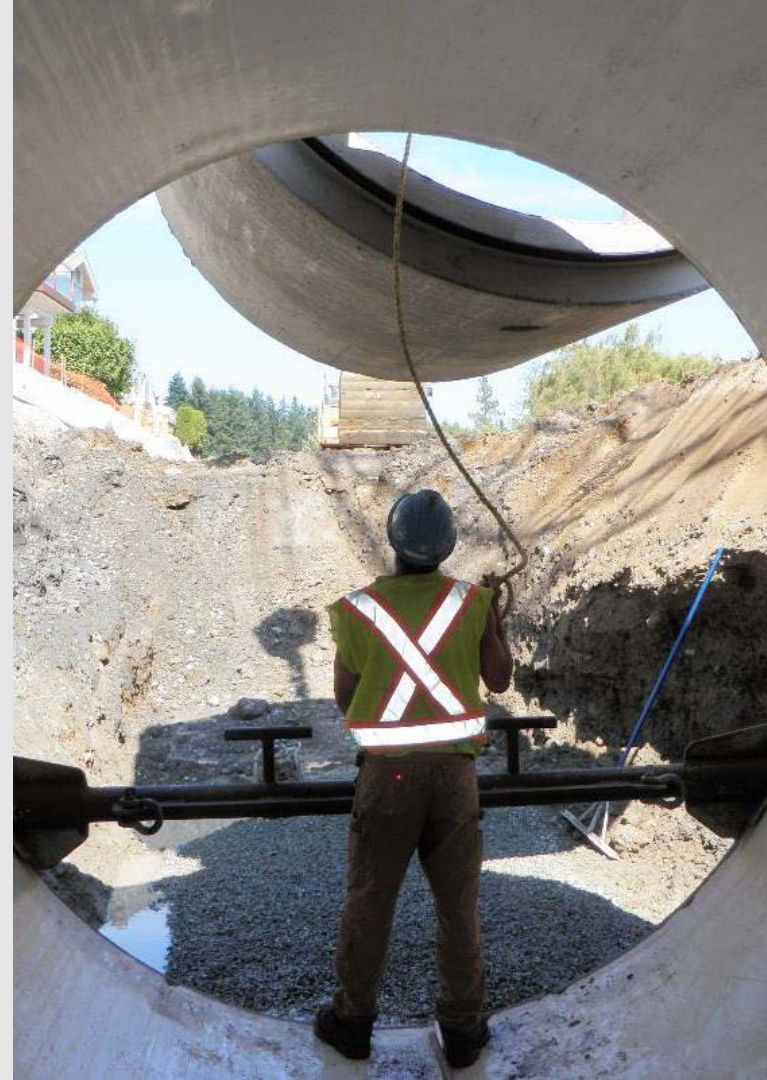
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# Background

- GVS&DD has a long-standing practice of only allowing members to apply for a connection to a regional sewer
- Private, or single lot connections have been considered on a case-by-case basis in consultation with municipal members
  - no standard or policy exists for guidance and consistency



# Challenges with private lot direct connections

- Risk management
  - backwatering leading to basement flooding
  - sewer gas odours
- Repair complexity
  - high flows and pressure
  - difficulty in temporarily re-directing flows
- Best practice, and broad agreement by REAC, is to ensure that private property connections are made to local sewers
- GVS&DD typically receives 10-15 applications for private direct connection per year

# Drivers for policy

- Formalizing the current application process and typical conditions for approval
- Confirming that GVS&DD only accepts applications from member jurisdictions unless otherwise directed by the Board
- Limiting approval of new private direct connections to extenuating circumstances



# Policy criteria for private direct connections

- New member requests must include an engineering feasibility report confirming that:
  - there are no other practical alternatives; and,
  - the property is more than 15 m from nearest municipal sewer
- All new private direct connections will be considered temporary, and subject to removal upon construction of a municipal sewer within the adjacent roadway



# Consultation

- REAC endorsed the draft policy in July 2019
- RAAC considered the draft policy in July 2019
  - requested that MV staff work with members on some outstanding concerns



# Distance criteria

- Four sample municipalities assessed
  - Total number of properties with GVS&DD as closest connection: 401
  - Average connection distance: 113 m
  - Median connection distance: 77 m
  - Maximum connection distance: 670 m

Connection Distance (m)	Included Properties (%)
15	4
25	6
50	27
75	50
100	67
270	90
360	95



# QUESTIONS





# 2019 Unflushables Campaign Results

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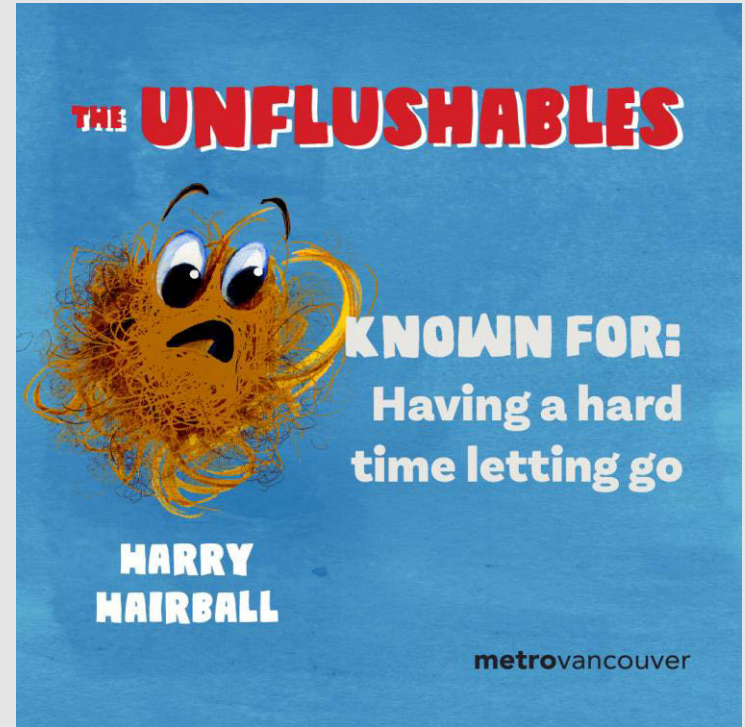
# Background

- \$250 million/year problem
- Products incorrectly labelled as “flushable”



# Priority unflushables

- Wipes
- Paper towels
- Dental floss
- Hair
- Tampons/applicators
- Condoms
- Medications



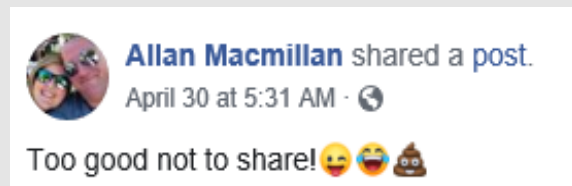
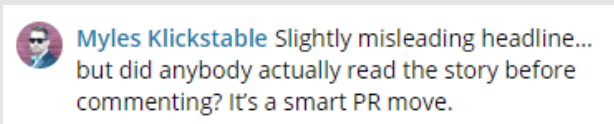
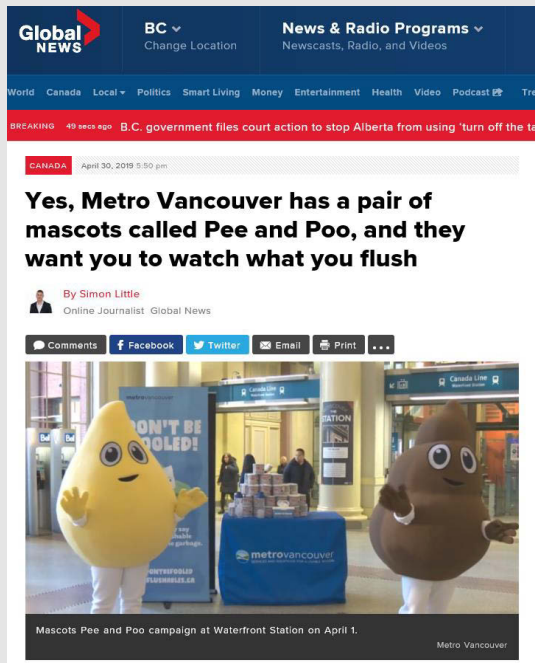
# Campaign elements

- Washroom posters
- Social media
- Cinema
- Digital advertising
- Outreach
- Unflushables.ca





# Media & social media coverage



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# Outreach



# Outreach





# Additional support

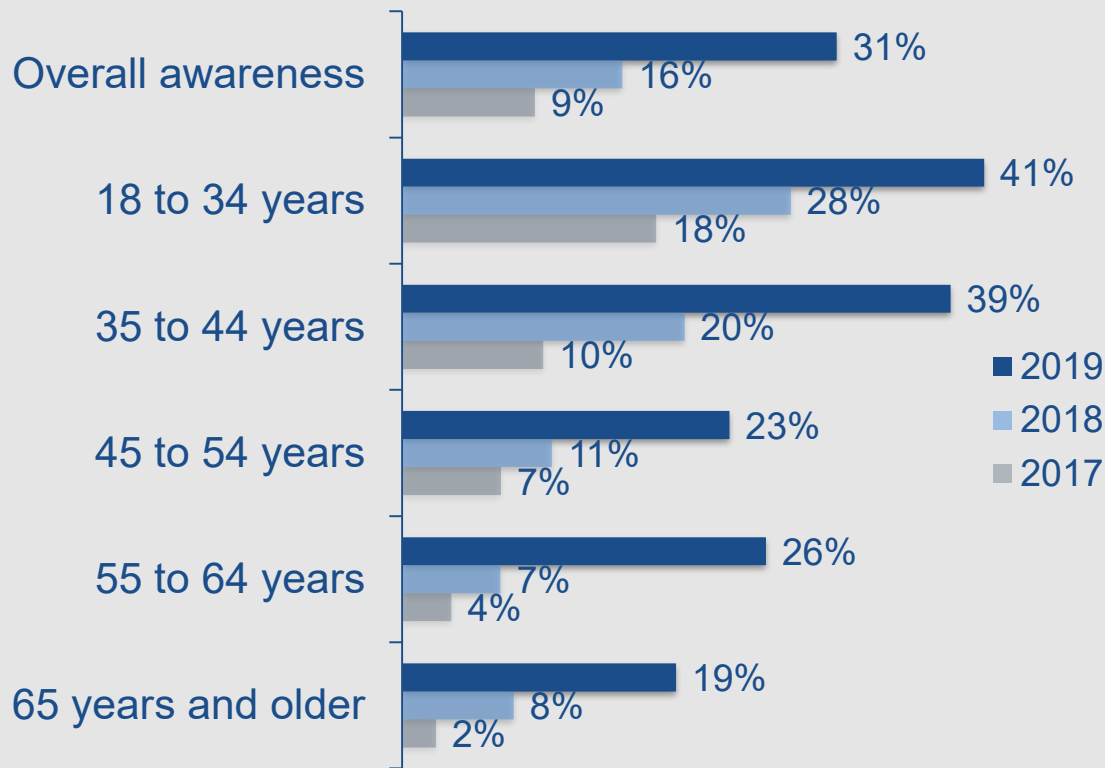


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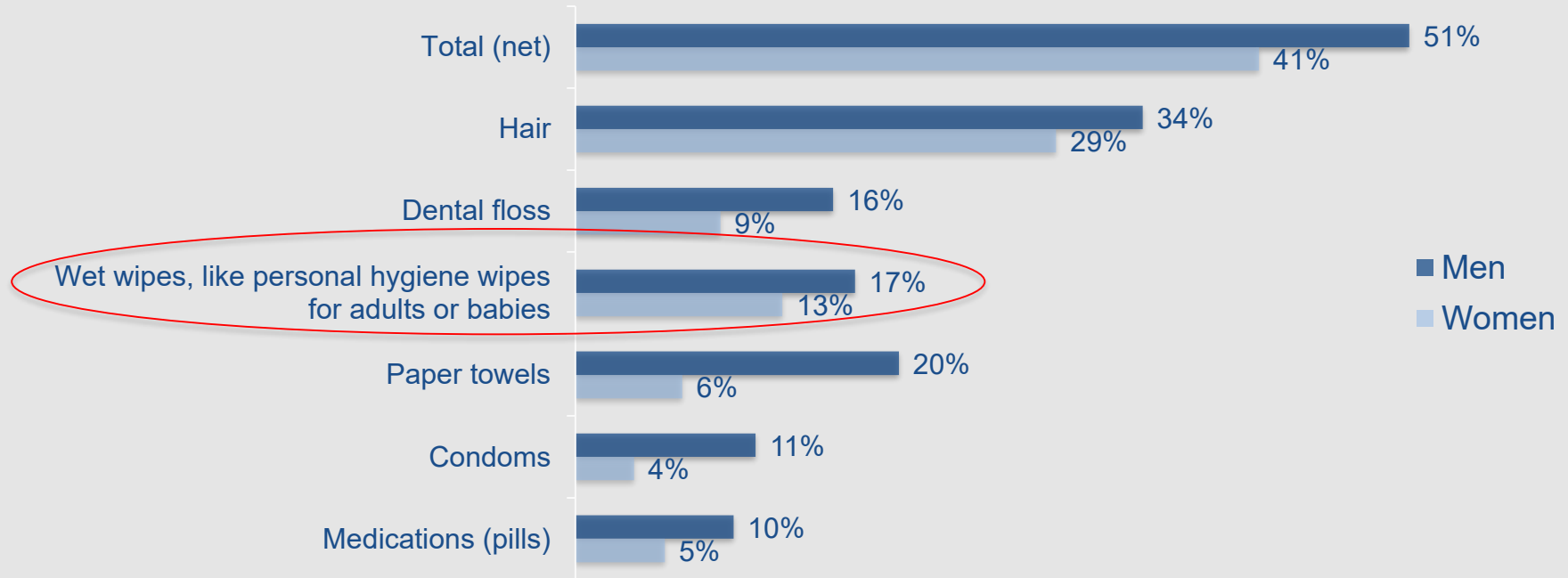




# Campaign awareness



# What do we flush occasionally?



# Steps to defining “flushable”

- Wipes Industry Code of Practice and Guidelines Document
- International Wastewater Industry Position Statement
- Wastewater Industry Specification (tests)
- Ryerson Report



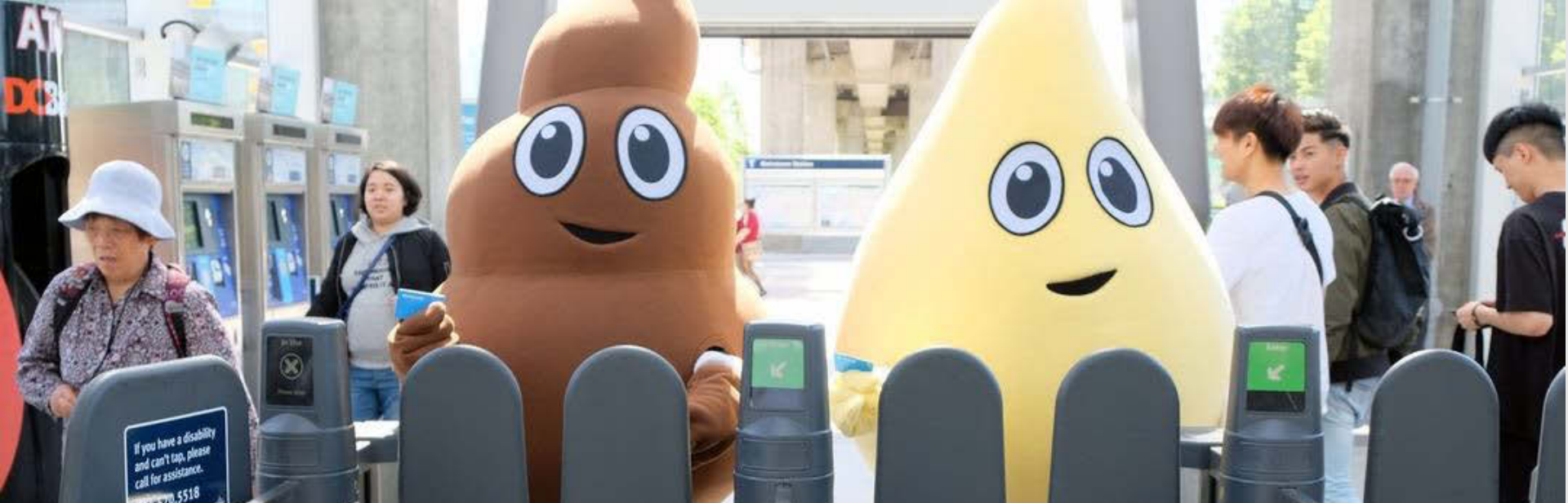
# Recent actions

- Petition to Competition Bureau
  - False and misleading advertising
  - August 2019 inquiry started
- National Zero Waste Council's Plastics Advisory Panel
  - Including wipes as priority single use plastic

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Questions?



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# Public Notification of Sewer Overflows and WWTP Process Interruptions

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# Why Public Notification?

## Drivers

- Public requests for real-time notification
- Amendment to ILWRMP review cycle subject to condition that “real time public notification of overflows and WWTP” interruptions is in place by October 30, 2020
- Metro Vancouver staff working with REAC, RAAC and MOE for the past year

# Overflows and Treatment Plant Interruptions

- Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Interruptions
- Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs)
- Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs)



# Current Reporting

- WWTP interruptions, SSOs and dry weather CSOs reported immediately to:
  - Environment Canada (EC), BC MOE, BC Ministry of Agriculture, Health Authorities, affected municipalities
- CSO volumes reported annually to the BC MOE and EC
- All events summarized in ILWRMP Reports posted on MV website
- Liquid Waste Service performance data posted on Metro Vancouver's performance scorecard webpage

# Work to date

Data collection and hydrodynamic modeling to identify:

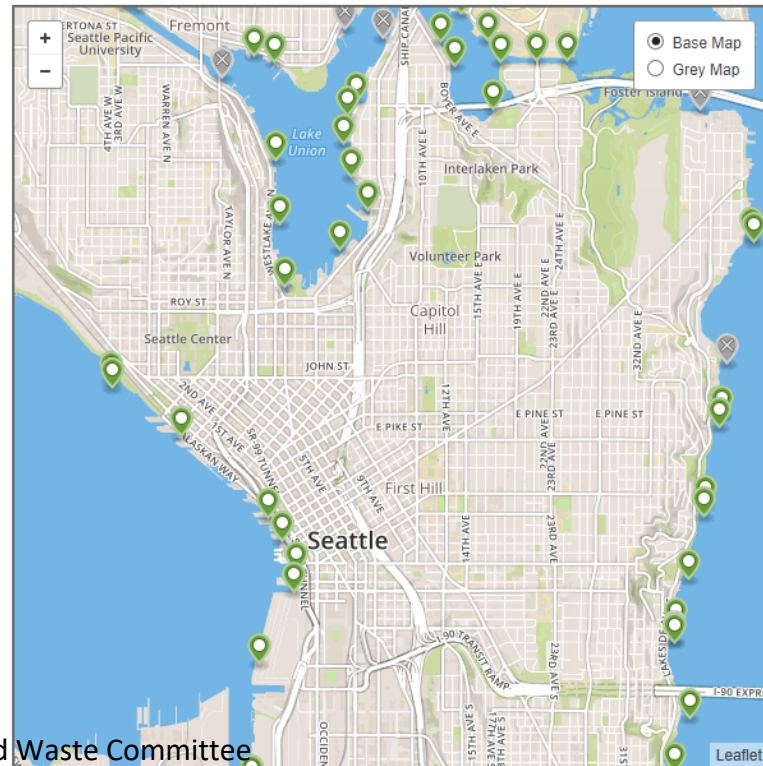
- impacts of SSOs and WWTP interruptions (data generated)
- potentially impacted water users in the areas of these events

# Notification Phase 1

- Potentially impacted water users (approximately 200)
- SSOs (30-80 / year) and WWTP interruptions (5 / year)
- Real-time emails similar to those sent to municipalities and agencies
- Implement Q2 2020

# Notification Phase 2

- Potentially impacted water users and public
- SSOs and WWTP process interruptions
- Online real-time event occurrence map
- Implement Q2/Q3 2020



## Legend

- Overflowing now
- Overflowed in the last 48 hrs
- No recent overflow
- Data not available

## Health Questions?

Public Health Seattle & King County answers questions about CSOs

 [206-205-1151](tel:206-205-1151)

# Notification Phase 3

- Develop a system to notify public of CSOs
- Addressing CSOs requires coordinated efforts of MV, member municipalities and government agencies
- Workshop proposed to develop approach with member municipalities, health authorities, BC MOE - 2020



# Engagement and Communications

- Create awareness about liquid waste management in the region, sewer overflows and WWTP interruptions and why they happen
- Inform about Metro Vancouver's ongoing work to prevent overflows
- Introduce potentially impacted water users and the public to the notification program

# Engagement and Communications

## Key Components:

- Phase 1: Information Sessions with potentially impacted water users
- Phase 2: Inform public of real-time occurrence map (via website and social media)
- Phase 3: Workshop with members, health authorities and BC MOE



# Questions?

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