

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **New beverage container bins greatly increase on street recycling**

#### **Summary**

An audit of litter cans downtown has found that the recently installed blue recycling bins have increased recycling of deposit beverage containers greatly. The new blue bins were installed next to existing litter bins in August. They aim to help residents make the right decision when disposing of their beverage containers while downtown.

*Strategic Link:* The introduction of recycling bins to downtown areas and parks supports the City's ongoing commitment to environmental sustainability.

#### **Key Points**

- An audit undertaken before the installation of the recycling bins found 39 beverage containers in the 15 downtown litter bins that now paired with a recycling bin. A recent post installation audit found only 4 beverage containers in these bins showing that the bins are already being heavily used.
- 15 bins were placed downtown and 35 are currently being installed in City parks. The 50 bins total were provided free of charge by Encorp Pacific (the people behind the Return-it campaign).

#### **Quotes**

"I am very pleased with the results of our first audit, especially since the bins were only installed a month ago. The audit showed that our residents are using the bins well and I hope that this usage increases as more bins are installed in the coming weeks. We have had some great feedback from our residents, some of whom have asked to see more types of recycling bins in public areas. This is something that I am certainly looking into for the future."

Charlotte Davis  
Manager of Sanitation, Recycling and Public Works Administration.  
City of Nanaimo

#### **Quick Facts**

- The new bins are designed only to take beverage containers and are "self servicing". This means they are never locked so anyone who wishes can open up the side door to retrieve the "booty" and return it for deposit.

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