### British Columbia’s Regulatory Framework for Biosolids

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<th>Environmental Management Act (EMA) &amp; Public Health Act</th>
<th>Agricultural Land Commission Act</th>
<th>Local Government Act</th>
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<td>Organic Matter Recycling Regulation (OMRR)</td>
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#### Requirements

- Establishes 5 biosolids categories: (1) Class A, (2) Class B, (3) Class A compost, (4) Class B compost, (5) Biosolids Growing Medium;
- Sets out requirements related to the production, distribution, storage, sale and use or land application of all categories of biosolids and biosolids-compost;
- Sets out required pathogen reduction processes and limits, vector attraction reduction standards, as well as detailed numeric standards for substance concentrations and soil standards related to: arsenic, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, lead, mercury, molybdenum, nickel, selenium and zinc;
- Establishes required sampling and analysis protocols, frequency and record-keeping;
- Requires that all sampling and analysis be conducted using "British Columbia Laboratory Methods Manual: 2005 — for the Analysis of Water, Wastewater, Sediment, Biological Materials and Discrete Ambient Air Samples";
- Requires that a Land Application Plan (LAP) is developed and signed by a Qualified Professional prior to any land application of Biosolids Class A, Class B or Class B compost. The operator must notify the Ministry 30 calendar days prior to the planned land application. Additional notifications are required for applications on agricultural land, in a watershed, or on ALR land.
- Sets out required information to be included in the Land Application Plan (schedule 7 of OMRR);
- Defines acceptable land application methods, including setback requirements, signage requirements and time-delay requirements prior to grazing (60 days) or agricultural activity (18-38 months).
- Use of biosolids, in accordance with LAP under OMRR, is permissible as a fertilizer/soil conditioner on ALR land;
- Requires that all ALR biosolids land applications meet OMRR requirements;
- Provides the ability for Local Government and/or First Nations to prohibit or regulate production, storage and application of Class A compost if any of the produced compost is used off-farm.
- Empowers Local Government to develop zoning bylaws that regulate use, density, siting, size and dimensions of land and buildings (e.g. composting facilities);
- Gives authority to prevent Local Government from prohibiting or restricting the use of land for a farm business in a farming area;
- Gives authority to empower Local Government to make farm bylaws to regulate the conduct of farm operations (including land application of biosolids);
- Empowers the agriculture minister to set standards for farm bylaws.

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* Other legislation and regulations that should be taken into consideration (although not primarily concerned with biosolids) include: Farm Practice Protection (Right to Farm) Act, The Community Charter, Contaminated Sites Regulation, Waste Discharge Regulation, Drinking Water Protection Act & Drinking Water Protection Regulation, Regulated Activities Regulation, Forest and Range Practices Act, Range Planning and Practices Regulation, the Range Act.