
Nova Scotia Solid Waste
Resource Management
Regional Chairs Committee

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REGION 2a:

Vernon Pitts

REGION 2b:

Robert Parker

REGION 3:

Tom Taggart
Chairman

REGION 4:

Tony Mancini

REGION 5:

Martha Armstrong

REGION 6:

Wayne Thorburne

REGION 7:

Linda Gregory

April 26, 2021

Juanita Spencer
Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities
Via e-mail: jspencer@nsfm.ca

Dear Juanita:

On behalf of the NS Solid Waste Regional Chairs Committee, I would like to thank you and NSFM for your ongoing support in advocating for the importance of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation in our province. We are encouraged by the mandate letters issued by Premier Rankin and subsequent responses from Minister Maguire of Municipal Affairs and Minister Keith Irving of Environment and Climate Change that we are moving closer to our goals.

As discussed at the last Priorities Working Group meeting, we would like to share the following in preparation for your upcoming Roundtable Discussions with the Ministers of Municipal Affairs and Environment & Climate Change. These priorities generally represent high impact areas for municipalities, and we appreciate any opportunity to present these to the province.

Most importantly, Nova Scotian municipalities want to be a **valued and engaged partner** throughout the process of introducing EPR to Nova Scotia. We are prepared to offer our expertise to this exercise and look forward to continuing the stakeholder consultation process.

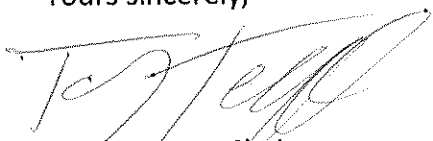
To represent the interest of Municipalities, our committee agreed that the development of legislation and the industry plan must:

- build on the consensus proposal developed by municipalities that included feedback from businesses;
- continue to be sensitive to the voice of small businesses;
- review and encourage use of existing municipal infrastructure (i.e. MRFs);
- offer municipalities first right of refusal to provide collection and education services;
- develop a uniform provincial program, maintaining current or enhanced service levels to ensure maximum recovery;
- consider how ICI materials will be managed within the system;

- consider the lifecycle costs of packaging that continues to be disposed in landfill;
- include a transparent reporting system to ensure public confidence that products are being recovered and recycled; and
- incorporate principles of circular economy and mitigation of greenhouse gases.

It is imperative that we continue to collaborate and promote EPR at every opportunity. Municipal solid waste costs have doubled in the last 15 years and marketing recyclable material has become increasingly challenging. It is clear the current system is unsustainable. EPR is a crucial next step in supporting a circular economy and solidifying Nova Scotia's position as a leader in waste management. Again, we thank you for your continued effort and this opportunity to communicate key messages during Round Table Discussions. Please contact me if you wish to discuss further.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Taggart, Chair

NS Solid Waste-Resource Management Regional Chairs Committee

CC. Priorities Committee Group