

EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY

Nova Scotia Solid Waste- Resource Management Regional Chairs Committee

PO Box 639
Mahone Bay, NS
B0J 2E0

REGION 1:

Amanda McDougall

REGION 2a:

Vernon Pitts

REGION 2b:

Jim Ryan

REGION 3:

Tom Taggart

REGION 4:

Tony Mancini

REGION 5:

John Kinsella

REGION 6:

Michael Ernst

REGION 7:

Leland Anthony

*If you want a presentation or
more information, please
contact us*

Valda.Walsh@Region6SWM.ca

902-624-1339

902-350-0333

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is a policy approach that shifts the responsibility and costs of managing specific wastes/recyclable materials from municipalities to producers (i.e. brand owners and manufacturers). This means that producers establish a system to optimize efficiency.

Municipal curbside recycling programs are a type of producer funded EPR. In Canada, every province from Quebec west to British Columbia, except Alberta, has implemented EPR. Materials included in the curbside recycling program in Nova Scotia are referred to as 'printed paper and packaging' (PPP).

Provincial legislation is required in Nova Scotia to shift both the responsibility and the cost of recycling programs away from the taxpayer to the producer. This is referred to as EPR for PPP.

In Nova Scotia, the Solid Waste-Resource Regional Chairs, represented by elected municipal officials, have established a working group to focus on moving EPR forward. This group is called the Municipal-Provincial Priorities Group.

The Priorities Group is engaging with stakeholders to build an EPR program proposal that works for Nova Scotians. This proposal will build on insights and lessons learned in other provinces that have implemented EPR for PPP. Some of the findings include:

1. EPR would **significantly decrease both costs and risks** associated with municipal curbside recycling programs.
2. **EPR would give Nova Scotia consumers direct access to PPP programming they are already paying for indirectly** but are receiving none of the benefits.

EPR – What's in it for municipalities?

1. Funding to support recycling programs

- Under this framework, producers are responsible for funding collection, processing and marketing of materials, as well as supporting education.
- Across Canada, in 2016, producers provided more than \$367 million to fund provincially-regulated PPP programs. Nova Scotia received \$0.00.
- It is estimated that a Nova Scotia EPR model could generate a financial benefit of up to \$16M per year.
- Municipalities would no longer manage the risk of rising costs and fluctuating commodity markets.

2. Access to PPP programming for which Nova Scotia consumers are already paying.

- Producers fund PPP programs in Canada by incorporating program costs into their national product pricing. [i.e. no eco-fees are charged as an added cost at point-of-sale.] This means the selling price on a box of cereal in Nova Scotia is helping to fund recycling programs for that same packaging elsewhere.
- Nova Scotia consumers are already paying for the incremental costs of PPP programs in other provinces, but without an EPR program here, are receiving none of the benefits.

***Regional Chairs are working to develop
an EPR for PPP proposal that works for Nova Scotians***

Sensitive to municipalities:

- Use existing infrastructure/human resources
- Right of first refusal for collection and education
- Maintain or improve current level of curbside service
- Apply to residential PPP materials
- Allow time for planning and transition

Sensitive to Businesses:

- Exempt small businesses:
 - With revenue under \$2M
 - Supplying less than 1 tonne of PPP to Nova Scotia residents annually
 - Single storefront in NS and are not supplied by or operated as part of a franchise
 - Newspapers and registered charities
- Harmonized with other Canadian EPR programs
- Monitoring and compliance to ensure a level playing field