



The Union
of Nova Scotia
Municipalities

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September 1, 2015

The Honourable Andrew Younger
Minister, Department of Environment

Minister Younger:

I am writing on behalf of the UNSM to convey municipal support for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR).

As you are aware, the UNSM membership in 2014 passed a motion to form a working group comprised of representatives from NS Environment, Municipal Affairs, municipal solid waste managers and directors, the NS Solid Waste Management Regional Coordinators, and the UNSM. The chief mandate of this group has been to work with the Province and municipalities to develop a successful EPR model within the Nova Scotia context. The working group has done several presentations to our municipal members through UNSM regional meetings, the Solid Waste Regions, and the Association of Municipal Administrators' Spring Workshop.

Municipal support for EPR is not a recent phenomenon. As far back as 2010, the UNSM passed a motion urging the Province to support and implement EPR legislation.

Since the formation of the working group, various municipal groups have outlined their support for EPR.

On June 26, 2015, the UNSM Board of Directors passed a motion that the Board support, in principle, moving forward with EPR, and that this motion be communicated to the UNSM Membership.

On August 10, 2015, the Solid Waste-Resource Management Regional Chairs Committee wrote to you also indicating support for EPR with respect to paper and packaging.

We recognize that some of our municipal members may not be fully informed on the importance of this issue. To this end we are offering an EPR breakfast session at our upcoming Fall Conference and making presentations at various UNSM caucus meetings.

We are also partnering with the working group to offer an EPR workshop which will take place on October 23, 2015 at the Holiday Inn in Truro. This session will look at both the municipal and business perspectives of an EPR model for Nova Scotia.



We recognize you are hearing concerns from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business. But we also know a number of business associations are supportive of EPR including the Retail Council of Canada, the Atlantic Provinces Chambers of Commerce, and the Food & Consumer Products of Canada.

This letter has been prepared to outline overall municipal support for EPR and to encourage your department to move forward with this important initiative.

Over the next several months, the UNSM will continue to inform and educate our members on the importance of moving forward with EPR.

As a matter of principle, producers should be responsible for designing, financing and managing effective end-of-life systems for their products and associated packaging. The UNSM will continue to convey this important message.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Hunter', is positioned below the word 'Sincerely,'.

Warden Keith Hunter
UNSM President

cc: The Honourable Zach Churchill, Minister of Municipal Affairs
The Honourable Mark Furey, Minister of Business
UNSM Board of Directors