

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Panel

UNSM Conference
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Presentation Overview

- **Overview of EPR**

Alanna McPhee, RRFB Nova Scotia

- **Updates from NSE**

Bob Kenney, Nova Scotia Environment

- **Municipal Perspective**

Valda Walsh, Region 6 Solid Waste Management

- **Q & A**

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Extended Producer Responsibility

An environmental policy approach in which a producer's responsibility for a product is extended to the post-consumer stage of a product's lifecycle.

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Goals of EPR

- Shift the expenses of end-of-life from taxpayers to producers/consumers
- Increase diversion from landfill
- Drive Design for the Environment (DfE)

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EPR in Nova Scotia

- Two EPR programs currently in NS:
 - Electronics Product Recycling Association
 - Paint Recycling Program
- Industry operates/ manages the program



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Regulation Review: EPR

- NSE looking to develop framework for EPR
- List of materials:
 - HHW items – oil, glycol, batteries
 - Mattresses
 - Carpet
 - Paper and packaging *

Paper and Packaging (PP)

- Curbside recyclables – paper and containers
- A shift in how materials are managed
- Industry to play a role in managing the materials
 - Collection
 - Processing
 - Marketing

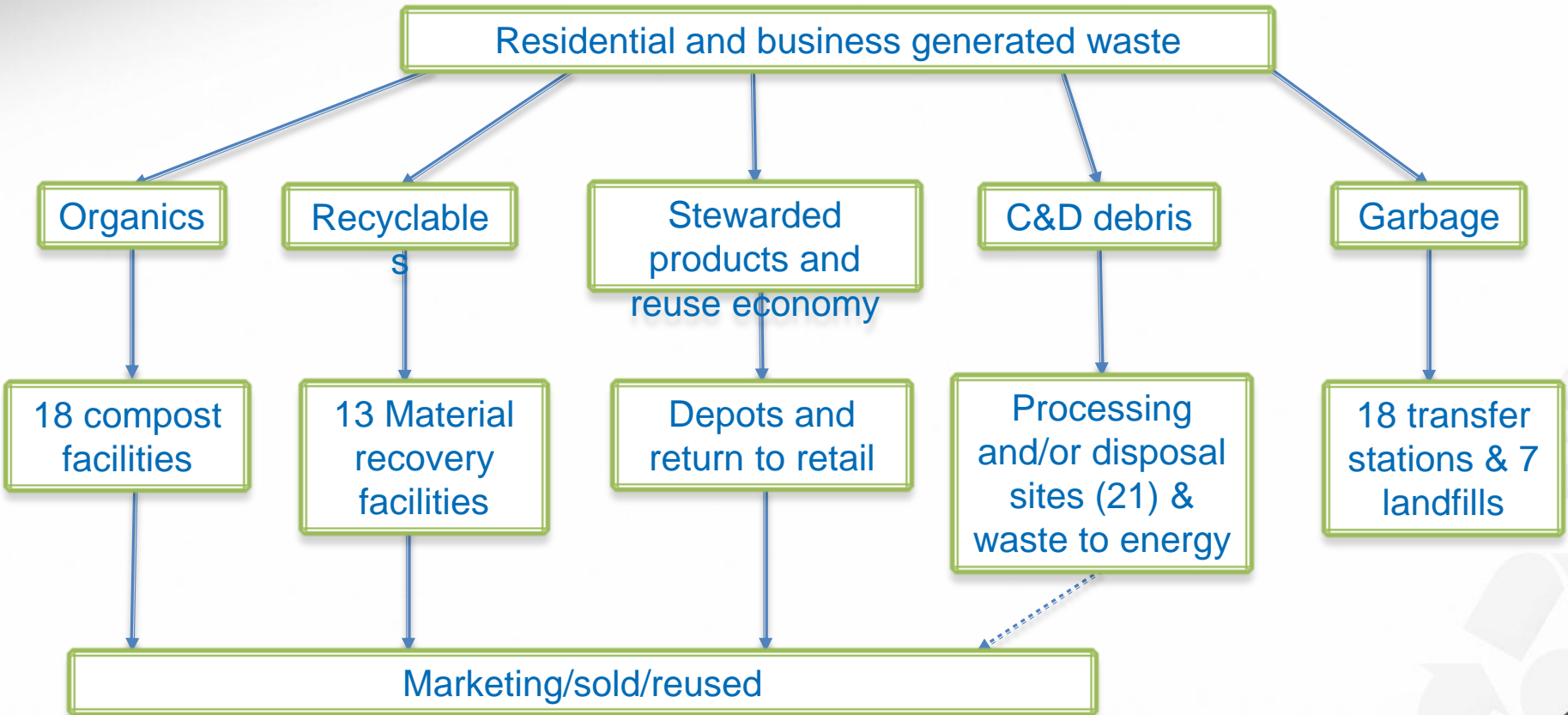
Models for PP

- SHARED
 - Municipal control, with industry influence
 - Industry provides payments to municipalities
 - 50-70% funding for efficient costs
- FULL
 - Industry control
 - Municipalities are paid as service providers
 - 100% funding for efficient costs

EPR: Priorities Committee

- **Membership:** NSE, RRFB, Municipal Affairs, UNSM, Reg Chairs, Reg Coord
- **Focus:** Developing a PP Program that is the best for Nova Scotians
- Capacity building around EPR for PP
- Pros and cons of SHARED and FULL model
- Opportunity to work in collaboration with NSE

NS' Solid Waste Management System



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NS' Solid Waste Management System

- A true municipal/provincial partnership
- Lowest waste disposal in Canada
- Comprehensive curbside recycling and organics collection
- Over 4,000 jobs in NS created through waste diversion
- Enhanced municipal policies (clear bag; diversion targets)
- Effective education initiatives to residents, schools and commercial sector
- Mature stewardship and EPR programs (beverage and dairy containers; electronics; tires; paint)

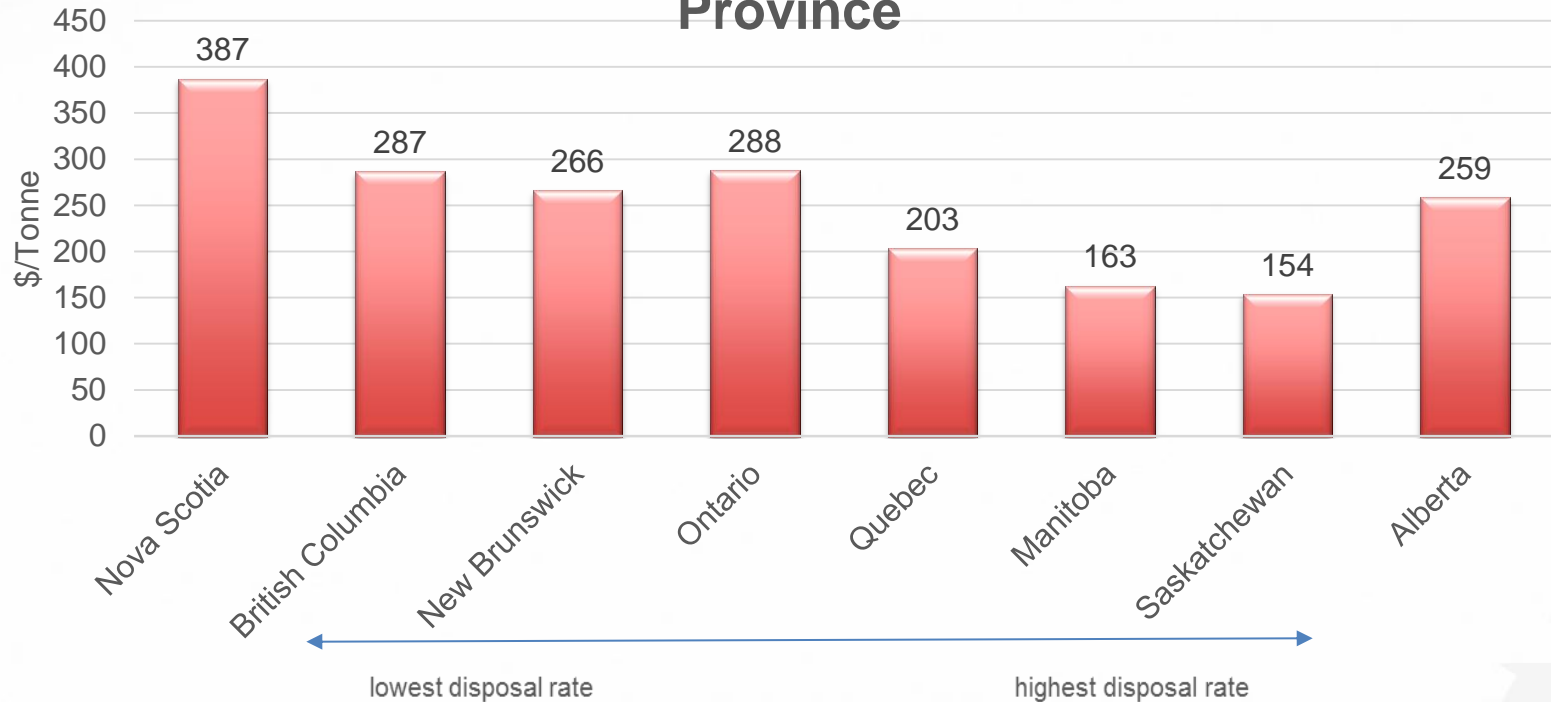
However....

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NS' Solid Waste Management System

Gross Waste Management Operating Costs By Province



Source Statistics Canada, 2012.

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What contributes to high costs?

- Lowest disposal rate in Canada
- Scale and efficiency is not maximized (e.g. recycling costs range from \$62 to \$901 per tonne)
- NS has lowest level of private sector involvement
- NS has a relatively high number of facilities relative to geography and population
- Costs do not consider the recovered economic value derived from waste diversion (diversion companies and jobs)

Overarching goal of the regulatory review

Contain or reduce costs while generating greater environmental and economic benefits

- Ensure sustainability of the solid waste system

Proposed Amendments

1. Expand EPR - additional product categories
2. Introduce additional disposal bans
3. Expand tire program - include off road tires
4. Remove requirement for Regional Solid Waste Management Plans
5. Clarify rules for energy from waste
6. Eliminate prescriptive wording for minor litter related offences
7. Make administrative changes to beverage container program

Product Stewardship (EPR)

Approach:

- Introduce an EPR framework for various recyclable materials
- Products with well-established EPR programs could be implemented earlier
- If approved, EPR for Paper and Packaging will be under a full model

Rationale:

- Increased private sector involvement will drive efficiency and lower system costs
- EPR for paper & packaging - \$14 to \$17 M in revenue or avoided costs to municipalities
- Potential to increase diversion of packaging by 35%

Product Stewardship (EPR)

Proposed materials for Extended Producer Responsibility

- Paper and Packaging
- HHW
 - Additional electronics
 - Batteries
 - Marine flares
 - Sharps and pharmaceuticals
 - Mercury containing items
 - Additional paint
 - Oil filters
 - Ethylene glycol
 - Pesticides
 - Flammables
 - Pressurized containers
- Creosote timbers and ties
- Flooring
- Mattresses and box springs
- Carpet

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Departmental Perspectives on proposed EPR for PP

- No decision has been made on EPR for PP
- If approved, EPR for PP would be under a full model
- Municipalities would continue to cover exempted materials
- Under a full model, producers will establish the most efficient system

Potential Elements of Full EPR for PP

- Apply to residential blue bag material only (not commercial)
- Exempt businesses based on revenue (below \$1-2 M)
- Exempt businesses that produce less than 1 tonne of blue bag material annually
- Exempt businesses with only one storefront in NS
- Exempt newspapers and charities
- Assign a Designated Administrative Authority (DAA) to provide administration and oversight for all stakeholders
- Allow time for planning and transition

NSE - Next steps

- Additional time needed to consider all points of view
- Continue to consider the feedback we are receiving
- Determine which regulations may move forward earlier than others
- Harmonizing with other provinces is an important consideration
- Continue financial analysis of Nova Scotia's solid waste system

FULL EPR for Paper and Packaging

(municipal/service provider perspective)

Producers collect, process and market residential Paper and Packaging supplied by obligated producers by subcontracting municipalities and private companies

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Opportunities

- 'Design for Environment' is maximized
- Potential to expand the materials list
- Reduces disposal
- 'Polluter Pay' principle is maximized
- Standardized curbside recycling
- Simplifies decision-making
- Industry pays
- Economies of scale/efficiencies are maximized
- Multi-residential buildings are part of the program



Issues/alternatives

Issues: Decision making and program delivery is not under the control of the municipality

Alternatives: There will be transition time during which industry will collaborate with municipalities

Issues/alternatives

Issues: There may be financial penalties for renegotiating current contracts

Alternatives: Information is being gathered to better understand the conditions of contracts

Issues/alternatives

Issues: Potential for stranded infrastructure and/or job losses

Alternatives: Priorities group pushing for regulation to require consideration of existing infrastructure

Issues/alternatives

Issues: Municipalities will need to determine how to best manage Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) waste and non-obligated materials

Alternatives: Regulations could require consideration of existing infrastructure.

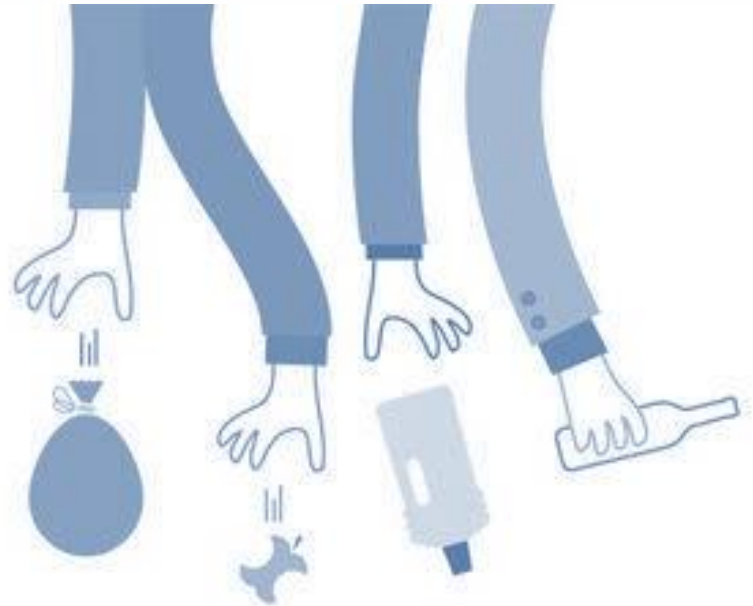
Issues/alternatives

Issues: Industry may not want to collect some materials (glass, plastic film)

Alternatives: Regulations could require industry to maintain or expand existing programs

Service Provider Standards

- Operations
 - Collection
 - Processing
 - Marketing
- Education/Promotion
 - Education
 - Enhanced education programs
 - Continuous improvement
- Administration



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Education/Promotion

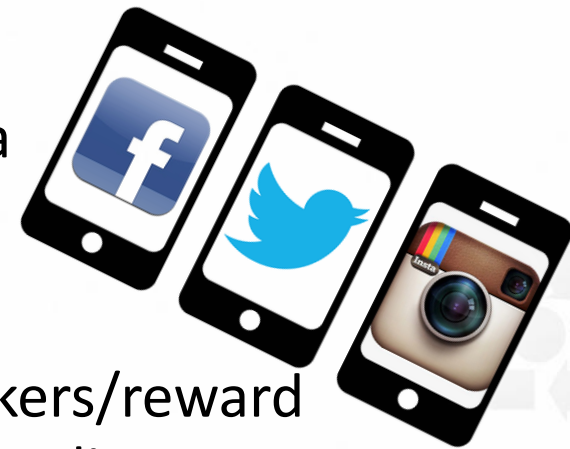
- Municipalities are, and will continue to be, the first point of contact for information
- Industry will be required to provide program information
- All program messaging to be integrated with the municipal/regional message

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Enhanced Education and Continuous Improvement

- Focused campaigns to target materials at key points throughout the calendar year
- Focused mediums – online, social media – considering the audience for the message
- Compliance promotion – rejection stickers/reward pamphlets. Ongoing support for curbside compliance
- Continuous Improvement – keeping the education material fresh and in the right medium for the message.



Administration

- Routine **audits** at receiving sites similar to dairy audits or waste audits
- **Data** gathering and outputs such as the datacall system
- Liaise on **contracts**, agreements and policy tools



Next Steps

- EPR for other materials
 - Hazardous wastes (e.g. batteries, CFLs)
 - Expanding the list of electronics (e.g. microwaves)
- EPR for Paper and Packaging
 - definitions for producer, deminimus, service provider, etc.
 - roles and responsibilities
 - work on operations standards
 - focus on mitigating risks
- Other areas of the Regulation review
 - Off-road tires, Container Recycling fee

Collaboration



- UNSM Resolution from November 2014
- Municipal-Provincial Priorities Group
- N S Solid Waste-Resource Regional Chairs
- Regional Coordinator

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We have to abandon the conceit that isolated, personal actions are going to solve this crisis. Our policies have to shift.

- Al Gore

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Questions?

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