

COMMUNICATION 131068

Received From: Dave Young, Director of Public Works
Addressed To: Committee of the Whole
Date: May 26, 2020
Topic: Transition to Full Producer Responsibility for Blue Box Services

SUMMARY

As previously discussed, the Province continues to develop a Draft Regulation that will provide the framework for the transition to Full Producer Responsibility of the Blue Box Program under the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act*.

AMO has been representing Ontario Municipalities as they work with the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, and other industry stakeholders, and has requested that all municipalities provide a resolution outlining each municipality's preferred date to transition to full producer responsibility between the proposed start date of January 1, 2023, and the anticipated December 31, 2025 completion date of transition. It is anticipated that there will be three (3) phases province wide during this transition process timeframe.

BACKGROUND

The recently awarded contract for the provision of Blue Box Collection Services and Processing was structured to allow the Town to be prepared for the first phase of the transition, and had an expiration of January 1, 2023. Based on the significant cost increase in these services, it reinforces the benefit to the Town of Carleton Place to transition as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that this will in fact occur, but there is a financial incentive to communicate that the Town is well positioned to be in the first phase.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS the amount of single-use plastics leaking into our lakes, rivers, waterways is a growing area of public concern;

AND WHEREAS reducing the waste we generate and reincorporating valuable resources from our waste stream into new goods can reduce GHGs significantly;

AND WHEREAS the transition to full producer responsibility for packaging, paper and paper products is critical to reducing waste, improving recycling and driving better economic and environmental outcomes;

AND WHEREAS the move to a circular economy is a global movement, and the transition of Blue Box programs would go a long way towards this outcome;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Carleton Place is supportive of a timely, seamless and successful transition of Blue Box programs to full financial and operational responsibility by producers of packaging, paper and paper products;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario has requested municipal governments with Blue Box programs to provide an indication of the best date to transition our Blue Box program to full producer responsibility;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Carleton Place would like to transition their Blue Box program to full producer responsibility on January 1, 2023;

AND this decision is based on the following rationale:

The Town of Carleton Place recently entered into a contract for recyclable material collection and processing with the term of the contract expiring on January 1, 2023. The new contract incorporated a significant increase in cost for these services which should not be the burden of the Town's residents but of producers;

AND the Town of Carleton Place would be interested in providing collection services to Producers should we be able to arrive at mutually agreeable commercial terms;

AND FURTHER THAT any questions regarding this resolution can be directed to Dave Young, Director of Public Works, at dyoung@carletonplace.ca;

AND THAT this Resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks, and to Jamie McGarvey, President of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.