

Hon. Tim Halman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change

Business Address:

Department of Environment and Climate Change

PO Box 442

Halifax, NS B3J 2P8

Via email: minister.environment@novascotia.ca

Re: Support for Extended Producer Responsibility and request for update

Dear Minister Halman,

For many years now, the Municipality of Argyle, through its connection with the NSFM, has advocated for a change in waste management and funding. Our recent strategy recognizes that waste is a fast-growing service investment, and at this rate, will financially overcome other important services we provide. Municipalities must find alternative ways to deal with waste collection, diversion, and disposal, should it seek to sufficiently fund other municipal services. We have a significant role and task in doing so. Municipalities must also consider alternative forms of waste management, and we impress upon you the importance of provincial legislative flexibility to support modernized solutions to municipalities.

The Department of Environment is a valued partner in this work, which highlights the importance of collaboration and effective communication, particularly in areas of legislative reform. Legislation improvements rest with your department, with the impacts affecting both of us. This leads to our strong **support** for initiating the Extended Producer Responsibility concept as soon as possible.

The background and logic behind this user pay system is well known and documented and one we trust your department has been briefed several times. We recognize there are operational challenges to any change, and we trust that you would have the support and encouragement of most if not all of the municipalities in this initiative. We would respectfully request an **update** on the initiative, and any barriers you see that we can assist in overcoming.

We are still committed to the concepts of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle as a responsible course of action considering the environmental impacts of waste. We hope that your department pushes assertively for a solution that sees the producers take on financial responsibility for the products they seek to promote and sell. This would relieve considerable fiscal pressure on all Municipalities and allow them to focus more funds on other equally important initiatives for their community.

Sincerely,

Danny Muise
Warden

CC: Minister Colton LeBlanc
Warden Eddie Nickerson
Warden John Cunningham
Mayor Pam Mood
President Chisolm, NSFM