

EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY UPDATE

Issue

An Extended Producer Responsibility Update is provided to Council.

Motion Proposed by Administration

That the Extended Producer Responsibility Update be received as information.

Report, Analysis and Financial Implications

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is an environmental policy approach in which a producer's responsibility for a product is extended to the post-consumer stage of a product's life cycle.

An EPR policy is characterized by:

1. Shifting the framework so that the physical and financial burden of collecting, sorting, processing, and recycling waste to the producer and away from local governments and taxpayers; and
2. Providing incentives to producers to take into account environmental considerations when designing their products.

Alberta will have two (2) EPR systems:

- single-use products, packaging and printed paper products (PPP); and
- hazardous and special products (HSP).

Alberta Recycling Management Authority (ARMA) is the designated oversight body for EPR. Their role is to ensure the targets outlined in the regulations are met.

It will standardize the items accepted in collection programs across the province, create one set of messaging, which should help with the promotion and education effort, and manage the cost of the recycling program.

EPR will impact only single and multi residential homes and not industrial, commercial, and institution (ICI) sectors.

Timelines

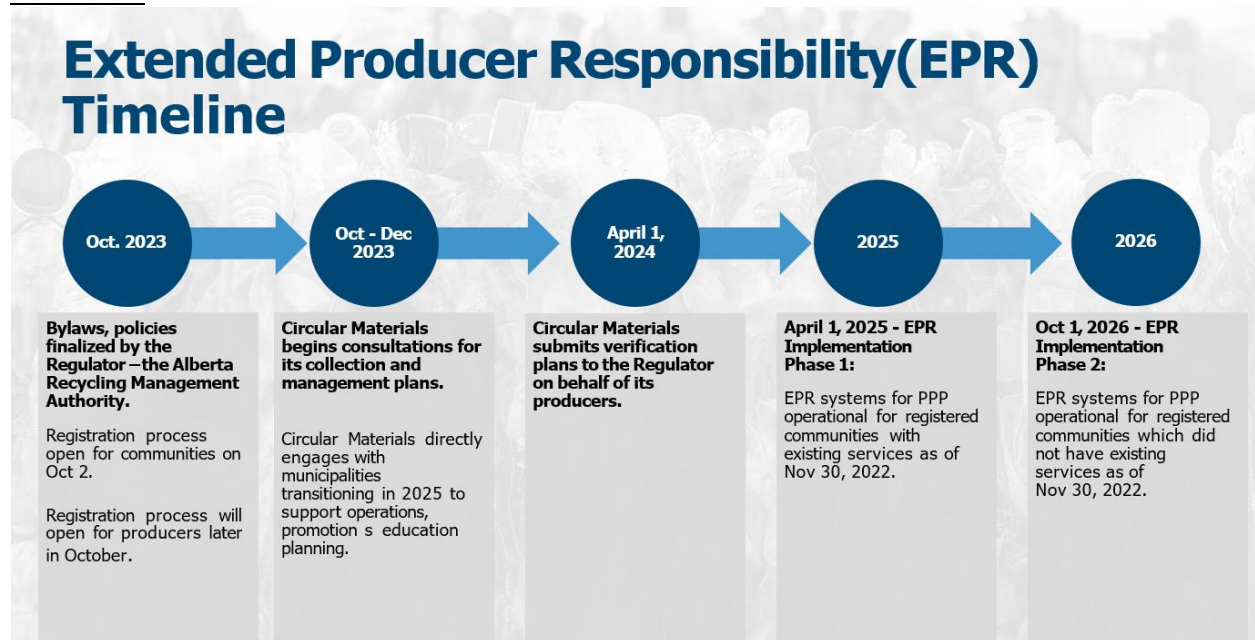


Figure 1 showing the timeline for PPP

EPR Plan Goals and Next Steps

- Administration will work with the producer responsible organizations (PRO's) to ensure a seamless transition.
- Individual communities will negotiate the EPR terms and conditions with the PRO's.
- The most likely impacts to residents will include changes to materials that will be acceptable in blue carts and or at the Eco Centre (PPP and HSP) service costs.
- Ensure all eligible customers receive the service as per the timeline.
- Keep residents informed.

Opportunities/Synergies for Service Levels Concurrent with EPR Roll Out

Administration is exploring a number of service level changes and would like to limit ratepayer impacts by attempting to align any potential changes with the rollout of EPR. A high level review of some of the changes being evaluated include:

- Revisions to collection routes including alternate day pickup for different carts to reduce space constraints in higher density neighbourhoods;
- Bi-weekly garbage collection with a potential larger standard cart size;
- Improvements to the implementation of the Multi-Family collection program;
- Potential ICI program implementation;
- Rates and Fees revisions;
- Insufficient information is available at this time to fully understand the potential impacts that EPR will have on the Town's existing waste collection programs. As more information becomes available, Administration will bring forward recommended service level revisions for Council's consideration.

Strategic Plan Goals

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Responsibly Managed Growth
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strong Local Economy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organizational Excellence

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated Environmental Leadership
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enhanced Culture & Community Health

Equity/Diversity/Inclusivity Impacts and Strategy

n/a

Environmental Impacts

EPR is aimed at decreasing the total environmental impact from a product and its packaging, as it ensures that the producers of the product take responsibility for the entire lifecycle of their products especially in the take-back, recycling, and final disposal of their products and its packaging.

Public Participation Strategy

A plan will be developed to communicate changes in the community once potential impacts to residents are better understood.

Alternatives for Consideration

n/a

CAO Comments

This is a complex change that will have significant impact on the municipality with many questions still unanswered. As more information is gathered, it will inform system design, potential municipal redesign, and the overall shift and impact on citizens.

Attachment(s)

n/a

Prepared by:
Paul Lyons
Waste Services Manager
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