

# Alberta's Extended Producer Responsibility Approach

---

2022 SWANA Canadian Symposium  
EPR Session  
April 5, 2022

David McKenna

Alberta Environment and Parks



Alberta

# Alberta's Current State

## Provincially Regulated



## Pilot Projects



## Municipally Funded



# Extended Producer Responsibility

---

An EPR policy approach is characterized by:

1. **Shifting responsibility** (physically and/or economically; fully or partially) upstream toward the producer and away from municipalities; and
2. the **provision of incentives** to producers to take into account environmental considerations when designing their products.

EPR seeks to integrate signals related to the environmental characteristics of products and production processes throughout the product chain.

# Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

---

*EPR: 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.*

\*OECD website, Extended Producer Responsibility

# Proposed Policy Shift

---

The Government of Alberta is engaging on three policy shifts:

1. Create an overarching EPR regulatory framework.
2. Develop an EPR approach for packaging, paper products, and single-use plastics.
3. Develop an EPR approach for Hazardous and Special Products to replace the current Household Hazardous Waste program.

## Current: No Overarching Framework

- Municipal programs inconsistent across the province
- Lack of post-consumer markets has created barriers to developing economies of scale for improved recycling programs
- Taxpayer funded (municipal/provincial)

## Future: Legislated EPR Framework

- Increased diversion and recycling creates economic opportunities
- Additional materials can be incorporated over time
- Industry responsible for funding and operating coordinated and consistent programs across Alberta

# EPR – Engagement and Next Steps

## Completed Activities



## Next Steps



# Questions?

---



Please direct all questions and comments  
to [AEP.RecyclingRegulation@gov.ab.ca](mailto:AEP.RecyclingRegulation@gov.ab.ca)