

Request for Decision United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria Council

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, May 8, 2015				Report Date	Tuesday, May-05-15			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed

Waste Recycling - Report #08/05/15/1205

Subject:

Resolution to support full producer responsibility for recycling and waste management.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council consider supporting the following resolution requesting that the producers of material be held more responsible for the collection and disposal of their packaging.

WHEREAS municipalities have no control over the form of municipal solid waste that is generated from packing and products that enter their jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS municipal taxpayers bear more than 50% of the cost of waste disposal and recycling of packaging and printed paper in the waste stream, which products are increasingly complex, multi-material and expensive to recycle, reclaim or dispose of;

AND WHEREAS the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change has committed to replacing the current waste diversion legislation, but has not yet introduced replacement legislation to the legislature;

AND WHEREAS producer responsibility provides that producers be responsible for 100% of the costs of certain designated wastes for full cost of end-of-life management for such products and packaging;

AND WHEREAS municipalities should not have to bear the cost of managing the disposal of these materials;

AND WHEREAS waste is a valuable resource;

AND WHEREAS increased recycling and reclamation could add 13,000 good, high-quality jobs in Ontario and contribute more than \$1.5 billion every year to Ontario's economy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria hereby calls on the Ontario Government to introduce legislation to replace the *Waste Diversion Act* with a system based on full Producer Responsibility, ensuring that producers are responsible for 100% of the end-of-life costs of designated waste, and that producers need to work with the municipal sector on those Producer Responsibility programs that affect the municipal integrated waste management

system so that municipalities are fairly compensated for services provided to manage designated waste that enters the municipal system."

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

From the Municipal Waste Association..."We understand that some municipal leaders have been approached by organizations asking Councils to support resolutions regarding full producer responsibility. As noted above, the municipal sector has just sent a discussion paper to the Minister on this topic.

If individual municipal governments want to put forward resolutions in support of full producer responsibility and the development of a new Provincial legislative framework for waste recovery, we have attached a sample resolution for your consideration."

A full report from AMO to the province is at this link.

<http://www.amo.on.ca/AMO-PDFs/Reports/2015/MOECC-LTR-New-Waste-Reduction-and-Resource-Recover.aspx>

****The document is 15 pages long. Please let me know if you would like a printed copy.

The letter from AMO to the Minister follows.

Options/Discussion:

Others Consulted:

AMO and the Municipal Waste Association

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,

Municipal Clerk

M Reith

Dear Minister Murray:

Since 2008, the Province has called for shifting the financial burden from property taxpayers to producers for end-of-life management of products and packaging. It is time to make this happen. The new legislative framework must result in measurable reduction and diversion of waste from disposal while striking a balance that provides producers with the authority they require to manage these costs while also being fair to municipalities. It is essential that the new framework recognize that these diversion and recovery programs are elements in an integrated waste management system for residents.

AMO, working closely with the City of Toronto, the Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario and Municipal Waste Association, has developed a Municipal Discussion Paper that outlines the critical needs and interests of municipal governments which the new framework needs to address. This paper, on behalf of the sector, is based on work we've done on Bill 91 and our experience with the current Waste Diversion Act, 2002. In the absence of new draft legislation we have provided this paper for your consideration and we look forward to discussing any new legislation as it is being developed.

As you know, municipal governments are primarily responsible for Ontario's existing residential integrated waste management system that manages annually over 4.9 million tonnes of material at

a cost of over \$1 billion. Over 47% of this material is diverted from disposal and taxpayers have borne much of the cost of waste diversion over the last thirty plus years. Additionally, municipalities bear the primary burden when waste materials are not effectively collected and reused, because residual wastes end up in municipal disposal facilities, sewers, or streets (as litter).

We are ready to work with the Province along with other interested waste diversion parties, including producers and services providers, to address issues that have become apparent with the Waste Diversion Act. We remain committed to realizing our shared objectives of environmental protection and striving to minimize impacts to water, soil, and air in our communities.

We would be happy to discuss any of the elements of this paper with you and MOECC officials in further detail and look forward to continued conversation on how together we can design a new legislative framework for more effective waste diversion in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Gary McNamara
AMO President