

Packaging Waste Reduction Forum

September 10, 2008

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Association of Municipalities of Ontario

- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 445 municipal governments and provides a variety of services and products to members and non-members, including the development of policy positions and reports on issues of interest to municipalities

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Comprehensive Policy on Waste

- AMO's proposal for a Provincial Integrated Waste Strategy, 2005
- Draft Provincial Policy in 2007
- Waste Diversion Act or Waste Management Act, where is the review?

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Who's responsibility is it anyhow?

- Municipalities are not/should not be the sole players
- Province has the leading role to play
- Industry is the central player

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Other Important Policy Issues in Waste

- Improving the Efficiency of the Blue Box Program , 2006 (Difficult Materials)
- Five Year review of the WDA
- Blue Box Funding

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Alternative Approach to Blue Box Funding

- Approved by AMO Board on August 23, 2008
- It recommends:
Full Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

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Challenges with the Current Blue Box System

- Indirectly encourages producers to design more non-recyclable packaging thereby reducing diversion
- Packaging is not designed for source reduction
- More variety of materials means more operational and marketing challenges resulting in increased program costs

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Other Problems and Concerns with the Blue Box

- Market Instability
- Diversion Goals
- Investment needed for improvement

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Benefits of Moving More Responsibility to BB Stewards

- Stewards will be motivated to improve packaging design resulting in higher recovery
- Consistency of decisions will result in uniform Blue Box through out the Province
- Good for business
- Funds saved can be used in other program areas such as kitchen organics

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