Month Day, 2018

MLA Title MLA First Name MLA Last Name

MLA for Riding Name

Address Line 1

City Province Postal Code

Dear MLA Last Name,

Did you know that Alberta is the most wasteful province in Canada? We send just under 1,000 kilograms (kg) of waste per person to landfills, as compared to the Canadian average of approximately 700 kg per person, despite the success of municipal recycling programs. This poor result is partially due to Alberta’s outdated recycling regulations, some of which have not been updated since 1997.

Alberta municipalities provided input on proposed regulatory changes during consultations held by the Alberta government in 2013. We strongly supported expanding Alberta’s electronics, tires, paint, and used oil recycling programs, and ensuring the regulations accounted for new products entering our marketplace. We also supported changes that offer more flexibility set recycling fees that keep pace with the costs of maintaining these programs.

Alberta needs a more comprehensive approach to reduce waste and we believe the solution is to introduce Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regulations to reduce waste from the source. A province-wide paper and packaging EPR program will support many municipalities’ long-term diversion goals and reduce overall provincial waste. An EPR model ensures that manufacturers of products are financially responsible for the disposal of the waste, which provides incentives for them to design products that are easier to recycle at the end of life.

There are already several Canadian provinces have successfully paper and packaging EPR programs that Alberta can learn from. Without EPR regulations, Alberta municipalities are left with the financial responsibilities of recycling and manufacturers have no incentives to reduce waste.

**Call to improve Waste Management**

The municipality of X is calling on the Government of Alberta to take the following actions:

* Work with municipalities on a more comprehensive approach to reducing waste, including:
	+ Developing a paper and packaging EPR program that encourages manufacturers to initiate long-term waste reduction from the source.
	+ Expanding current recycling programs to accept new materials that are currently going to our landfills, but can be recycled.
	+ Working with municipalities to determine how revenue from the carbon levy can be used to support waste reduction initiatives that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Provincial and municipal partnership is needed to put Alberta back on the path to environmental leadership on waste management. As our MLA, we hope you will join us in championing the need for improved waste management in the province of Alberta.

Sincerely,

Title, First Name, Last Name

Municipality of X

cc: The Honourable Shannon Phillips, Minister of Environment and Parks

The Honourable Shaye Anderson, Minister of Municipal Affairs

Barry Morishita, President, Alberta Urban Municipalities Association *or*

Al Kemmere, President, Rural Municipalities of Alberta