Month Day, 2017

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 This poor result is partially due to Alberta’s outdated recycling regulations, some of which have not been updated since 1997.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 Province 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 market place. We also supported changes that offer more flexibility to recycling programs to set fees that keep pace with the costs of maintaining these programs.

Even with wide support from municipalities and other stakeholders, the Government of Alberta has not taken action. Without regulatory changes, these programs are in danger of collapsing, downloading the responsibility and costs to municipalities.

The Municipality of X is particularly concerned about the funding shortfall experienced by the used oil management program. As a hazardous waste and a valuable commodity, we want to keep used oil out of our landfills and waterways. We also want to provide convenient opportunities for our residents to recycle oil filters and oil containers. However, municipalities simply cannot afford the burden of collecting and managing these materials. There is an urgent need to amend Alberta’s regulations and ensure there is adequate funding in place to encourage proper collection and recycling of used oil and related products.

**Call to improve Waste Management**

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

* Immediately enact the proposed regulatory changes needed to ensure the viability of existing recycling programs.
* Work with municipalities on a more comprehensive approach to reducing waste, including developing programs that address packaging, printed materials, and agricultural plastics that our programs struggle to process in due to fluctuating markets for recycled materials.
* Also work 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, Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties