

# Connector

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*Recycling Council  
of Alberta*

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## RCA to Host EPR Consultation Sessions

Subsequent to the broad stakeholder consultation process on proposed recycling regulatory changes delivered by Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (AESRD) late last year, the RCA has initiated a series of sessions to continue the discussion of what Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) could and should look like in Alberta.

The results of the AESRD consultation process indicated that stakeholders support legislation to enable the introduction of EPR for materials like packaging and Household Hazardous Waste (HHW). EPR would see the burden for the delivery of diversion programs for these materials shift from municipalities to producers. The transition to EPR has already begun in many countries, including a number of other provinces in Canada.

The sessions will provide a brief overview of what EPR looks like in other jurisdictions, to provide context to the discussions. This background will then be followed by a discussion of the various elements of an EPR program, and solicit feedback on the relative merits of various options for Alberta.

RCA members and other interested stakeholders are encouraged to attend one of the sessions to engage in the EPR conversation. The sessions will be held from 9 a.m.

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## Connector

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*continued from title page*

to 12 p.m. at Ralph Klein Park in Calgary on September 9, and Sherwood Park Community Centre on September 11, 2014. Thanks to the support of our hosts and sponsors, sessions are free of charge, but space is limited. To register, please visit <http://bit.ly/RCA-EPR> – registration deadline is September 5, 2014.

# RCA's Coffee Cup Campaign

Join us on our campaign for more sustainable practices in coffee shops in Alberta!

The Recycling Council of Alberta (RCA) has begun conducting surveys on coffee shops all over Alberta to find out what waste reduction practices are in place regarding coffee cups. We are sharing our results on the campaign's Facebook page, and we invite you to participate as well!



Our auditors have experienced a wide spectrum of waste reduction practices, both good and bad. Big-chain restaurants tend to be less concerned with waste reduction, serving beverages in disposable cups by default, even when the customer is staying at the restaurant to consume the beverage. There was even one restaurant that didn't have ceramic or reusable cups of any kind available! On the bright side, most of the big chains let customers bring their own travel mug and fill them happily, often even giving a discount on the beverage when the customer brings their own mug. Rarely does a coffee shop prepare the beverage in a disposable cup first, before it's transferred into the travel mug (that, of course, results in an automatic "FAIL" evaluation of the coffee cup audit). Plenty of "Thumbs up" ratings were given as well. Some coffee shops really put effort into reducing their waste, by encouraging the use of reusable mugs, by offering sugar / creamers in bulk, by providing recycling stations, and by avoiding single-use packaging in general.

When doing coffee cup audits, we're looking for:

- Name and location of the shop
- Did the server ask "to stay"/"to go"?
- If it was a "to stay" order, did they default to a re-usable mug? Are re-usable mugs an option at this location?
- How many people were there/how many were using re-usable mugs?
- And other general comments about the sustainability practices of the location (e.g. creamers in large cooler containers or disposable plastic containers?)

Did your last visit pass or fail our sustainability test? Post your review at <https://www.facebook.com/RCACoffeeCupCampaign> – and don't forget to

"like" the page so you stay in the loop on the campaign's activities.





# University of Alberta's Eco Move Out 2014

Each year, thousands of students move out of the University of Alberta's student residences. In order to help students divert waste from the landfill, the Office of Sustainability partnered with Residence Services, Facilities and Operations, and various organizations to implement Eco Move Out 2014.

In addition to UAlberta's existing recycling system that collects paper and cardboard, glass and light metals, beverage containers and plastics, Eco Move Out provided residents with options to reduce waste by donating non-traditional items to bins for reuse or recycling. Every year in April, Eco Move Out bins are made available inside and outside several residences to collect electronics; non-perishable food items and toiletries; empty personal care and beauty containers; and reusable clothing and household items.

The total materials collected April 14 to May 5 was 9,586 kgs (21,090 lbs), which is an increase of 1,001 kgs from Eco Move Out 2013. This can be broken down into the following for North Campus and Residence Saint-Jean:

- 1,292 kg of electronics, to be recycled by Shankel Computer Recycling
- 5,071 kg of clothing and household items donated to Goodwill Industries of Alberta
- 2,010 kg of furniture and electronics donated to Habitat for Humanity's ReStore
- 568 kg of food and toiletry donations for the Campus Food Bank
- 1,114 empty personal care and beauty containers sent to Terracycle to be recycled

In addition, the Augustana Campus Eco Move Out program collected 458 kg of clothing, 66 kg of electronics and 12 kg of food that were donated to local organizations.

A total of 51% of the materials produced as part of residents moving out was diverted from landfill, a number calculated based on the total weight of materials recycled / donated as compared to the materials that went to landfill.



This year marked the second annual Battle of Alberta competition, sponsored by Waste Management, encouraging other post-secondary institutions with residences to run their own Eco Move Out programs and try to achieve the highest diversion rate. The U of A won the inaugural battle in 2013 and hoped to win again this year. There were four Albertan schools competing this year, and U of A once again had the highest waste diversion rate, during the move-out period, and was named the winner of Battle of Alberta 2014.

*submitted by Jessie Kwasny, University of Alberta*



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# Think Green Success Story

Feature sponsored by



## Good Bikes Don't Go To Waste

Old bicycles are getting recycled and finding new homes with hundreds of children through the efforts of staff at The City of Calgary's Spyhill Waste Management Facility and charity groups.

Since 2003, employees at Spyhill have been collecting used bikes from customers as they enter the landfill. These bikes have been separated into a special section of the facility for Wheels for Kids, which repairs the bikes and then distributes them to over 18 organizations in the area. All of these organizations then assist children in need.

The bikes are repaired by a small group in the basement of the Salvation Army Children's Village in Calgary and the materials and supplies are provided by BP Canada, which makes it a great community effort.

The past two years have been the busiest ones yet with 180 bikes a year redirected. The bikes are collected from April to June every year. When Wheels for Kids reached its capacity, the remaining bikes were recycled as scrap metal. But this June, a new partnership emerged with the Calgary chapter of Bicycles for Humanity. Bicycles for Humanity repairs and reuses bikes to get them in the hands of people in need in Calgary, Mexico and Uganda.



To get the bikes all the way to Uganda, Bicycles for Humanity sends a shipping container full of bikes, parts, tools, and training resources. This allows the communities to not only use the bicycles but also to transform the container into a local repair shop, contributing in

a sustainable way to the local economy in Uganda. The organization, which started the program in 2012, has a goal of sending 25,000 bikes from across North America over five years.



This new relationship with the Spyhill Waste Management Facility allows more Calgarians to contribute to Bicycles for Humanity's goal and creates an international connection between their own community and those in Uganda. Additionally, over 400 bikes stay in their own community going to Calgary organizations and kids in need.

The local bike community is looking to expand this program to all three City Waste Management Facilities. However, the only barrier to doing this is the lack of space held by the bike organizations to store all the bikes.

With the help of all these partner organizations and the Spyhill Waste Management Facility, over 1,700 bicycles have been recycled and diverted from the landfill each year.

*Do you have a Waste Reduction Success Story?*

*Submit details on your successful business or municipal program to [info@recycle.ab.ca](mailto:info@recycle.ab.ca), fax 403.843.4156 or phone 403.843.6563 for further details.*



# Join the Competition: BYOC - Bring Your Own Cup!

Are you looking for a fun way to get your office or work place involved with Waste Reduction Week? Do you want to change your work place's waste habits? Become involved in the Recycling Council of Alberta's "Bring Your Own Cup" competition! The competition will run between October 20 and 26, and will challenge employees to rid their office of disposable coffee cups and water bottles.

Coffee cups and water bottles are an unnecessary form of waste as we all have the ability to bring a travel mug or water bottle with us on our commute to and from work. If we can all pledge to take this simple step to reduce our waste output and reduce our impact on the environment, together we can make a difference. Reusable beverage containers conserve resources, and reduce environmental impacts associated with manufacturing of single-use cups and bottles.

How does the competition work? At the beginning of the week you will take a quick survey asking about your beverage intake habits (like if you drink



coffee on your way to work) and you will be asked to sign a pledge stating you will use your reusable cup and abstain from getting drinks in a "to go" cup. We then ask you to record the days from Monday, October 20 to Friday, October 26, tallying the total days you utilized your reusable ware. The following Monday there will be another survey asking the number of days you used your reusable container, and the amount of beverages you purchased in a disposable cup. The office or work place with the highest number / percentage of employees participating and the fewest disposable cups wasted wins. The winner will receive a prize package containing coffee and tea for their workplace, with great runner-up prizes, as well.

In order to participate we ask that one person from the work place volunteers to disseminate the surveys and another one or two employees volunteer to assist and "watchdog" the program. If you would like to sign up to register or receive further information please contact the Recycling Council of Alberta's Outreach Coordinator, Philip Hunter, at [philip.d.hunter@gmail.com](mailto:philip.d.hunter@gmail.com).



## Cochrane Turns Waste Compactor into Art Project

The Cochrane Eco Centre's waste compactor will have a large mural painted on the outside of it based on a theme that has to do with the environment and waste reduction. The mural is a collaborative effort between the Cochrane Eco Centre and the Town of Cochrane's Arts and Recreation department. Volunteer artist Jennifer Robertson will paint the outline of the mural and community volunteers and local kids from the community will complete the rest of the project.

The compactor is to be used for people in Cochrane who have additional garbage they need to dispose of, or people who do not have garbage pickup service in

Rocky View County (who are encouraged to come to use it instead of putting their garbage in a burning barrel). The compactor will be



pulled into Calgary six to eight times a year, making it a travelling billboard for waste reduction in the Cochrane and Calgary area.

The final compactor mural will be unveiled during Waste Reduction Week, which is October 20–26, 2014.

*Source: Cochrane Eagle*

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# City of Edmonton Leading the Way in C&D Recycling

by Renee Rudy, City of Edmonton

The Construction and Demolition (C&D) Recycling Facility opened in January 2012 and is the only facility of its type in the capital region for processing mixed C&D waste. With a processing capacity of 100,000 tonnes per year or 40 tonnes per hour, it has already exceeded expectations by diverting 57% of the mixed C&D waste received in 2013 at the Edmonton Waste Management Centre (EWMC) from landfill.

The EWMC has accepted source-separated construction and demolition waste since 2008, and in 2011 the first phase of the C&D Recycling Facility was constructed. "We saw the need for this facility to deal with the large volume of construction waste coming in," says Shailesh Modak, General Supervisor of Outside Operations at the EWMC. "Many construction items such as drywall, concrete and wood can be recycled or recovered rather than sent to the landfill."

The C&D Recycling Facility uses manual and mechanical means for separating waste into nine different streams. These streams include: wood such as dimensional lumber, trees and brush, drywall, asphalt shingles, scrap metal, concrete, cardboard and plastics. Specialized equipment for sorting includes a finger screen, density separator and magnets. The facility employs about 25 staff and is operated by the City of Edmonton. Quality One, a not-for-profit organization, provides staff that does the manual sorting, while SENA provides maintenance.

Material recovered at the facility has a variety of uses. Untreated wood is chipped and used for composting, drywall is used as a compost amendment, scrap metal and cardboard is sold to recyclers, while fine and low density material will become feedstock for Enerkem's Waste to Biofuels and Chemicals Facility. In 2013, the EWMC received 114,121 tonnes of C&D waste (33,780 tonnes mixed and 80,341 tonnes segregated), of which 87% was diverted. Research is underway for treating and recycling other materials to achieve even higher diversion rates.



According to Statistics Canada, construction and demolition waste accounts for about 25% of the total amount of mixed solid waste sent to









landfill in Alberta. It is estimated that no more than 10% of all C&D waste is being recycled, even though markets for these materials are available.

With statistics like that, it is easy to see why the C&D Recycling Facility exists. The facility provides a service for the construction and renovation industries and an environmentally responsible alternative to landfilling mixed C&D waste. For more information on the C&D Recycling Facility visit [edmonton.ca/CDrecycling](http://edmonton.ca/CDrecycling).



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# City of Edmonton Reuse Centre Opens at New Location

by Kristin Arnot, City of Edmonton

The City of Edmonton Reuse Centre accepts various items from Edmonton residents free of charge and makes them available to organizations and individuals for reuse. The Reuse Centre is unique as it deals with items that are not accepted for reuse elsewhere, such as craft, school and sewing supplies, seasonal decorations and much more. By promoting reuse, providing affordable items and diverting waste from landfill, the Centre is helping Edmonton's Waste Management Services to reach its goal of 90% waste diversion from landfill.

On July 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Reuse Centre held its Grand Opening Celebration. People began lining up around 11:30 a.m. and from the moment we opened the doors at noon, we had a full house. The next two hours were packed with people, activities, food and fun! Activities included facility tours, a children's crafting workshop, a worm composting booth, and Linda Bodo, upcycling artist, leading a workshop on how to make bird feeders out of CD cases. Local duo Bardic Form provided fantastic live music throughout the event.

Normal operations didn't stop that day, with 1.9 tonnes of material being donated and 1.7 tonnes being purchased.

It was great to see so many new faces, and many existing customers all coming together to help us celebrate. People were excited and the feedback on our new location has been extremely positive.

Councillor Mike Nickel came along to celebrate with us. He took a turn in our drop off area, along with Waste Management Services Branch Manager, Leo Girard and Roy Neehall, President of Waste Re-Solutions. Along with staff, many volunteers also helped make this event a success. They gave tours, greeted patrons at the door, answered questions in the volunteer room while they diligently sorted out donated items, and even ran our kids' crafting workshop.



The Reuse Centre is now located at 6835 - 83 Street in Edmonton. Due to the larger facility, the number of accepted items will increase as well as the potential to accept items from businesses. The new and improved Reuse Centre will be able to host onsite workshops and showcase reused art from local artists. Located along a major intersection and bus route, the Reuse Centre encourages the public to take advantage of and learn about reuse through donating their household items and shopping in the store.



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## ALBERTA NEWS

### Residents in Coronation Fight Landfill Expansion

Coronation-area landowners are opposing the BFI Canada-run landfill application for an expansion permit. The landfill, which opened in 1996 and was taken over by BFI some five years ago, currently handles up to 300,000 tonnes of waste a year, mainly collected through commercial contracts in Calgary, as well as some household waste from Edmonton.

Everyday, 32 BFI trucks from Calgary unload at the landfill, along with a dozen or so from Edmonton. Even though it is a drive of 300 km, it is cheaper for BFI than paying the fees at Calgary's own landfills. The County of Paintearth, where Coronation is located, collects royalties on the operation.

Local area residents have launched Facebook and Twitter pages that feature galleries and videos of windblown garbage, which they say comes directly from the BFI landfill. They are also concerned about the flocks of gulls attracted by the garbage.

Residents claim they are not trying to get the current landfill shut down – but, until BFI starts to manage the current landfill in a way that doesn't affect the people living nearby, no expansion should be allowed.

*Source: Calgary Sun*

### Edmonton Looking at Curbside Garbage-Collection Carts

Edmonton officials are looking at setting up a pilot project next year using residential garbage carts. The current system uses hand collection for residential garbage. The new approach wouldn't apply to apartments and condo buildings, which already use garbage bins.

The utility intends to include a cost estimate for the pilot as part of this fall's budget, according to its 2015-2018 business plan. If the project is successful, the system wouldn't be rolled out across Edmonton until contracts with private waste collection companies expire in 2018.

Dozens of cities across Canada already use these carts, including Calgary, St. Albert, Spruce Grove, Winnipeg, Vancouver and Toronto. They usually provide black carts for trash, blue ones for recycling, and green versions for organics.

*Source: Edmonton Journal*

## CANADIAN NEWS

### EPR Report Shows Canada's Progress Since '09 Action Plan

Five years after the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment released its landmark Action Plan for Extended Producer Responsibility, the team has released a progress report to determine the best Canadian EPR approach moving forward.

In its attempt to implement a Canada-wide approach to EPR, the Council says jurisdictions have encountered a number of challenges, including the issue of harmonization, delays in implementation of EPR programs or requirements, and slow progress in areas like EPR for mercury-containing lamps.

The CCME progress report notes that the original 2009 action plan has had a positive influence in establishing EPR programs and requirements across Canada. Since the adoption of the CAP-EPR action plan, nine out of 10 provinces have legislated EPR programs or requirements and the number of product categories covered by legislated EPR programs or requirements, both in effect or soon to be, has almost tripled.

Jurisdictions continue to expand their programs or requirements, with almost half of the product categories identified in CAP-EPR now covered, the report states.

For electronics, the report states there are EPR programs or requirements in eight out of 10 provinces, plus a product stewardship approach in Alberta.

For used oil and related materials, a legislated EPR approach is used in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario (containers and filters only), Québec and New Brunswick. Again, Alberta uses a product stewardship approach.

Some jurisdictions have non-EPR programs operating for Phase 1 materials, established before CAP-EPR, which are achieving environmental outcomes and as such this approach is not expected to change. Additionally, the territories have made important strides towards exploring opportunities for EPR in Canada's North.

*Source: Solid Waste & Recycling*

## Let's talk trash

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## Retailers Dropping Fees For Shopping Bags

Some of the Canadian companies that once championed fees for plastic shopping bags have quietly changed policy and are now handing them out for free. Ongoing customer complaints are convincing major Canadian retailers to change strategies mid-stream, dropping the standard five-cents per bag fee at the checkout.

For example, Indigo has been phasing out the bag fee for two years, after it began in June 2010. While it still sells reusable bags, the company is now offering customers paper and plastic bags for free again. It had used a portion of the proceeds from the bag fee to support World Wildlife Fund Canada and its conservation initiatives such as protecting the Mackenzie River Basin.

Home Depot has taken a similar course. Loblaws, however, is changing gears gradually. Where it once had eight stores in Toronto with bag fees, that number has now dropped to six. Charging the fee has reduced the number of plastic bags leaving their stores by more than six billion since 2007, according to Loblaws.

Supporting reports show that consumers are less likely to take shopping bags when they come with a fee. Use of plastic bags dropped by 53% – or 215 million bags – in the three years after a fee was implemented, said a 2012 City of Toronto report.

Shoppers Drug Mart also reports a steep decrease since introducing a 5 cent fee in 2010, and continues to charge for plastic bags.

Companies comply with the regulations in municipalities that have banned single-use shopping bags, or require a fee to be charged. Several North American cities require retailers to charge for plastic bags, while a few others – including Fort McMurray – have banned them outright.

*Sources: Solid Waste & Recycling, Toronto Star*

## StewardChoice Partners with Progressive Waste to Offer Choice to BC Stewards

StewardChoice Enterprises Inc., a company that provides packaging stewardship options for consumer products firms, and the Ontario-based waste management firm Progressive Waste Solutions Ltd. have signed an agreement to provide what they call “market-based choices for expanding producer-funded collection and recycling services for packaging and printed paper in the province of British Columbia.”

The initial focus of the proposed program is to provide producer-funded collection and recycling to residents who are currently not being serviced, particularly those living in multifamily dwellings. According to StewardChoice, more than 20% of these households in British Columbia do not receive a producer-funded recycling service.

StewardChoice says its draft stewardship plan will offer producers an opportunity to fulfill their legal obligations under the BC Recycling Regulation to recover at least 75% of their packaging and printed paper.

In June 2014, StewardChoice released its draft plan for public consultation. Prior to submitting the final plan to the British Columbia Ministry of Environment, StewardChoice says it will engage in public consultation with stakeholders over a minimum 45-day period as required by the Ministry. If the plan is approved, the new recycling service will commence as early as 2015, initially in multifamily buildings.

Those wishing to view StewardChoice’s service plan can access it at <http://stewardchoice.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/StewardChoice-Stewardship-Plan.pdf>

*Source: Recycling Today*

## Wondering Where to Recycle Your Stuff?

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## BC First Nations to Expand Recycling Under MMBC

Over 2014, more than a dozen First Nations communities in British Columbia will be launching or enhancing recycling services in their communities thanks to Multi-Material BC (MMBC), the non-profit organization that has assumed responsibility for managing residential packaging and printed paper recycling in BC on behalf of industry.

First Nations set to receive financial incentives from MMBC to launch new or enhance existing recycling curbside or depot drop-off programs include: The Cowichan Tribes; Gitxaala Nation; Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw First Nations; Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che'k't'les7et'h' First Nation; Klahoose First Nation; Nak'azdli Band; Nicomen Indian Band; Penticton Indian Band; Seabird Island Band; Seton Lake Band; Squamish Nation; Toquaht Nation; and the Upper Similkameen Indian Band. More communities are expected to partner with MMBC in 2015.

The MMBC program shifts responsibility for financing recycling services for residential packaging and printed paper to the businesses that manufacture or supply those items to residents. MMBC, on behalf of its member businesses, provided financial incentives to First Nations to offset the cost of collecting recyclables from the curbside, or to operate depots where residents could drop-off their recyclables starting May 19, 2014 in most communities.

*Source: Solid Waste & Recycling*

## Quebec Plastics Recycler Closes Doors

Quebec's biggest post-consumer plastics recycler has ceased operations and asked for bankruptcy protection due to the virtual money pit formed by contaminated waste streams, the company said.

Beauceville, Que.-based Recyc RPM Inc. has laid off all 90 of its employees as the result of the huge monthly costs of sending materials from its recycling plants in Beauceville and St. Damien, Quebec, to landfill. The company, which claims it's undergoing restructuring, also blames the high recurring costs of washing feedstock to ensure a clean plastics stream. The company is lobbying for the provincial government to raise its contributions to recyclers.

Recyc RPM Inc. specializes in the transformation of polymers by using grinding, washing, pelletizing, compounding and specialized blending processes. The annual production capacity of the two plants is more than 50 million pounds of recycled plastic.

*Source: Solid Waste & Recycling*

## Iqaluit Sets up Conditions for a Dumpcano

A temporary landfill created to keep fresh trash out of the City of Iqaluit's burning dump is already 1.5 metres tall. The Fire Chief wanted compostable waste sorted out from the rest of the garbage, because organic waste is a heat source, but that is not happening, leaving officials concerned about the conditions being set up for another spontaneous fire to erupt.

The way garbage will be collected has not changed, but councillors and the fire department discussed the possibility of residents sorting their garbage at home before it arrives at the landfill. Iqaluit currently has no formal household recycling or composting program. People who want to recycle can drop aluminum cans off at several locations in town, and liquor and beer bottles at another.

Iqaluit's dump fire has been burning for five weeks now. City officials had estimated the fire could burn for two to three months. The day the fire started, council held an emergency meeting, where councillors voted to let it burn rather than put firefighters in danger or risk pumping water on the fire that would carry toxic sludge into Frobisher Bay. Three weeks later, council reversed that decision and passed a motion telling fire officials to explore ways to put out the fire.

*Source: CBC News*

## Coquitlam Pans Incineration Plan

Coquitlam wants Metro Vancouver to delay a decision on a controversial \$500-million regional garbage incinerator for three years – and to produce a “current and comprehensive” business and environmental case in the meantime.

The delay would provide time to assess technologies and recycling practices that have developed since Metro proposed the burner a decade ago. It would also mean that a vote on the incinerator could become an issue in the provincial election slated for 2017.

Coquitlam council has been battling the incinerator for years and was poised to vote on a resolution asking Metro to delay a decision on the incinerator for two years. After listening to a highlevel delegation of Metro staff present a defence of the plan, and after grilling them for about two hours, council decided instead to ask for a three-year delay. Their objections to the plan ranged from a lack of any business plan to a lack of detail on a site or incineration method and a failure to take into account the growth of recycling practices.

Metro has yet to settle on a site for the new facility. Four proposals have surfaced for sites in Port Mellon, Nanaimo, Delta and Vancouver. Nanaimo and Vancouver both oppose the plans.

Metro's only incinerator now operates in Burnaby.

In May, Maple Ridge asked Metro to delay its plan for two years.

*Source: Tri-Cities Now*

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We match organizations that want to recycle their empty beverage containers with the many compatible recycling resources and services available in Alberta. Let us help you find your perfect recycling partner today.





## Disposal Fees Drive Metro Vancouver Waste out of Region

The amount of garbage being trucked out of Metro Vancouver is set to almost double this year from what it was only two years ago, as haulers step up their efforts to avoid expensive local disposal fees.

Metro Vancouver officials say the trend of garbage going out of region – from 50,000 tons in 2012 to an expected 100,000 tons by the end of this year – will continue to accelerate if the province doesn't approve a new bylaw prohibiting that kind of leakage.

Metro Vancouver and nine other regional districts are supporting the idea of making it illegal for garbage haulers to take waste out of their regions. Metro Vancouver is the first region in BC to propose an actual bylaw on this – Bylaw 280 – and only the second metropolitan area in Canada, after Halifax, that would have a bylaw like that on the books.

Politicians and bureaucrats from those BC regional districts argue that it's impossible to enforce any real efforts at recycling if companies can just avoid either bans on certain items in the garbage or high disposal fees (meant to encourage recycling) by shipping garbage out of the region. Metro is planning to bring in a ban next year on putting organics into garbage going to local landfills.

But the Fraser Valley Regional District, where haulers from Vancouver are taking their garbage in order to put it on trains to a US facility, says the new bylaw is just an effort to ensure there's lots of material for the incinerator that Metro Vancouver is planning to build.

Businesses are also at odds. Local recycling companies are supporting Metro Vancouver's proposed bylaw, saying it drives more material toward their businesses. But BC chambers of commerce are opposing the ban, arguing it's just an effort to build a monopoly in Metro Vancouver, charge ever-higher fees, and create a market for the future incinerator.

At the moment, Vancouver charges \$108 a ton to dump garbage into its landfill or incinerator. In comparison, estimate Metro officials, it costs a hauler only \$70 a ton to truck waste to Abbotsford and then put it on a train to the Rabanco landfill in the United States.

*Source: The Globe and Mail*

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Another Potential Bio-based Plastic

Coca-Cola and several other major companies recently invested millions of dollars to push forward a new resin called PEF, and the move raises questions about the composition of the plastics recycling stream in the decades to come.

The \$50 million in funding, announced earlier this year, aims to help a Dutch research and technology company called Avantium further develop a process that could open the door to plastic bottles and other products made from 100% plant-based materials.

The plastic being researched looks and feels like PET but is actually a material with a different molecular structure. Just like PET, the first ingredient is ethylene glycol, but instead of being combined with a terephthalic acid, it is joined with a furanic, creating polyethylene furanoate, or PEF.

The material offers some potential advantages in terms of barrier, thermal and mechanical properties, showing promise to lengthen shelf life and create lighter bottles.

YXY, the Avantium technology used to make PEF, is one avenue Coca-Cola is exploring as it tries to manufacture its PlantBottle packaging entirely from bio-based sources. PlantBottles are currently in wide use in the US and many other markets. They are made of PET plastic, leveraging ethylene glycol derived from plant-based sources, and they can be recycled within the PET stream. However, ethylene glycol makes up only 30% of the molecular weight of bottles, and the remaining 70% of a PlantBottle continues to be made using petroleum as a source. Coca-Cola has publicly stated it intends to eventually market a PlantBottle made entirely from plants or other renewable sources. PEF could achieve that need because Avantium's YXY process uses carbohydrates from sugar cane, sugar beet, corn or wheat as feedstock.

PEF bottles are years away from hitting the marketplace, with the latest round of investment being used to finance the first commercial-scale plant for the manufacture of the material, to be fully operational in 2017.

Initial recycling tests have focused on whether PEF bottles can be recycled back into new PEF bottles as well as whether recycled PEF can be used in the clothing, carpet and other polyester markets. However, it remains unclear how much PEF content a PET stream could handle, creating concerns for recyclers dealing with PET streams.

*Source: Resource Recycling*

## ISRI Opposes Single Stream Collection

The country's largest recycling trade organization has taken a quiet but definite stance against programs that ask residents to commingle trash and recyclables for post-collection sortation. The Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI) issued a two-paragraph position statement on July 23 regarding the collection and recycling method.

"ISRI supports the collection and sortation of recyclable materials in a manner that optimizes the value and utilization of the material as specification grade commodities to be used as a feedstock to manufacture new products," the statement reads. "Since the quality of the recyclables as specification grade commodities is essential, ISRI opposes the commingling of recyclables with solid waste or mixed waste processing in a one-bin system where all solid waste and recyclables are placed together with no separation prior to recycling."

Approved by ISRI's Board of Directors on July 23, the official position comes at a time when various cities are considering the merits of the "one bin" approach. Many recycled commodity experts argue the relatively new method jeopardizes the quality of recycled materials due to high rates of solid waste-driven contamination.

*Source: Resource Recycling*

## Indianapolis Approves Dirty MRF

The city of Indianapolis has given the green light to a processing center that will aim to sort recyclables from everyday trash. The new facility, which will be funded and run by waste-to-energy (WTE) firm Covanta, will come at no cost to residents, and comes with a 10-year extension to the city's waste contract with Covanta.

The facility will create 70 construction jobs and 60 permanent jobs, and increase the amount of material recycled by the city by up to 500%, according to City officials. Only approximately 10% of Indianapolis residents are currently signed up for curbside recycling through a subscription program.

The basic idea of the approach is to radically simplify residents' responsibilities by sorting recyclables from trash at the facility instead of asking consumers to do it at home. While contamination is often seen as a downside to the approach, Covanta says the facility will produce high-quality, easily marketable recyclables.

Individuals on the commodities side of the recycling business, however, continue to express worries about the quality level of materials that come out of garbage-sorting MRFs, concerned about how any system that pulls material out of the residential trash stream could yield commodities that will fill their needs.

*Source: Resource Recycling*

## Way to go Alberta!

You're some of the best recyclers in the world...

**6 million computers and TVs**

**13 million litres of paint**

**2 million spray paint cans**

**85 million tires**

**Keep up the good work!**

For more information on Alberta's recycling programs, visit [www.albertarecycling.ca](http://www.albertarecycling.ca)



## Colgate-Palmolive Commits to Eliminate Unrecyclables

Colgate-Palmolive has committed to eliminate unrecyclable packaging for three of its four product categories by 2020. The company is just one of a handful approached with shareholder proposals from social corporate responsibility group As You Sow.

After dialogue with As You Sow, personal care products giant Colgate-Palmolive has committed to making 100% of its packaging for three of four product categories completely recyclable by 2020. In addition, Colgate has committed to work towards developing a fully recyclable toothpaste tube or package, which would bring its fourth product category close to the same sustainability standard. As it stands now, toothpaste tubes made of plastic laminates cannot be recycled. The company also agreed to increase the average recycled content of its packaging to 50%.

Colgate's commitments include:

- By 2020 achieve 100% recyclable portfolio of Home, Pet, and Personal Care packaging - three out of four of its product divisions;
- Develop a recyclable toothpaste tube in the fourth division, oral care;
- Increase recycled content of packaging from 40% to 50%; and
- Reduce or eliminate uses of PVC in packaging.

In its summer 2014 newsletter, As You Sow reports that it issued shareholder proposals on recyclability with Mondelez, Kraft Foods, General Mills, and Procter & Gamble.

Source: Solid Waste & Recycling and As You Sow Website

## Public Interest Groups Urge KRAFT Foods to Take Responsibility for Packaging Waste

A coalition of more than 20 national and state public interest groups released a letter calling on KRAFT Foods to take responsibility for packaging waste. Calling themselves, the "Make It, Take It Campaign," the groups are working for consumer goods companies to redesign environmentally-harmful packaging and support policies to ensure packaging is reduced, and reused or recycled.

The groups involved are seeking a dialogue and asking KRAFT to develop plans to accomplish the following:

- Design packaging from safe, sustainable materials using recycled content, while minimizing unnecessary packaging.
- Design packaging to be reusable, recyclable or compostable.
- Support policies to ensure 90% of your packaging gets reused, recycled or composted.
- Help mitigate packaging that winds up in the environment, especially plastic packaging.

In May, the campaign first targeted the iconic Capri Sun juice pouch, primarily sold to school children. Capri Sun pouches are a highly visible example of consumer packaging that can't be readily reused, recycled or composted. An estimated 1.4 billion Capri Sun pouches are landfilled or littered each year in the United States. The groups sent Capri Sun-targeted e-mail actions to more than 250,000 people around the United States, and reached many more through social media.

Source: UPSTREAM

## Fans Prefer Composting and Recycling

Nearly a third of Americans would be more likely to attend a game or concert if the stadium recycled and composted all the trash left behind, a new survey has found. One in five would also buy more beer, hot dogs and nachos.

The survey polled 2015 Americans and asked:

"How would you react if you learned that all of the trash left behind after a game or concert you attended was sorted... with recyclables and compostables being diverted away from landfills?"

- 46% said it would improve their opinion of the venue owners.
- 32% said they would be more likely to attend another game or concert at the venue.
- 22% said they would be more likely to buy concessions.
- 22% said it would improve their opinion of the team or band.

When asked: "How would you react if you learned that all of the trash left behind after a game or concert you attended went straight to a landfill, without any sorting, recycling or composting efforts?"

- 42% said they would blame the venue owners – and it would tarnish their opinion of them.
- 26% said they would be less likely to buy concessions.
- 17% said they would be less likely to attend another game or concert at the venue.

Source: Environmental Leader



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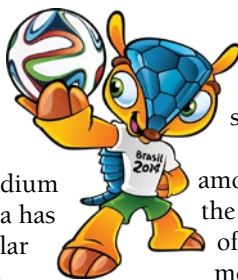
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## World Cup – Green or Not?

Some of the measures that FIFA and the Brazilian government undertook to help offset some of the negative eco-consequences of World Cup 2014 include:

1. The new Brasilia-based\* World Cup stadium venue Estadio Nacional Mané Garrincha has 2.5 MW of solar capacity from 1,500 solar panels ringing the roof. Combined with the other event stadiums, there is a total of 5.4 MW of solar capacity.
2. All 12 World Cup hosting stadiums were designed to LEED certification – a first in World Cup history (FIFA World Cup games started in 1930).
3. The Estadio Nacional incorporated eco-lighting, special irrigation for its landscaping via rainwater, and “intelligent” urinals that can calculate when water needs to be pumped to them during breaks in the games.
4. FIFA encouraged eco-friendly travel between stadiums and sustainable tourism practices via a phone app called the Green Passport Initiative (GPI).
5. The government in Brazil has begun offsets and has already offset 115,000 tonnes of carbon through ‘donations’ of offsets from companies that then get to sport a special World Cup ‘green seal’.



More than 90% of Brazilians indicated that they wanted a green World Cup, and that's part of the reason why a Brazilian armadillo (an endangered species) named Fuleco was the 2014 mascot.

One big downside of the World Cup games is the amount of merchandise created to celebrate the event – in the case of the 2014 games, Greenpeace has found plenty of toxic chemicals in the trinkets and clothing in FIFA merchandise for the event.

Some persistent ecological problems in Brazil will only get worse from the onslaught of tourists, both domestic and international, to the games. Sewage treatment, for example, which contributes to poor public health, is still not a given in Brazil – about half of inhabitants have access. This sewage is a pollutant in Brazilian waterways. Trash disposal is also still a problem – one estimate has 100 tonnes of trash simply going out to sea near Rio de Janeiro...every day.

Deforestation and animal habitat destruction continues, and though FIFA was expected to highlight the plight of the Brazilian armadillo and the loss of its habitat, some critics say the organization has yet to do much.

Lastly, the many protests staged around the World Cup are an indicator that the changes the government and FIFA implemented for the games and the infrastructure investments for the games might not benefit the Brazilian population as a whole.

Source: *treehugger.com*

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## WHY LANDFILL DRYWALL WHEN IT CAN BE RECYCLED BACK INTO NEW DRYWALL...

GREEN BUILDING PRACTICES

Green building is growing in momentum. Everything from recycling construction waste to greener building products is becoming more common. LEED is a huge driving force behind this movement towards greener buildings.

NWGR supplies documentation to the LEED Certification board confirming that all drywall waste entering our Calgary facility is being 100% recycled.

CertainTeed Gypsum uses our recycled gypsum in their drywall manufacturing process, giving their gypsum board the highest recycle content in the Calgary market.

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 Toll Free: 1.800.965.8870 or Cell: 1.604.786.2182  
 Email: [info@nwgypsum.com](mailto:info@nwgypsum.com)

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# News

## Wales' Builders Hit High Waste Diversion Targets

The construction and demolition industries are leading the way in business recycling, helping Wales to meet some of its ambitious recycling targets, according to a recent official survey.

The Construction and Demolition Waste Survey, produced by Natural Resources Wales on behalf of the Welsh Government, estimates that these sectors generated 3.4m tonnes of waste in 2012. Of this, 87% was prepared for re-use, recycled, or recovered for use elsewhere. Towards Zero Waste, Wales' overarching waste strategy, sets out a target for the sector of 90% preparation for re-use recycling and recovery by 2019/2020.

In the Construction and Demolition Survey, the civil engineering sector generated the most waste (47%), followed by construction (41%), general building (7%) and demolition (4%). In terms of material types, the majority of construction and demolition waste generated consisted of soils (46%) and aggregates (37%), followed by mixed site waste (10%) and wood waste (3%).

*Source: Green Building Magazine (UK)*



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Recycling Centers, picnic tables, collections trailers, bale ties, down-stroke and horizontal balers, plastic lumber and much more.

Find details our web site at  
**[www.west-can.com](http://www.west-can.com)**

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## New EU Rules on Recycling Pose Problems for UK Councils

The UK will have to divert a significant amount of waste away from landfill under new EU proposals on recycling. The Commission wants to see 70% of municipal rubbish and 80% of packaging recycled by 2030. They also want a ban on burying recyclable waste in landfill by 2025.

The proposals form part of an EU initiative termed the "circular economy", described as an alternative to the traditional approach to resources of make, use and dispose.

Part of the plans would try to reduce the amount of "downcycling" where valuable products are recycled as lower priced materials, such as expensive writing paper coming back as cheaper cardboard.

The new plans build on existing regulations that require councils around the UK to recycle half their waste by 2020. According to figures published by the government last November, 43.2% of waste in England was being recycled in 2012/13.

These figures have grown rapidly over the past decade but the rate of growth seems to have stalled since 2010. Some observers believe that going beyond the 2020 target will be a significant challenge.

The Chartered Institution of Wastes Management (CIWM) welcomed the moves as "ambitious and far-reaching," and argued that the UK could actually meet the new targets.

The plans will need to be debated by members of the European parliament and by governments before they come into force.

*Source: BBC News*

## Donate Prizes or Merchandise

The Recycling Council of Alberta invites you to donate items for our silent auction and/or Amazing Race – Expedition reception event..

Please send a quick email to [info@recycle.ab.ca](mailto:info@recycle.ab.ca) if you would like to donate items. The items can be dropped off at our registration desk, which will open at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 1, in the Mount Temple Foyer at Chateau Lake Louise. If you cannot attend, but have something to donate, please contact our office to make delivery arrangements.

All donations are greatly appreciated!

## RCA Call for Directors

Do you think more needs to be done to reduce waste? Would you like to influence recycling policy in Alberta? Do you get inspired working with other enthusiastic people on meaningful resource conservation-related projects? Then the Recycling Council of Alberta needs you!



If you want to be part of Alberta's strongest waste reduction voice, the RCA is looking for individuals like you who bring strong skills and a history in the recycling industry, and are interested in joining our Board of Directors. Download a description of what's involved in being a RCA director at <http://bit.ly/directorduties>.

Directors of the Board for the 2014/2015 term will be elected at the RCA's Annual General Meeting at 12 noon on October 2, 2014 at The Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise.

Interested individuals should contact Sharon Howland (President) at [sharon.howland@cochrane.ca](mailto:sharon.howland@cochrane.ca), or the RCA office at 403.843.6563 or [info@recycle.ab.ca](mailto:info@recycle.ab.ca).

## Notice of AGM

The Recycling Council of Alberta's  
Annual General Meeting  
will be held on

**Thursday, October 2, 2014**  
**at 12 noon at**  
**The Fairmont Chateau Lake**  
**Louise in Lake Louise, AB.**

All members are welcome to  
attend and, among other items  
of business, vote for your new  
RCA board members.

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# Coming Events

## **15<sup>th</sup> Annual Alberta Recycling Conference,**

hosted by Alberta CARE, September 3-5, 2014, Lac La Biche, AB, [www.albertacare.org](http://www.albertacare.org)

**2014 Recycling Innovators Forum,** September 15, 2014, New Orleans, LA, [www.recyclinginnovators.com](http://www.recyclinginnovators.com)

**EPR Consultation Sessions,** hosted by the RCA, Sept. 9, 2014 in Calgary & Sept. 11, 2014 in Sherwood Park, contact: 403.843.6563, [info@recycle.ab.ca](mailto:info@recycle.ab.ca) or visit <http://bit.ly/EPRsessions>

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Zero Waste Conference,** hosted by Metro Vancouver, September 16, 2014, Vancouver, BC, [www.metrovancouver.org/zw](http://www.metrovancouver.org/zw)

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Resource Recycling Conference,** September 16-17, 2014, New Orleans, LA, [www.rrconference.com](http://www.rrconference.com)

**"Feed the Soil – Compost!"** 2014 National Compost Conference, presented by the Compost Council of Canada, September 22-24, 2014, Halifax, NS, contact: 1.877.571.4769, [www.compost.org](http://www.compost.org)

**Regional Fall Workshops 2014,** hosted by the Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council, Sept. 23 in Prince Albert, SK, and Sept. 25 in Weyburn, SK, contact: 306.931.3242, [www.saskwastereduction.ca](http://www.saskwastereduction.ca)

**"Manager Recycling System",** Training Course by SWANA Northern Lights Chapter, September 28-30, 2014 (exam on Oct. 1, 8 am - 11 am), Lake Louise, AB, contact: 780.496.5614, [www.swananorthernlights.org](http://www.swananorthernlights.org)

**Waste Education Community of Practice Fall Gathering,** hosted by the Alberta Council for Environmental Education (ACEE), October 1, 2014, Lake Louise, AB, [www.abcee.org](http://www.abcee.org)

**"Recycling in the Rockies – A Waste Reduction Expedition",** 2014 Recycling Council of Alberta Waste Reduction Conference, October 1-3, 2014, Lake Louise, AB, contact: 403.843.6563, [info@recycle.ab.ca](mailto:info@recycle.ab.ca)

**RE-BEAUTY Recycled Art Silent Auction Fundraiser and Waste Awareness Event,** held at Grant MacEwan University's Paul Byrne Hall in partnership with Cleanit Greenit Composting, October 10, 2014, Edmonton, AB, contact: [rebeautyart@gmail.com](mailto:rebeautyart@gmail.com), [www.karoantonio.com/re-beauty-2014](http://www.karoantonio.com/re-beauty-2014)

**RemTech™ 2014,** Remediation Technologies Symposium hosted by the Environmental Services Association of Alberta (ESAA), October 15-17, 2014, Banff, AB, contact: 780.429.6363 x 223, [www.esaa-events.com/remtech](http://www.esaa-events.com/remtech)

**Waste Reduction Week in Canada,** October 20-26, 2014, [www.wrwcanda.com](http://www.wrwcanda.com)

**"Fostering Sustainable Behaviour",** Introduction to Community-Based Social Marketing workshops with Dr. Doug McKenzie-Mohr, October 20-21, 2014 in Vancouver, BC and October 22-23, 2014 in Nanaimo, BC – <https://register.cbsm.com>

**12<sup>th</sup> Annual E-Scrap Conference & Trade Show,** presented by Resource Recycling, October 22-23, 2014, Orlando, FL, [www.e-scrapconference.com](http://www.e-scrapconference.com)

**Coast Waste Management Association Conference,** October 22-24, 2014, [www.cwma.bc.ca](http://www.cwma.bc.ca)

**2014 Rubber Recycling Symposium,** hosted by the Rubber Association of Canada in partnership with RECYC-QUEBEC, October 22-24, 2014, Monreal, QC, [www.rubberassociation.ca](http://www.rubberassociation.ca)

**BioCycle East Coast Conference 2014,** October 27-30, 2014, Baltimore, MD, [www.biocycleeastcoast.com](http://www.biocycleeastcoast.com)

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Canadian Waste Sector Symposium (CWSS),** November 18-20, 2014, Toronto, ON, [www.canwastesectorsymposium.ca](http://www.canwastesectorsymposium.ca)

**Canadian Waste & Recycling Expo,** held in conjunction with the **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Canadian Waste to Resource Conference,** November 19-20, 2014, Toronto, ON, [www.cwre.ca](http://www.cwre.ca)

**US Composting Council 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference and Tradeshow,** January 20-23, 2015, Austin, TX, [www.compostingcouncil.org](http://www.compostingcouncil.org)

**2015 Plastics Recycling Conference,** presented by Resource Recycling, February 24-25, 2015, Dallas, TX, contact: 503.233.1305 x 117, [www.plasticsrecycling.com](http://www.plasticsrecycling.com)

**30<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on Solid Waste Technology and Management (ICSW),** March 15-18, 2015, Philadelphia, PA, [www.solid-waste.org](http://www.solid-waste.org)

**Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council Conference,** April 22-24, 2015, Saskatoon, SK, contact: 306.931.3242, [www.saskwastereduction.ca](http://www.saskwastereduction.ca)

Recycling Council of British Columbia's **41<sup>st</sup> Annual Zero Waste Conference,** May 6-8, 2015, Whistler, BC, contact: 604.683.6009 x 314, [www.rcbc.ca](http://www.rcbc.ca)

**2015 Recycling Council of Alberta Waste Reduction Conference,** held jointly with the **Conference on Canadian Stewardship,** Sept. 30 - Oct. 2, 2015, Banff, AB, contact: 403.843.6563, [info@recycle.ab.ca](mailto:info@recycle.ab.ca)

Visit [www.recycle.ab.ca/events](http://www.recycle.ab.ca/events) for more events listings.

# Classifieds

## For Sale

- **Brand New 2014 Freightliner 114SD Severe Duty chassis – never been driven, \$115,000**
  - Detroit 13L 450 hp engine
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  - 270" wheel base
  - 20,000 front axle
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7 year complete engine warranty including turbo water pump injectors. Never put to work and priced when the dollar was at par!!  
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- **Shred-Tech ST-75E Shredder and Hopper** for sale, \$53,000. Twin 30HP Motors, 25" x 50" chamber, knives are 1", one hook per knife, custom over-sized hopper that can be converted back if needed. Call for more information: 403.605.4149

# Market Updates

	\$ Per Tonne	Trend
Glass		
Coloured	0	↔
Plate	0	↔
Paper		
Cardboard (baled)	50-75	↑
Cardboard (loose)	20-50	↑
Office Pak (loose)	50-75	↓
Mixed (loose)	10	↓
Magazines (loose)	10-25	↓
News (loose)	25-75	↑
Plastic		
HDPE (baled)	150	↓
Mixed #1-7	-50	↓
Clear PE Film (baled)	175	↓
Coloured PE Film (baled)	-125	↓
Metal		
Steel Food Cans (baled)	100-120	↑
White Goods	100	↔

Prices reflect surveyed averages (F.O.B. buyer) at the time of publishing and are subject to market fluctuations. Individual prices may vary according to material quality, volumes and contractual arrangements. Please contact your buyer to update prices at time of shipping.

## A Waste Reduction EXPEDITION

# RECYCLING IN THE ROCKIES

**CONFERENCE & AGM**  
**October 1-3, 2014**  
**The Fairmont**  
**Chateau Lake Louise**

### EVENTS

- Tours: Chateau Environmental Programs / Guided Nature Walk
- Gala Banquet
- Rs of Excellence Awards
- Exhibits and Networking Opportunities

### Keynote Speakers

- "Just Eat It" Filmmakers
- The Carbon Farmer

### SESSIONS

- Waste - The Big Picture
- Food Waste

- ICI and C&D Waste Diversion
- Extended Producer Responsibility
- Recycling at Sporting Events



REGISTRATION, EXHIBIT or SPONSORSHIP INFO: 403.843.6563 info@recycle.ab.ca www.recycle.ab.ca