

February 6, 2018

Strathcona County
2001 Sherwood Drive
Sherwood Park, AB T8A 3W7

Dear Mayor Naheed Nenshi,

Strathcona County wants to express its support for The City of Calgary in bringing forward a Request for Decision to the AUMA Municipal Leaders' Caucus in March. Strathcona County supports advocating the Government of Alberta to establish an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) policy and program approach in the Province.

EPR shifts the financial responsibility toward the producer and away from municipalities and taxpayers, while providing incentives to producers to incorporate environmental considerations in the design of their products.

We are convinced that EPR can provide opportunities to shift the funding and if municipalities choose, the operational responsibility for recycling, recycling collection, processing and materials marketing to the producer, resulting in potentially significant cost savings for municipalities.

EPR incentivizes producers to make and sell products that are more durable, reusable and recyclable. As a result significant progress can be made to divert waste away from landfills which supports the sustainability objectives of our community. EPR will foster harmonization and waste diversion programs across the province which contributes to the Government of Alberta's waste diversion and climate change goals. EPR also supports the creation of sustainable jobs, reduces waste management costs for local governments and tax payers, reduces GHG emissions and increases social awareness of recycling.

In 2009, all of Canada's provinces committed, through the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME), to work towards the development of EPR legislation and/or regulations. Since then, every province, excluding Alberta and the Territories, has developed and implemented EPR legislation for various materials. It is time for the provincial government to act in collaboration with municipalities and private industry to implement a progressive EPR program in this province.

Strathcona County strongly supports the development of an EPR framework that takes a multi-stakeholder approach, ensuring that the expertise of the entire industry is consulted. Municipalities play a leading role in the delivery of recycling services to Alberta's residents. It is imperative that as municipalities, we continue to advocate on behalf of our residents for efficient and effective services, and that we remain a key voice in the development of a provincial policy.

We are excited to join The City of Calgary in its effort to work with the provincial government to develop a solution for establishing an EPR policy and program in Alberta.

Sincerely,

Mayor Rod Frank