



Report Number: PFC2020-0666
Meeting: Priorities & Finance Committee
Meeting Date: 2020 June 09

NOTICE OF MOTION

RE: PROVIDING A LONG TERM SOURCE OF FINANCIAL RELIEF FOR ALBERTANS (GIVE IT BACK)

Sponsoring Councillor: COUNCILLOR DEMONG

WHEREAS extended producer responsibility (EPR) is a policy approach that places the financial and/or physical responsibility for end of life management of products with the companies that produce those products, and would remove the financial burden for recycling programs from ratepayers and/or taxpayers;

AND WHEREAS thirty-five Albertan municipalities (including Calgary and Edmonton)—representing the vast majority of Albertans—have individually expressed their support for moving forward with Provincial EPR legislation by way of motion, letter of support, etc.;

AND WHEREAS the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association and the Rural Municipalities Association have both endorsed official resolutions calling on the Provincial Government to enact EPR Packaging and Paper Recycling legislation;

AND WHEREAS a recent study conducted by the AUMA, the City of Calgary, the City of Edmonton, and industry partners has estimated adoption of Province-wide EPR legislation would result in \$105 million in savings to municipalities annually;

AND WHEREAS these savings would be realized in a way that does not pose a risk to the quality or level of waste management services provided to Albertans, and in some circumstances would perhaps even increase it;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL endorse proposal of the following resolution to the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association, and by doing so reaffirm its support for the development of Province-wide Extended Producer Responsibility Legislation:

WHEREAS Alberta faces unprecedented short and medium term economic challenges caused mainly by blocked access for oil to markets, the volatility of markets for fossil fuels, and the current COVID-19 threat;

AND WHEREAS without the ability possessed by other levels of government to repay borrowed funds over a long period of time, municipalities face a unique challenge when attempting to provide tax/rate relief without sacrificing services that might prevent further economic hardship, or contribute to economic recovery;

AND WHEREAS moving forward, fiscal restraint and tax relief will be critical as other levels of government contend with the debt they have incurred to deal with the COVID-19 threat;

AND WHEREAS extended producer responsibility (EPR) is a policy approach that places the financial and/or physical responsibility for end of life management of products with the companies that produce those products, and would remove the financial burden for recycling programs from ratepayers and/or taxpayers;

AND WHEREAS under EPR municipalities realize extensive savings due to reduced responsibility for managing paper and packaging products at end of life;

AND WHEREAS a recent study conducted by the AUMA, the City of Calgary, the City of Edmonton, and industry partners has estimated adoption of Province-wide EPR legislation would result in \$105 million in savings to municipalities annually;

AND WHEREAS these savings would be realized in a way that does not pose a risk to the quality or level of waste management services provided to Albertans, and in some circumstances would perhaps even increase it;

AND WHEREAS thirty-five Albertan municipalities (including Calgary and Edmonton)—representing the vast majority of Albertans—have individually expressed their support for moving forward with Provincial EPR legislation by way of motion, letter of support, etc.;

AND WHEREAS the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association and the Rural Municipalities Association have both endorsed official resolutions calling on the Provincial Government to enact EPR Packaging and Paper Recycling legislation.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT *should the Government of Alberta adopt EPR legislation, every member municipality shall do everything in its power to pass any and all savings directly back to taxpaying and/or ratepaying Albertans.*