

What to expect with Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

The **Government of Alberta** is implementing **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)**, a provincial policy that will be a major change for all municipalities and the recycling industry in Alberta.

What is EPR?

EPR is a policy that **shifts responsibility and cost** for collecting, sorting, processing, and recycling materials to producers (manufacturers, retailers) and away from local governments.

EPR covers two streams of materials:

Packaging and paper products (PPP), which you know as **blue cart materials**.



Expected start date for single-family: **April 2025**
Expected start date for multi-family: **October 2026**

Hazardous and special products (HSP), some of what we currently call **household hazardous waste**.



Expected start date: **April 2025**

Benefits of EPR

- Empowers producers to:
 - ▶ choose packaging that can be recycled more easily
 - ▶ design and produce less packaging waste
 - ▶ take advantage of economies of scale to make recycling more effective and efficient.
- **Reduces taxes/fees** paid by Calgarians (e.g., blue cart program fee)
- Standardizes the list of recyclable materials accepted across the province and **creates consistent recycling outcomes** for all municipalities.


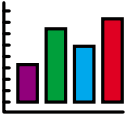


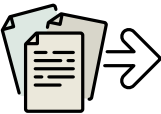
Waste & Recycling services affected

- Blue cart recycling program
- Community recycling depots (CRD)
- Household hazardous waste (HSP) – fire halls and landfill drop-offs
- Commercial collection – multi-family recycling service

What this could mean for The City of Calgary

The City of Calgary would **no longer directly oversee or approve the operations of collection and recycling programs for materials included in the provincial EPR program**. However, we believe the best option for Calgarians is for **Waste & Recycling Services to continue as the collection service provider** and will actively work towards this in the new EPR system. We have the people, equipment and expertise to help ensure a seamless transition to EPR with the same high-quality services Calgarians rely on.

Changing Responsibilities – anticipated changes under EPR

Role	Current state	Under EPR
 <p>Regulator Mandates regulations including recycling targets</p>	Council	The Province – Alberta Environment and Protected Areas
 <p>Oversight Ensures compliance and measure performance</p>	Committee / Council	EPR Administrator Alberta Recycling Management Authority (ARMA) <i>Accountable to The Province to provide oversight for EPR systems.</i>
 <p>Funder Pays for recycling</p>	Calgarians <i>Through user fees and taxes</i>	Producers <i>The cost to provide the level of service expected by Calgarians will be assessed as we move toward EPR coming into effect.</i>
 <p>Service Design Establishes how recycling programs will operate</p>	Waste & Recycling Services	Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) <i>PROs act on behalf of producers to collect, process, and market EPR material streams.</i>
 <p>Service Delivery Collection, processing, promotion and education</p>	Waste & Recycling Services	Service providers contracted by PROs <i>Waste & Recycling Services intends to pursue continuing as the service provider for Calgary to help ensure a seamless transition for Calgarians. We will work with PROs to assess this opportunity and the implications.</i>