



EPR Canada

Seven Year Review of Extended Producer Responsibility in Canada

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Conference on Canadian
Stewardship - Montreal

EPR Canada

- Not-for-profit organization founded in 2011
 - 8 like-minded “trash talking” Canadians involved in EPR policies & programs since 1990s
- 2011 – 2017 produced
 - 3 report cards
 - 2 summary reports
 - 2 “occasional papers”
 - “Getting EPR oversight Right”
 - “The State of EPR in Canada: What have we learned?”
- website: www.eprcanada.ca



What we set out to accomplish

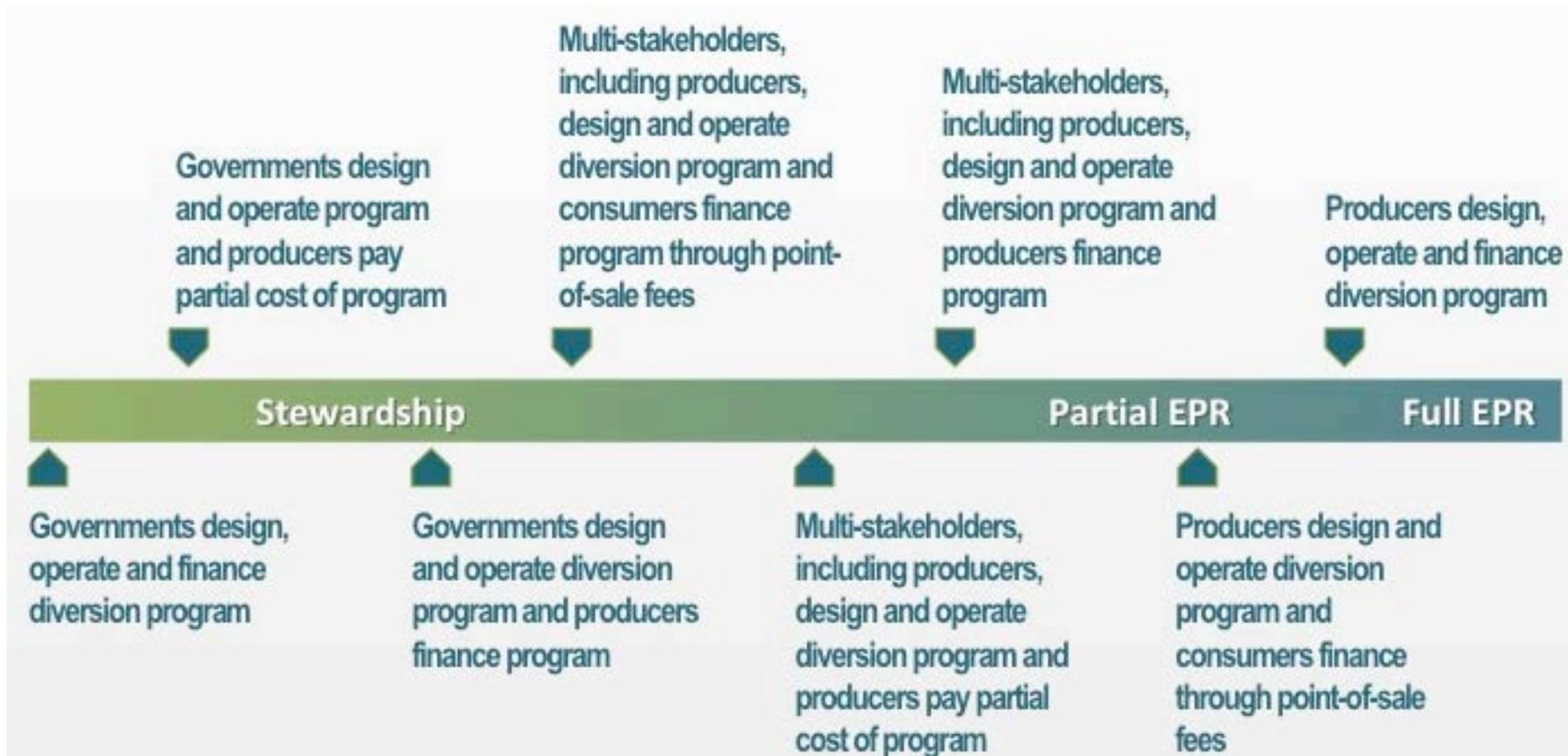
Produce periodic reports on federal, provincial & territorial policies, programs & practices to encourage:

1. Leadership, innovation, best practices & effective EPR policy & program development
2. Evolution of product stewardship & partial EPR programs into full EPR programs

Encourage improvements & exchanges



Transitioning to Full EPR



Report Cards process

- Detailed questionnaires sent to Environment Ministers
- Focus on CCME Canada-wide Action Plan for EPR in 2 phases of materials (2015 & 2017)
- Weighted scoring in 3 broad areas
 - encourage increasing progress
 - Commitment to Implementation to Accountability (e.g., oversight & transparency)
- Released results at public events – 3 times at this conference in the past 6 years - thank you !



“EPR” across Canada

Exhibit 16: MSW Waste Diversion (EPR and Stewardship Programs) CAP EPR Phase 1 Materials

Material	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	OC	PE	NB	NS	NL	YT	NT	NU
Packaging - Milk Containers	E-V	P	E-V	S	S	S	P	E-V	S	(E-V)	consider	P	
Packaging - Beverage Containers	E-L	P	P	E-L	P liquor/wine	P beer & soft drinks	P	P	P	P	P	P	(P) liquor/beer
Multi-packaging and printed materials	E-L	consider	S	S	S	S	consider	consider	consider	consider			
Electronics - Audio-visual and Telecom	E-L	consider	E-L	E-L	E-L	E-L	E-L	pending	E-L	E-L	consider	consider	
Electronics - cell phones	E-L	E-V	E-V	E-L	E-L	E-L	E-L	E-V*	E-L	E-L	E-V consider P	E-V	
Electronics- computers, accessories and IT equipment	E-L	P	E-L	E-L	E-L	E-L	E-L	pending	E-L	E-L	consider	consider	
Electronics - tools	E-L	consider				consider	consider						
Electronics - TVs	E-L	P	E-L	E-L	E-L	E-L	E-L	pending	E-L	E-L	consider	consider	
HHSW- batteries	E-L	S*	E-V	E-L	E-L single use	E-L	E-V	E-V	E-V	E-V*			
HHSW- corrosives & irritants	E-L	S*	consider	E-L corrosives	E-L	consider	P		consider	consider			
HHSW- aerosols, solvents & flammables	E-L	S*	consider	E-L solvents & flammables	E-L	consider	P		consider	consider			
HHSW- mercury lamps, other mercury products	E-L	consider	consider	E-L	P	E-L	pending		consider	consider			
HHSW - paint	E-L	P	E-L	E-L	E-L	E-L	E-L	E-L	E-L	E-L			
HHSW- pesticides/ fertilizers & containers	E-L pesticides	E-V	E-V*	E-L	E-L	E-V	E-V	E-V	E-V	E-V			
HHSW-pharmaceuticals	E-L	E-V	E-V	E-L	E-L	E-V	pending	E-V	E-V*	E-V	E-V		E-V
HHSW- sharps/syringes			consider	E-L	E-L	consider	pending		E-V*	consider	E-V		
Automotive -batteries	E-L			E-L		consider	pending	E-V		E-V*			
Automotive -tires	E-L	P	P	E-L	E-L	P*	P	P*	P	P	P		
Automotive -used oil, oil containers and/or filters	E-L	P	E-L	E-L	E-L (containers and filters)	E-L	pending	E-L	P* (used oil)	P*			
Automotive -other (e.g. glycol)	E-L	consider	E-L	E-L	E-L	E-L	pending	E-L	consider	pending			

Notes: * = legislated EPR being considered; (P) = Deposit is charged territory-wide, collection depot only in Iqaluit. This inventory does not take into account initiatives led by individual manufacturers or retailers to collect end-of-life products. There is a national stewardship program for mercury switches (end-of-life vehicles, ELVs) as part of the federal notice to prepare and implement pollution prevention plans for mercury releases from ELVs processed by steel mills. Currently, there are no legislated EPR requirements at the federal level.

All EPR programs are shaded in blue cells.
 Legislated EPR Program: Voluntary EPR Program:
 E-V
 E-L
 All shared responsibility programs are shaded in green cells with an S:
 S
 P
 All Product Stewardship programs are shaded in orange cells with a P:



Results from 2015 EPR Report Card

		2015 Grade*	2011 Grade
	British Columbia	A	A-
	Alberta	F	C
	Saskatchewan	D	C-
	Manitoba	B	B-
	Ontario	C	C+
	Quebec	B+	B-
	New Brunswick	D	C-
	Nova Scotia	C-	B-
	Prince Edward Island	C+	C+
	Newfoundland and Labrador	D+	C-
	Federal Government	F	F

*EPR Canada re-weighted scores in 2012 to reflect a logical progression in the adoption of EPR policies, programs and practices. The re-weighting may have resulted in the allocation of a lower overall grade than achieved in 2011.



2016 Report – Some “Process Findings”

- Developing EPR policies & programs take time – one-year window too small
- Report cards aren’t “forever”
- “Only in Canada” you say!! Where else would you get the kind of response we did?
- Again this year, every province responded (& again this year, the feds did not)
- No detailed scoring this year, but on-line report provides highlights & limitations of current EPR programs



2016 – State of EPR in Canada – what have we learned over the past 7 years?

Some areas of Achievement:

- Over 120 full EPR & a few shared responsibility programs now exist
- Phase 1 CCME's EPR Action plan largely fulfilled, EXCEPT:
 - no packaging & printed paper in Alberta & Maritimes
 - BC only province with full EPR
 - Federal government effectively “absent” (except participation in CCME), e.g., opportunity to manage toxic substances through CEPA* via EPR



*Canadian Environmental Protection Act

Other EPR Achievements

- EPR “institutionalized” in Canada: regulated & voluntary PROs formed with significant budgets & staff
- Concept of end-of-life management of waste resources now broadly accepted
- Most provinces & some territories responded positively to benchmarking & tracking EPR progress in their jurisdictions
- Links among EPR/Circular Economy/Zero Waste beginning to develop



Continuing EPR Challenges – Challenge # 1 - Phase 2 materials

- No progress on Phase 2 materials (textiles & carpets, appliances & ozone depleting substances)
 - rethink approach to construction & demolition materials
- CCME's 2017 Phase 2 deadline will be missed (by a long shot!)
- BC's program for small and large appliances one notable exception
- Why the delay, especially after Phase 1 success?
 - textiles, carpets & appliances easy to do, markets exist, consumers ready
 - lack of producer engagement
- Lots of opportunity – time to move forward



Challenge # 2 – Lack of harmonization

- Provincial regulations & standards not aligned:
 - product lists, definitions, targets, key performance indicators or reporting requirements
- Leads to unnecessary, expensive administrative & financial burden on producers – indirectly, on consumers
- No reliable national tracking of waste diversion
- The Canadian way – eh? Doing the same thing differently with inefficient system-wide costs



Challenge # 3 – Design for Environment

- DfE intended to be 2nd “pillar” of EPR in original inception via OECD
 - along with shifting the cost of diversion onto producers
- OECD’s 2015 report confirmed DfE improvements attributable to EPR few & anecdotal at best
- Need complementary tools to promote DfE
 - e.g., landfill bans, penalties



Challenge # 4 – Program performance, accountability & oversight

- No consistency in setting performance targets
- In most cases, no penalties for not meeting targets
- Independent reporting on program performance often not required
- Third party agency & departmental oversight functions often not resourced to keep up with performance measurement requirements & enforcement demands



Challenge # 5 – Fostering competition & innovation in EPR

- Prevalence of single, dominant producer responsibility organizations in Canada
- Austria has 7 competing compliance schemes for packaging; Germany has 10
- Canadian Competition Bureau raised cautions about PRO structure
- Movement in legislation to allow competition in PROs



Key challenges for the future

Short term:

- Phase 2 material programs
- More focus on effectiveness & efficiency of existing programs (including harmonization, where appropriate)
- Greater transparency and learning in oversight & reporting
- Linkages to other environmental objectives – e.g., GHG reductions



Longer term vision - EPR in Canada 2025

1. EPR seen as core element of circular economy, zero waste & climate change legislation & actions
 - some initial signs of this in Ontario, Quebec & Manitoba
2. Continued evolution in each province/territory of product stewardship & partial EPR into full EPR
 - EPR at heart of idea of embedding environment into life-cycle costs of all products & packaging



Longer term vision - EPR in Canada 2025

3. Producer/environmental fees & demands from consumers create sufficient incentives for producers to Design for Environment

4. Policies buttress EPR to help chart course towards Zero Waste society
 - e.g., landfill bans, green procurement & disposal surcharges





Thank you to Sponsors

Questions? Comments?

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