# Canadian Stewardship Conference

## **PROs and Producers**

## Battlescars, lessons learned, hackers' tricks and cheat codes



**Steve Meldrum, CEO eTracks September 24, 2024** 

### Quotes over the last 5 years:

- "so, you're the new stewardship organization (OTS)?"
- "is that a PRO responsibility or a Producer responsibility?
  - "... what a minute... are they allowed to do that?"
  - "why are there requirements in the Reg that can't be achieved?"



## Key Discoveries from a PRO Perspective

IPR is not a stewardship or IFO framework that is a "them" problem, it is an "us" problem (i.e. a Producer responsibility)

- internal producer champion or owner must know what IPR and producer obligations are
- contacts for IPR Regulations within Producers still tends to be in tax/finance department (legacy from IFO/Stewardship frameworks).
- whoever prime contact is must have direct line to Sustainability, Legal, Government Relations, Supply Chain, etc.



## Key Discoveries from a PRO Perspective

PROs are there to assist producers to meet their individual obligations, and the shared obligations between PROs and producers.

- PRO effectiveness is dependent on commitment & vested buy-in from its producer customers (eg. leveraging producers' distribution network, retail locations, communication channels, etc)
- Producers must understand what their legal obligations are and how best to work with and collaborate with a PRO to help meet them.



 Pass-through pricing from PRO may not be the same as Consumer pricing

#### PRO => Producer => Distribution => Retail => Consumer \$ \$ \$ \$



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 Pass-through pricing from PRO may not be the same as Consumer pricing







- PRO pricing can be negated down the distribution chain most prevalent at the retail level
- Is PRO Compliance Pricing a key factor in Producer decision-making? Why? Is it a differentiator to the consumer? Is it supposed to be?
- The market will need to figure this out.





 Looking forward to questions and discussions

