



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA  
WASTE MANAGEMENT  
PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE  
AGENDA

WMPSC 2-2019

Monday, April 29, 2019

9:00 a.m.

Committee Room 4

Niagara Region Headquarters

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold ON

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	Pages
1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	
2. <u>DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST</u>	
3. <u>PRESENTATIONS</u>	
3.1 <u>Recycling Matters</u>	
Lydia Torbicki, Acting Director, Waste Management Services	
4. <u>DELEGATIONS</u>	
5. <u>ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION</u>	
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Proposed Curbside Waste Diversion Container Distribution Program	
6. <u>CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION</u>	
6.1 <u>WMPSC-C 12-2019</u>	10 - 27
2017 Waste Management Benchmarking Report	
6.2 <u>WMPSC-C 13-2019</u>	28 - 34
Multi-Residential Textile Diversion Pilot Program Update	

6.3	<u>WMPSC-C 14-2019</u>	35 - 40
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	Niagara Economic Development Review of the Material Recycling Facility	
6.7	<u>WMPSC-C 20-2019</u>	53 - 62
	Recycling Product News - Building on a Unique Model	
6.8	<u>WMPSC 1-2019</u>	63 - 70
	Waste Management Planning Steering Committee Minutes February 25, 2019	

## 7. OTHER BUSINESS

## 8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 24, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to attend or participate in meetings or events, please contact the Accessibility Advisory Coordinator at 905-980-6000 (office), 289-929-8376 (cellphone) or [accessibility@niagararegion.ca](mailto:accessibility@niagararegion.ca) (email).

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**Subject:** Proposed Curbside Waste Diversion Container Distribution Program

**Report to:** Waste Management Planning Steering Committee

**Report date:** Monday, April 29, 2019

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## Recommendations

1. That the changes to the Curbside Waste Diversion Container Distribution program, as outlined in Report WMPSC-C 16-2019, **BE APPROVED**; and
2. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to report any additional proposed amendments to the Curbside Waste Diversion Container Distribution program once a final decision is made regarding service levels for the next waste collection contract to the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee.

## Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to address the Councillor Information Request on the cost to supply Niagara Region residents with recycling and compost containers as raised at the March 19, 2019 Public Works Committee meeting, and to seek approval to expand the program to permit all new residents on the curbside collection program free access to containers (new homeowners and new renters).
- Niagara's current container program permits the provision of free containers (i.e. one blue box, one grey box, one green bin and one kitchen catcher) to new homeowners only (excluding renters) within six months of the possession date of their home.
- Currently, damaged boxes or bins can be replaced free of charge regardless of sector (residential or commercial) or ownership status (ownership or renter).
- The estimated annual net cost for the expanded container distribution program to provide free containers to new homeowners and renters within one year of moving is approximately \$257,200, and increase of approximately \$65,000 over the current program.
- In the event that every other week (EOW) garbage collection is implemented in the next waste collection contract, staff will report back with detailed costs associated with expanding access and delivery of free containers for all new and existing residents on the Niagara Region's curbside collection program.

## Financial Considerations

### Cost of Curbside Waste Diversion Containers

Over 27,000 curbside waste diversion containers were procured in 2018 for distribution, sale and exchange in 2018 under the Region's current Curbside Waste Diversion

Container Distribution program at a cost of \$223,000, including delivery to the Region's container distribution locations. The 2019 annual gross budget for the purchase of curbside waste diversion containers (blue boxes, grey boxes, green bins and kitchen catchers), including delivery is \$318,000. The budgeted 2019 revenue from the sale of containers is approximately \$66,000.

The program change to permit new residents (including new homeowners, renters and residents in social/co-op housing) access to free curbside waste diversion containers within one year of moving could increase gross annual costs by an estimated 20 per cent to \$382,000. Table 1 below provides further details. Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) funding of approximately 50 per cent would be applied to the blue and grey boxes, reducing container costs by an estimated \$72,000 bringing overall costs to \$310,000. Additionally, the program change is estimated to reduce annual revenue from the sale of containers by approximately 20 per cent to \$52,800. Staff anticipate an implementation date of July 2019 for this program change, with a total net cost increase for 2019 estimated to be \$32,400, which can be accommodated in the 2019 Waste Management Services operating budget.

Table 1: Financial Summary

	Current Program	Program Change*	Increase
2019 Budgeted Container Purchase & Delivery Costs	\$ 318,410	\$ 382,092	\$ 63,682
less: 2019 Budgeted Container Fee Revenue	\$ (66,000)	\$ (52,800)	\$ 13,200
less: Estimated 2019 RPRA Blue Box Funding (on Blue and Grey Box purchases only)	\$ (60,000)	\$ (72,000)	\$ (12,000)
<b>Net Container Cost (annualized)**</b>	<b>\$ 192,410</b>	<b>\$ 257,292</b>	<b>\$ 64,882</b>

\* Estimated 20% increase in purchase costs and off-setting revenue

\*\* Based on July 2019 start date, net cost increase would be approximately \$32,400

## Analysis

### Current Container Program

Niagara Region Waste Management Services partners with ten municipal and retail locations across the region to distribute curbside recycling and compost containers to Niagara residents. Four additional Regional sites also distribute containers, resulting in a total of 14 active distribution locations. Residents can attend any of the distribution locations to obtain containers.

Currently, one free set of curbside containers (one blue box, one grey box, one green bin and one kitchen catcher) is available to new homeowners within six (6) months of possession of their home and upon presentation of documentation reflecting their name,



address and possession date. Residents that are not new homeowners may purchase containers or exchange their existing broken containers free of charge at any container distribution location. Records of container transactions are documented on transaction log sheets available at each distribution location.

Niagara Region staff, as well as staff at partnering municipal and retail sites receive complaints regarding the Region's current Curbside Waste Diversion Container Distribution program. The common complaints include:

1. Renters and residents in social housing that deem it unfair to be denied free waste diversion containers because they are not new homeowners;
2. New homeowners that are denied free containers after the six month window for free containers has ended;
3. New homeowners that find it difficult to obtain or locate the required transfer deed or real estate documentation reflecting their name, address and possession date of their home; and
4. New homeowners that have built new homes on land that was purchased more than six months prior to their move-in date and are now ineligible for free containers.

In order to address these concerns, the following changes are recommended:

- Expansion of the current program to extend free containers to all new homeowners, renters and residents in social/co-op housing;
- Extend the time to provide proof of new residency from six months to one year; and
- Other documentation such as rental or lease agreements be acceptable proof of new residency for renters.

Once changes as noted above are approved by Council, staff will make necessary changes and promote these changes via existing communication means such as the Niagara Region's website and promotional literature, as well as on local area municipality websites and Leisure Guides. Staff anticipate implementation in July 2019.

A more fulsome expansion of the program to open up free access and delivery of curbside recycling and compost containers to all new and existing residents will be further analyzed by staff once a decision is made regarding service levels for the next waste collection contract and implementation of EOW garbage collection. However, in an effort to address the Councillor Information Request on the cost to supply Niagara Region residents with recycling and compost containers as raised at the March 19, 2019 Public Works Committee meeting, estimates for two scenarios have been provided below.

Scenario 1 - Free Door to Door Distribution to Households Without Containers (Parallel to the 2008 Green Bin Relaunch Campaign)

As a point of reference, a campaign focusing on the distribution of free green bins to low density households across ten (10) area municipalities (excluding Lincoln and West Lincoln since at that time they did not have organics collection service) was completed in 2008. Approximately 98,000 packages with green bins and information/promotional packages were delivered to households that did not already have the containers. Approximately 42,000 “Thank You” packages (consisting of sample packs of compostable bags and promotional materials) were delivered to households that were identified through available records as having green bins. The overall cost for the implementation of this campaign was \$2.7 million and included the purchase and door-to-door delivery of green bins, kitchen catchers, sample packs of compostable bags; related educational material, promotion, program feedback, related public relations activities and a waste composition study and report.

As part of another region-wide delivery of curbside recycling and organics containers, it could be assumed that households that were recorded as not participating in the Region’s curbside diversion collection programs during the 2014 curbside survey, would require new recycling and organics containers. The survey data is the best source of region-wide data that could be utilized as a basis for a distribution program that would exclude households known to be participating in the curbside programs. Based on that survey data, approximately 50 per cent of low density households are not participating in the organics program and approximately 15 per cent are not participating in the recycling program.

Based on roughly 150,000 low density households and the current cost of the containers for the households that are assumed to not have the appropriate containers, the estimated additional cost is shown below in Table 2. This estimate excludes the actual door-to-door delivery, any promotion, education or other supplemental items that were included in the 2008 campaign.

Table 2:

Delivery to Non-Participating Households :

	Current cost of box per unit	# of Households	# of Containers per Household	Total Cost (including non- recoverable HST)	RPRA Funding for Blue Box Program	Net Cost
Blue/Grey Boxes to 22,500 households	\$ 5.35	22,500	2	\$ 244,988	\$ (120,375)	\$ 124,613
Kitchen Catchers to 75,000 households	\$ 2.15	75,000	1	\$ 164,088	n/a	\$ 164,088
Green Bins to 75,000 household	\$ 13.75	75,000	1	\$ 1,049,402	n/a	\$ 1,049,402
						\$ 1,338,103

Considering that the other households currently participating in the curbside diversion programs may also wish to receive containers at no charge as a fairness issue or perhaps they would like additional capacity, the cost of free containers alone to all low density households would amount to approximately \$3.3 million. Table 3 below provides further details. This cost would further increase as a subset of households in mixed-use and multi-residential properties use curbside collection and should be

included in any potential free container distribution program and a tender would need to be issued to obtain current door-to-door delivery costs. Any additional staff costs associated with the administration and management of the program would need to be further developed.

Table 3:

Delivery to All Households :

	Current cost of box per unit	# of Households	# of Containers per Household	Total Cost (including non- recoverable HST)	RPRA Funding for Blue Box Program	Net Cost
Blue/Grey Boxes to 150,000 households	\$ 5.35	150,000	2	\$ 1,633,251	\$ (802,500)	\$ 830,751
Kitchen Catchers to 150,000 households	\$ 2.15	150,000	1	\$ 328,177	n/a	\$ 328,177
Green Bins to 150,000 households	\$ 13.75	150,000	1	\$ 2,098,804	n/a	\$ 2,098,804
						\$ 3,257,732

### Scenario 2 – Provision of Free Containers to All New and Existing Households on a Request Basis

As an alternative to Scenario #1, expanding access and delivery of free containers to any new and existing households on Niagara Region's curbside collection program on a request basis (regardless of property type or ownership status) can be considered. This scenario is estimated to incur an initial cost of \$1 million (Table 4 below provides details) and includes:

- The incremental capital building costs for an expansion to the Humberstone landfill storage building in Welland of \$580,000, less eligible RPRA blue box funding of approximately 50 per cent (over a 20 year amortization period), reducing overall incremental building costs to \$290,000
- The average annualized cost to purchase and maintain a delivery van for container deliveries across Niagara Region of \$10,200
- The estimated annual container costs for curbside blue boxes, grey boxes, green bins and kitchen catchers; less RPRA blue box funding of approximately 50 per cent for recycling boxes: \$663,500

Table 4:

**Provision of Containers to All Households on a Request Basis:**

	Total Estimated Cost (including Capital, assumed to be funded through reserves)	Less RPRA Blue Box Program Funding of ~50%	Year 1 Net Cost	On-Going Annual Net Operating Costs
Building Cost (capital)	\$ 580,033	\$ (290,017)	\$ 290,017	\$ -
Delivery Staff	\$ 79,068	\$ (19,767)	\$ 59,301	\$ -
Cargo Van	\$ 10,284	\$ -	\$ 10,284	\$ 10,284
Containers	\$ 831,381	\$ (167,904)	\$ 663,477	\$ 547,470
	\$ 1,500,765	\$ (477,688)	\$ 1,023,077	\$ 557,754

On an ongoing annual basis, the cost would amount to approximately \$558,000, an increase of approximately \$365,000 over the current program, plus costs associated with staff time to administer and manage the program. Alternatively, staff could also review the costs related to the use of an external delivery contractor.

## Alternatives Reviewed

Based on preliminary review, a free one-time door-to-door distribution of containers is not recommended due to the associated cost and lack of adequate assurance that the containers will be used for the purposes of waste diversion. For example, although nearly every low density household should have had a green bin in 2008/2009, the curbside organics program participation rates still fell to approximately 50 per cent. The delivery of free waste diversion containers upon resident request may be the preferred option as residents that request containers are more likely to participate in the Region's diversion programs. Staff will further analyze additional changes to the Curbside Waste Diversion Container Distribution program, including provision of free containers to all residents, pending the decision of EOW collection in the next waste collection contract.

The expansion of the current Curbside Waste Diversion Container Distribution program for the provision of free curbside recycling and compost containers to new homeowners and renters within one year of moving is being recommended as an interim program at this time.

## Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

The recommendation contained within this reports supports Council's Strategic Priority of Doing Business Differently.

## Other Pertinent Reports

- PWP 18-2009, Update on Green Bin Relaunch

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**Prepared by:**

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Collection & Diversion Program  
Manager  
Waste Management Services

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**Recommended by:**

Catherine Habermehl  
Acting Commissioner  
Public Works Department

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**Submitted by:**

Ron Tripp, P.Eng.  
Acting Chief Administrative Officer

*This report was prepared in consultation with Sherri Tait, Acting Associate Director Waste Collection and Diversion and reviewed by Sara Mota, Program Financial Specialist, and Lydia Torbicki, Acting Director, Waste Management Services.*

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## **MEMORANDUM**

**WMPSC-C 12-2019**

**Subject: 2017 Waste Management Benchmarking Report**

**Date: Monday, April 29, 2019**

**To: Waste Management Planning Steering Committee**

**From: Brad Whitelaw, Program Manager, Policy & Planning**

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The purpose of this memorandum is to submit the annual waste management benchmarking review and evaluate performance against the Blue Box program goals, objectives and targets established in WMPSC-C 1-2017, Niagara Region's 2016-2021 Blue Box Program Plan. This memorandum was delayed due to the length of time required by [Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority \(RPRA\)](https://rprra.ca/) (<https://rprra.ca/>) to verify the 2017 Blue Box Datacall results and post them to their website.

### **Overview**

The 2017 benchmarking report is comprised of three (3) key areas for performance measurement. For each measurement parameter, Niagara's target, the current value, and how it compares to the target and/or other municipal comparators, are described in Appendix A. The parameters reflect industry standard measurements for program or system performance, cost effectiveness and efficiencies. The performance and benchmarking results are summarized below.

#### **1. Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority Residential Waste Diversion Rate**

Niagara achieved the interim waste diversion goal of 56% by 2016, and is now working towards achieving the 65% target by 2020. Niagara's 2017 diversion rate of 57% was above the provincial average of approximately 50%. It was higher than the average of the municipal comparator group (i.e. municipalities with a population greater than 250,000), which was approximately 52%. This measurement parameter and associated target will be revised once the new provincial diversion rate methodology is established.

#### **2. Blue Box Recycling Plan Performance Measures and Targets**

The Blue Box Recycling Plan goals, which align with Council's current target of 56% diversion by 2016 and 65% diversion by 2020, are to increase the diversion of residential Blue/Grey Box materials from disposal and extend the life of existing landfills. The performance results in support of program goals and associated objectives include the following observations:

- Niagara has achieved the 2017 RPRA related targets and is performing better than the comparator group and provincial average. The RPRA measures consist of:

<b>RPRA Measure</b>	<b>Niagara Region</b>	<b>Comparator Group Average</b>	<b>Provincial Average</b>
2017 Blue Box Residue Rate	5.8%	n/a	9.6%
2017 Net Cost per Tonne Marketed	\$148/tonne	\$235/tonne	\$296/tonne

Niagara met the 2016 targets set for the curbside waste audit/visual survey measurements and the overall trend has been an improvement in performance over the last few years. Based on other project priorities, the curbside waste audits and visual surveys were not completed in 2017. However, it is anticipated that Niagara's 2017 rates remained the same as the 2016 rates for the measures below:

<b>Curbside Waste Audit/Visual Survey Measure</b>	<b>Niagara Target</b>	<b>Niagara Actual</b>
2016 Blue Box Participation Rate	82%	82%
2016 Blue Box Set-Out Rate	2.0/hhld/week	2.0/hhld/week

### 3. Municipal Benchmarking Network Canada (MBNC) Performance Measures

The subset of MBNC parameters that are related to cost effectiveness are used in this benchmarking review. Niagara was lower in cost than the 2017 MBNC average, in all cases:

<b>MBNC Performance Measure</b>	<b>Niagara Region</b>	<b>MBNC Average</b>
2017 Operating Cost for Garbage Collection per Tonne - All Property Classes	\$94/tonne	\$123/tonne
2017 Operating Cost for Solid Waste Disposal per Tonne - All Property Classes	\$73/tonne	\$92/tonne
2017 Operating Cost for Solid Waste Diversion per Tonne - All Property Classes	\$105/tonne	\$173/tonne
2017 Solid Waste Average Operating Cost per Tonne - All Property Classes	\$117/tonne	\$167/tonne

### Conclusions

Improvements to waste management programs and program performance have occurred over the last several years. Niagara has met the established targets or is performing better than the comparator group and/or provincial averages. Niagara has met the short-term targets established for 2017, and is trending toward meeting its longer term targets.

These annual reviews are intended to ensure continuous improvement and that every effort is being made to ensure the waste management system is operated efficiently and cost-effectively.

Respectfully submitted and signed by



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Brad Whitelaw, BA, CIM, P.Mgr., CAPM  
Program Manager, Policy and Planning  
Waste Management Services

Appendix A – 2017 Waste Management Benchmarking and Performance  
Monitoring Report

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## **2017 Waste Management Benchmarking and Performance Monitoring Report**

### **Overview**

The 2017 Waste Management benchmarking report is comprised of three key areas for performance measurement:

- Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority (RPRA) Residential Waste Diversion Rate;
- Blue Box Recycling Plan Performance Measures and Targets; and
- Municipal Benchmarking Network Canada (MBNC) Performance Measures.

For each area/parameter, Niagara's target, the current value and how it compares to the target and other municipal comparators (where available) are described. The parameters reflect industry standard measurements for program or system performance, cost effectiveness and efficiencies.

### **Benchmarking and Performance Results**

#### **1. RPRA Residential Waste Diversion Rate**

Niagara's Target: 56% by 2016 and 65% by 2020

2017 Value: 57% in 2017

Variance to Target: Target achieved

Benchmarking Result: Niagara is above the provincial and comparator group averages of 52% and 50%, respectively.

The RPRA residential waste diversion rate is calculated based on tonnes diverted in the following main categories:

- Recyclables material stream, which consists of marketed Blue Box material, electronics, scrap metal, construction/demolition material, asphalt shingles and other miscellaneous categories;
- Green Bin organics and leaf, yard and branch material; and
- Other material, which is primarily comprised of a RPRA calculated tonnage credit for grasscycling/grass ban, deposit-return, tires and backyard composting.

In 2017, Niagara generated 200,769 tonnes of residential solid waste, which was an increase of approximately 5.2% compared to 2016. However, as illustrated in Table 1, using the RPRA methodology, which allocates additional multi-residential disposal tonnages to Niagara, the 2016 and 2017 adjusted tonnages were even higher at 191,341 and 201,273 tonnes, respectively.

**Table 1 - Residential Material Diverted as a Percentage of Total Solid Waste Generated in 2016 and 2017 (\*using revised 2012 methodology, which adjusted disposal tonnage)**

Residential Waste Stream	2016		2017	
	Tonnes	Percent of Total Waste	Tonnes	Percent of Total Waste
Total Generated	191,341*	100%	201,273*	100%
Waste Disposed	84,688*	44%	87,553*	43%
Material Diverted	106,653	56%	113,720	57%

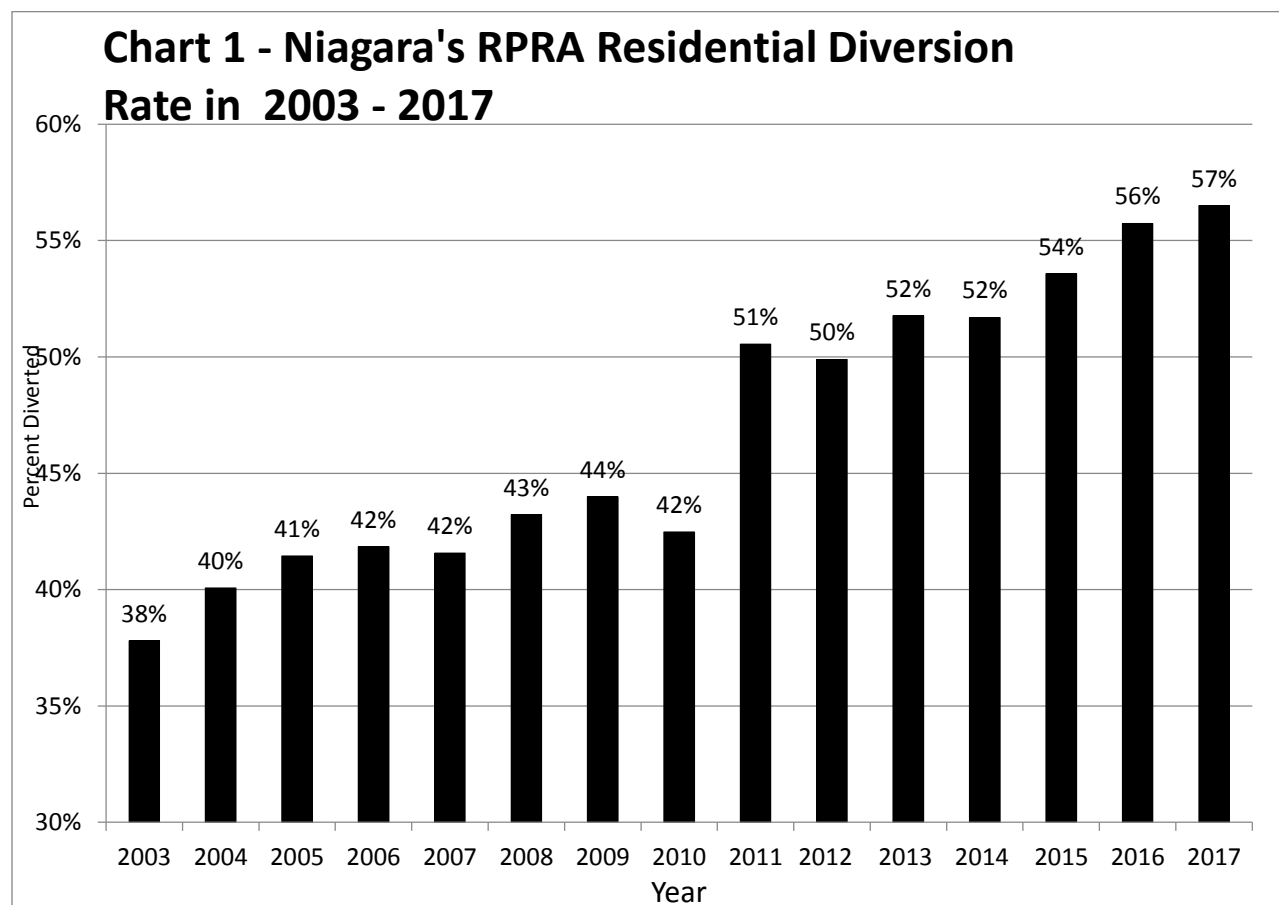
For comparison, Table 2 provides the residential generation rate per capita for Niagara's comparator group. The majority of municipalities have seen increases at least once from 2011 to 2014. However, all municipalities saw a decrease in 2015 and 2016. In 2017, over half of the municipalities increased slightly from their 2016 level.

**Table 2 - RPRA Residential Generation Rate Per Capita**

Municipality	2017 Kg/Cap.	2016 Kg/Cap.	2015 Kg/Cap.	2014 Kg/Cap.	2013 Kg/Cap.	2012 Kg/Cap.	2011 Kg/Cap.
<b>Large Urban</b>							
Halton Region	372	375	389	413	406	412	411
Hamilton	415	397	405	419	411	407	406
London	409	399	407	405	401	398	401
Peel Region	360	361	362	368	366	366	382
Toronto	283	280	296	310	317	319	323
York Region	314	316	326	336	328	342	335
<b>Large Urban Average</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>355</b>
<b>Urban Regional</b>							
Durham Region	376	377	380	385	378	380	383
Essex-Windsor	404	391	399	395	399	399	404
Niagara Region	439	427	435	442	437	438	421
Ottawa	362	352	362	367	372	366	390
Simcoe	476	473	475	465	461	469	413
Waterloo Region	329	330	347	346	354	348	355
<b>Urban Regional Average</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>391</b>

The overall trend in Chart 1 shows an improvement in Niagara's RPRA residential waste diversion performance between 2003 and 2017. Niagara's diversion rate of 57% increased by 15% compared to 2010, primarily due to the new collection service levels that were launched on February 28, 2011, as part of the new collection contract. The services and associated policies that increased diversion, through enhanced programs and behavioural change incentives, included:

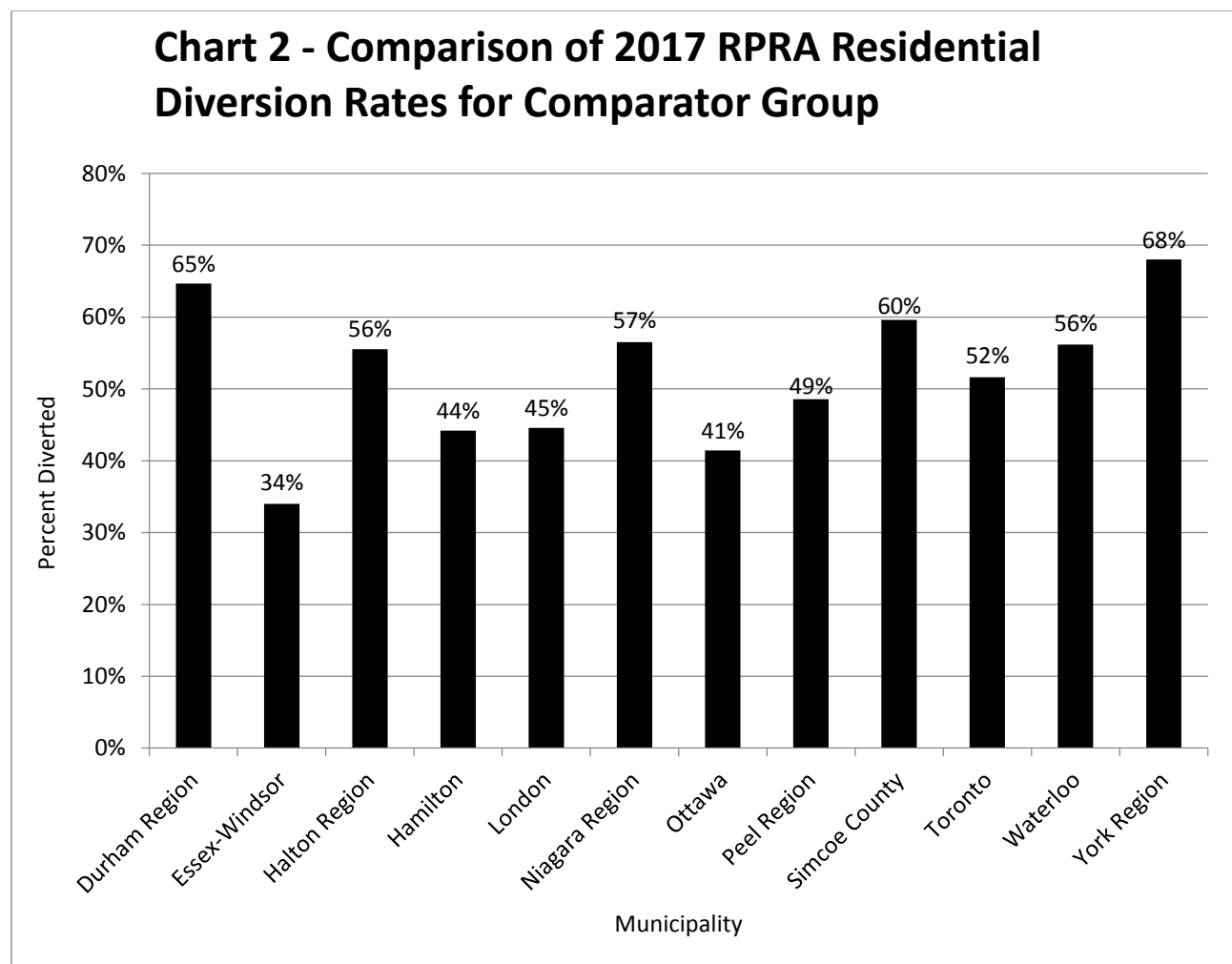
- Collection of both Blue and Grey Box material every week;
- Multi-residential recycling program;
- Green Bin organics program expansion to Wainfleet and West Lincoln and to multi-residential buildings up to six units across the Region;
- Reduction in garbage limits for households - one garbage container (bag/can) limit per residential unit (to a maximum of twelve containers);
- Increase in the cost of the garbage tags from \$1/tag to \$2/tag to reflect full cost recovery;
- Initiation of a partial construction and demolition (C&D) depot diversion program; and
- Addition of plastic containers and rigid plastic packaging with the numbers 3 and 7 and non-numbered to the Blue Box Program (all plastic containers and rigid packaging are now accepted).



The 2017 diversion initiatives that were implemented include the following:

- Unlimited recycling and organics collection at industrial, commercial and institutional and mixed-use properties outside designated business areas;
- Reusable materials drop-off depot at Niagara Road 12 Landfill; and
- Multi-Residential Recycling Ambassador Program launch.

Chart 2 below illustrates the 2017 RPRA residential waste diversion rates for Niagara and its eleven municipal comparators, which have a population greater than 250,000.



York, Durham, Halton and Waterloo have some of the highest diversion rates, which are generally attributable to every-other-week garbage collection. Simcoe County's diversion rate was also reported to be one of the highest at 60%, with a weekly one container garbage limit parallel to Niagara's program, and a very strong C&D depot recycling program.

Niagara is above the 2017 provincial average of approximately 50% diversion and higher than the average of the municipal comparator group, which is approximately 52%. In terms of ranking, Niagara is the 4<sup>th</sup> highest rate in the comparator group.

For comparison, Table 3 provides the residential diversion percentage by diverted material stream for the six top performing municipal comparators, including Niagara, based on 2017 RPRA data.

Table 3 - RPRA Residential Diversion Percentage by Material Stream for 2017 for Top Performers in Comparator Group								
Municipality	Deposit Return	Reuse	On-Property <sup>1</sup>	Blue Box	Other <sup>2</sup>	Organics	MHSW	2017 Diversion Rate
York Region	1.75%	0.00%	4.14%	17.30%	12.28%	32.20%	0.35%	68.01%
Durham Region	1.47%	2.39%	5.24%	17.30%	16.86%	20.87%	0.52%	64.65%
Simcoe County	1.14%	0.05%	3.23%	15.88%	20.71%	18.21%	0.41%	59.63%
Niagara Region	1.26%	0.75%	5.28%	18.22%	7.48%	23.04%	0.47%	56.50%
Waterloo Region	1.68%	0.00%	6.41%	18.48%	2.83%	26.44%	0.34%	56.17%
Halton Region	1.48%	0.01%	4.27%	20.91%	4.45%	24.09%	0.34%	55.55%
Toronto	1.94%	0.00%	4.22%	15.46%	3.30%	26.44%	0.27%	51.64%
Comparator Group Average								52.08%
RPRA Ontario Average								49.68%

Notes:

- 1) On property includes backyard composting and grass-cycling
- 2) Other includes recyclables such as Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), tires, and construction and demolition (C&D) materials

In Table 3, the organic material stream shows a wide range of diversion percentages (lowest being 18.21% in Simcoe to the highest at 32.20% in York), with the majority of the municipalities being above Niagara's rate of 23.04%. York, Halton, Toronto and Waterloo's higher organics diversion rates may be attributable to providing every-other-week garbage collection.

Another significant observation from Table 3 is that Simcoe County has an exceptionally strong C&D depot diversion program (included in Other Recyclables) of 20.71%, which is an anomaly compared to the other top performers.

The experience in the top performing municipalities, supplemented by the results of historical waste audit data for Niagara's low density residential sector, demonstrate good potential for future diversion growth in Niagara's organics program or potential for food waste reduction through the Ontario Food Collaborative.

Future increases in Niagara's residential diversion rate are expected to trend towards meeting the 2020 target of 65%, with the implementation of smaller diversion initiatives and continuation of the extensive Social Marketing and Education Plan, as outlined in WMPSC-C 2-2019.

Planned 2018-20 diversion initiatives include:

- Multi-residential textile diversion pilot program (2018-19);
- Porcelain and mattress recycling programs at the Region's landfill drop-off depots (2018-19);
- Bridge Street, Humberstone and Niagara Road 12 Drop-off Depot improvements and continued encouragement of separation of loads at the Region's drop-off depots to facilitate increased diversion (2018-20);
- Proposed Collection Service Options Stakeholder Consultation (2018-19); and
- Continued participation in the Ontario Food Collaborative and implementation of a Niagara Region specific food waste reduction strategy (2018-20).

Drivers, such as every-other-week garbage collection or provincial policy changes (i.e. extended producer responsibility, organics diversion strategy), will likely be needed to instigate more substantial diversion rate increases, particularly in the organics program area.

The Region is reviewing other methods to measure its waste diversion, which may be applied in future years. Metrics, such as the reduction of waste on a per capita basis, are being reviewed. Reduction (e.g. reducing avoidable food waste and reuse efforts) is difficult to measure using the traditional RPRA diversion rate calculation.

## **2.0 Blue Box Recycling Plan Performance Measures and Targets**

The Blue Box Program's specific goals, which align with Council's objective of 65% diversion from disposal, are to increase the diversion of residential Blue/Grey Box materials from disposal and extend the life of existing landfills.

Key Blue Box Program objectives, which are related to the targets and benchmarking exercise, include the following:

- Optimizing collection and processing, in order to improve Niagara's performance factor (ratio of the program's net cost per tonne and its recycling rate) relative to other municipalities, which increases the program funding amount;
- Continuous improvement, including monitoring and reporting of Blue Box diversion successes against recycling targets;
- Facilitating the achievement of the various Blue Box Program performance measurement targets;
- Increasing program participation and recovery of Blue Box materials, while lowering residue rates; and
- Increasing level of customer (Regional service user) satisfaction.

The following section discusses Niagara's progress in achieving these goals and objectives. Niagara's 2017 program results are compared to:

- Targets set in the 2016-2021 Niagara Region Blue Box Recycling Plan; and
- Eleven municipalities that have a population greater than 250,000 for the RPRA parameters and the RPRA provincial average.

The performance measures were defined in previous RPRA best practice requirements. The measures are based on outputs from the annual RPRA datacall process and data collected from curbside waste composition studies/audits, which are completed intermittently when introducing program changes.

Baseline Blue Box Program data from 2015 and 2016 curbside waste audits, and in some cases historical trends, were used as a general basis for developing targets for the performance measures. Targets have also been established considering approved program changes, targeted communications and processing facility improvements. Other municipal data were also used as a reference for developing targets for some measures.

### **RPRA Performance Measures**

The RPRA utilizes a standard methodology (Generally Accepted Principles or GAP analysis) for municipal waste management reporting and residential waste diversion calculations. The performance measures, which are an output of the RPRA datacall process, are described below with associated Niagara targets. Data from eleven

municipal comparators, which have populations greater than 250,000, are referenced for comparison and benchmarking purposes.

## 2.1 Blue Box Residue Rate

Niagara's Target:	4.2% in 2015, decreasing to 4.0% by 2018
2017 Value:	5.8% (based on residential tonnes disposed)
Variance to Target:	Target not achieved
Benchmarking Result:	Niagara is well below the Province-wide multi-stream (two or more streams) residue rate of 9.6% for 2017. The average single stream residue rate is higher at 18.8% for 2017.

Blue Box residue rate is defined as the percentage of collected Blue Box material that is rejected during processing. Residue typically includes non-recyclable material such as take-out coffee cups and other contaminants. The residue is then disposed resulting in less revenue, as the material cannot be sold to recycling end markets.

Niagara Region achieved a residential Blue Box residue rate of 1.8% in 2011 and 2012, and 1.7% in 2013 and 2014. The 2015-17 Blue Box residue rates increased from 4.5% to 5.8%, due in large part to a lack of an end market for low-value mixed plastic.

## 2.2 Net Cost per Tonne Marketed

Niagara's Target:	\$203/tonne in 2015, further decreasing and remaining below the average of the comparator group for each year.
2017 Value:	\$148/tonne
Variance to Target:	Target achieved
Benchmarking Result:	Niagara had the second lowest net program cost in 2017 (\$148/tonne) in the comparator group, and was well below the averages for the comparator group (\$235/tonne) and Province-wide (\$296/tonne).

A key performance indicator for the Blue Box Program is the net program cost per tonne marketed, as calculated by RPRA. This parameter includes the net cost for Niagara's Recycling Centre (i.e. processing, collection contract and program support costs (e.g. staff, promotion and education, etc.)). The net cost reflects the revenue from the sale of recyclables.

As Table 4 indicates, Niagara's net residential Blue Box cost per tonne marketed was approximately \$148 in 2017, which was a 21% decrease compared to 2016. Niagara had the second lowest net program cost in 2017 and the second lowest net program cost in



2016 (\$188/tonne). Niagara was well below the 2017 comparator group weighted average of \$269/tonne and the 2017 Province-wide weighted average of \$296/tonne.

Table 4 - RPRA Net Program Cost Per Tonne Marketed in 2016 and 2017				
Municipality	2017			2016
	Blue Box Tonnes Marketed	Total Net Cost	Net Cost Per Tonne Marketed <sup>3</sup>	Net Cost Per Tonne Marketed <sup>3</sup>
Large Urban				
Halton Region	43,741	\$7,888,451	\$180.34	\$175.27
Hamilton	35,538	\$9,259,540	\$260.55	\$279.77
London	22,748	\$5,874,013	\$258.23	\$278.48
Peel Region	82,092	\$25,749,839	\$313.67	\$307.82
Toronto	120,692	\$53,867,953	\$446.33	\$434.40
York Region	65,618	\$16,490,060	\$251.30	\$235.04
Large Urban Average	370,430	\$119,129,856		
	Simple Average <sup>1</sup>		\$285.07	\$285.13
	Weighted Average <sup>2</sup>		\$321.60	\$316.71
Urban Regional				
Durham Region	43,507	\$12,703,845	\$291.99	\$301.01
Essex-Windsor	23,534	\$3,545,614	\$150.66	\$182.22
Niagara Region	36,671	\$5,415,186	\$147.67	\$188.13
Ottawa	59,668	\$7,160,441	\$120.01	\$146.11
Simcoe	24,460	\$5,276,457	\$215.72	\$233.57
Waterloo Region	36,088	\$6,676,839	\$185.01	\$232.25
Urban Regional Average	223,929	\$40,778,383		
	Simple Average <sup>1</sup>		\$185.18	\$213.88
	Weighted Average <sup>2</sup>		\$182.10	\$210.19
Comparator Group Average	Simple Average <sup>1</sup>		\$235.12	\$249.51
	Weighted Average <sup>2</sup>		\$269.04	\$277.47
Ontario Grand Total (Weighted Average <sup>2</sup> )			\$295.62	\$301.29

<sup>1</sup> Simple average of per tonne values.

<sup>2</sup> Weighted averages are group total costs or revenues divided by total group tonnage.

<sup>3</sup> Niagara's program includes a wide range of materials which, in some cases, is greater than those collected by other municipalities and will increase the net cost per tonne marketed.

Niagara currently has a cost effective program in comparison to other jurisdictions. The Urban Regional group is defined as municipalities with a population greater than 250,000 and less than four people per square km.

As part of the Region's 2016-2021 Blue Box Recycling Plan, this target was re-evaluated and updated, considering more recent market conditions and other relevant factors, including various capital project efficiency improvements implemented at the Recycling Centre, such as optical sorters, aluminum separator, and a Polystyrene Densifier System to manage the polystyrene independently from mixed plastics. This produces higher revenues from the Region's mixed plastics stream.

### **Waste Composition Studies and Visual Audit – Program Monitoring Parameters**

Waste composition studies and curbside visual audits are typically completed to measure performance changes as a result of introducing a program change or when industry stewardship funding becomes available for these activities.

A waste composition study is defined as a formal, structured process used to quantify the amount and type of waste, recyclables and organics being generated and diverted. A waste composition study, which included 170 household set-outs, was conducted across all twelve area municipalities in the fall and winter of 2010, and in the spring and summer of 2011, after the start of the new collection contract and service levels. A follow-up, four-season waste composition study was completed in 2015/2016. Both studies received CIF funding.

Visual curbside audits, which have been completed annually since 2007, provide data regarding participation and set-out rates. As part of an earlier "It Takes Three Campaign" properties were randomly audited by Waste Management interns to determine if recyclables that had been set out at the curb were being properly sorted and prepared for pick up. Door-to-door visits to each audited home have occurred in 2012 and 2013 to promote the 'Blue Box Ins and Outs' campaign. The Gold Star Recycler program was also carried out in conjunction with the audits in order to provide a visible and tangible reward, a form of thanks and public recognition for residents' waste diversion efforts. In the summer of 2014, approximately 146,700 low density residential properties across the Region were surveyed by students over a two week period. Visual audits were not completed in 2015, 2016 and 2017, due to a reallocation of intern resources. However, visual curbside audits may be undertaken in future years.

Key performance measures, which are based on visual audits and surveys, are identified below. The Blue Box capture rate is a measure that is based on waste composition study data and was measured in 2015/2016. The capture rate is defined as the amount of Blue Box recyclables set out for recycling, divided by the total amount of Blue Box recyclables set out for recycling, plus the recyclables left in the garbage.

## 2.3 Participation Rates

Niagara's Target: 82% from 2016 to 2021  
2016 Value: 82% (2015/16 curbside waste audits)  
Variance to Target: Target achieved

It is anticipated that the 2017 participation rate remained the same as the 2016 rate.

The participation rate is defined as the percentage of households on a curbside collection route who set out recyclables at least once in a consecutive two-week period.

As illustrated in Table 5, the trend has been towards an improved participation rate, which is attributable to the introduction of new services in 2011, the targeted social marketing and education campaigns and program maturity. Based on the 2015/16 Region waste audit results for the low density residential sector, the average Blue Box participation rate dropped slightly compared to the rate measured as part of visual audits, which were completed as part of the 'Blue Box Ins and Outs' campaign. However, the trend has been an overall improvement since 2011, and the target has been achieved for this measure. Minor variations may be attributable to the season and the number of households not setting out any material due to being away.

Table 5 - Blue Box Participation Rates	
Waste Audits and It Takes Three Survey Period	Participation Rate
2006 - Stewardship Ontario Waste Audits	57%
2004-2007 - Region Waste Audits	58%
2010 - Region Waste Audits	71%
2010 - 'It Takes Three' Visual Survey	70%
2011 - Region Waste Audits	74%
2011 - 'It Takes Three' Visual Survey	73%
2012 - 'Blue Box Ins & Outs' Visual Audits	83%
2013 - 'Blue Box Ins & Outs' Visual Audits	88%
2014 – Curbside Visual Survey	85%
2015/16 – Region Waste Audits	82%

## 2.4 Set-Out Rates

Niagara's Target: 2.0 boxes (or containers) set out per hhld per week in 2016 to 2021

2016 Value: 2.0 boxes (or containers) were set out per hhld per week

Variance to Target: Target achieved

It is anticipated that the 2017 set-out rate remained the same as the 2016 rate.

The set-out rate is defined as the average number of Blue/Grey Boxes or other recycling containers placed at the curb for pick-up on a per household basis, per week. The average number of full container equivalents, in addition to the actual number of containers set-out, are included in Table 6 for the waste audits conducted between 2004 and 2016.

The average set-out was at its lowest in the 2010 audits, at one container per household, per week, and appears to be an anomaly compared to the other audit periods. The 2011 to 2016 set-out rates did improve compared to 2010, but are still generally in line with the 2006/2007 data. The larger Blue Box capacity made available in recent years may explain why there is little improvement in this parameter overall.

**Table 6 - Blue Box Program – Waste Audit Set-Out Rates**

<b>Audit Period</b>	<b>No. of Boxes (or other Containers) Per Household Per Week</b>	<b>No. of Equivalent Full Boxes (or other Containers) Per Household Per Week</b>
Fall 2004	1.3	Not measured
Summer 2005	1.2	Not measured
Spring 2006	1.4	1.3
Summer 2006	1.5	1.5
Fall 2006	1.5	1.5
Winter 2007	1.5	1.4
Fall 2007	1.6	1.3
Fall and Winter 2010	1.0	1.0
Spring and Summer 2011	1.6	1.4
Summer 2012	1.6	Not measured
Summer 2013	1.6	Not measured
Summer 2014	1.5	Not measured
Summer 2015	1.5	1.4
Fall 2015	1.3	1.1

Table 6 - Blue Box Program – Waste Audit Set-Out Rates		
Audit Period	No. of Boxes (or other Containers) Per Household Per Week	No. of Equivalent Full Boxes (or other Containers) Per Household Per Week
Winter 2016	1.4	1.2
Spring 2016	1.5	1.3

## Monitoring Plan

Niagara Region's 2016-2021 Blue Box Recycling Plan was completed in 2016, as part of WMPSC-C 1-2017.

## Blue Box Recycling Plan Summary

Based on the recommendations outlined in the KPMG Blue Box Program Enhancement and Best Practices Assessment Project Report, positive diversion results in other jurisdictions and stakeholder input, improvements to the Regional Blue Box Program have been implemented and other drivers to increase participation/capture rates, as part of the 2016-2021 Blue Box Recycling Plan. Every effort is being made to ensure the program is performing well (i.e. operated efficiently and in a cost-effective manner).

### 3.0 MBNC

A subset of MBNC parameters, which are related to cost effectiveness, are used in this benchmarking review. In 2017, Niagara was lower than the MBNC average for the following parameters:

- Operating Cost for Garbage Collection per Tonne - All Property Classes;
- Operating Cost for Solid Waste Disposal per Tonne - All Property Classes;
- Operating Cost for Solid Waste Diversion per Tonne - All Property Classes; and
- Solid Waste Average Operating Cost per Tonne - All Property Classes.

On an annual basis, Niagara's Operating Garbage Collection, Waste Disposal, Waste Diversion and Average Cost per Tonne parameters are typically lower than the MBNC average, which demonstrates that Niagara's programs are cost effective.

Table 7 contains the results for nine municipalities that participated in MBNC and are included in the RPRA comparator group (not all the RPRA municipal comparators participate in MBNC). There was a considerable amount of variation between these municipalities. The MBNC average applies to these nine municipalities only.

Table 7 - MBNC 2017 Performance Measures (for All Property Classes)				
Municipality	Operating Cost for Garbage Collection per Tonne - All Property Classes	Operating Cost for Solid Waste Disposal per Tonne - All Property Classes	Operating Cost for Solid Waste Diversion per Tonne - All Property Classes	Solid Waste Average Operating Cost per Tonne - All Property Classes
Durham Region <sup>(1)</sup>	\$86.34	\$135.16	\$198.05	N/A
Halton Region	\$159.06	\$55.56	\$207.68	\$209.94
Hamilton	\$142.82	\$106.33	\$185.54	\$194.43
London	\$95.21	\$26.99	\$109.53	\$69.28
Niagara Region	\$93.80	\$73.26	\$105.02	\$117.13
Ottawa <sup>(2)</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Toronto	\$129.57	\$108.70	\$372.65	\$266.13
Waterloo Region	\$164.18	\$91.45	\$157.27	\$160.55
Windsor	\$109.45	\$111.33	\$102.00	\$154.70
York Region <sup>(3)</sup>	N/A	\$117.15	\$115.97	N/A
<b>MBNC Average</b>	<b>\$122.55</b>	<b>\$91.77</b>	<b>\$172.63</b>	<b>\$167.45</b>

Notes:

- 1) Durham Region does not report Solid Waste Average Operating Cost Per Tonne, as they do not have complete responsibility for all collection throughout the entire Region.
- 2) As of 2016, Ottawa no longer reports their results, as part of MBNC Datacall.
- 3) York Region does not report local municipal garbage collection information.

Some municipalities may have reported a lower cost per tonne compared to Niagara because of differences in their waste management programs (e.g. no Green Bin organics (Windsor, London); bi-weekly garbage (Durham); single-stream recycling (Halton), etc.). In addition, some municipalities do not collect styrofoam (Halton, Windsor) or film plastic (Windsor), which are more costly to process.

## Conclusion

Continued improvements to Niagara's waste management programs and program performance have occurred over the last several years. Niagara has met the majority of the established targets and is generally performing better than its comparator group and/or

provincial averages. Niagara's 2016-2021 Blue Box Recycling Plan outlines potential changes to further improve performance in waste management program areas.

Benchmarking and performance reports will be completed annually, in order to compare changes in performance over time, results against targets and results against other municipal comparators. Every effort is being made to ensure Niagara's waste management system is operated efficiently and cost-effectively.

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## **MEMORANDUM**

**WMPSC-C 13-2019**

**Subject: Multi-Residential Textile Diversion Pilot Program Update**

**Date: Monday, April 29, 2019**

**To: Waste Management Planning Steering Committee**

**From: Emily Hughes, Waste Diversion Coordinator**

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The purpose of this memorandum is to provide members of the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee with an update on the newly implemented Multi-Residential Textile Diversion Pilot Program (the Pilot). The purpose of the Pilot is to enhance service to the multi-residential sector (seven units and greater), divert textile material from landfill, and create awareness and support local non-profit organizations.

Textile materials include any type of woven fabric or cloth such as clothing, shoes, mats, drapes and sheets. As part of the Pilot, the Region is also capturing damaged textiles including mismatched socks and shoes, ripped or torn clothing and clothing with broken zippers or lost buttons. In Niagara, textiles account for approximately four per cent of the low density residential garbage stream, which equates to roughly 11 kg of textiles per household per year (based on Niagara's 2015/2016 Waste Composition Study). The multi-residential sector is likely disposing of larger quantities of textiles than low density residential properties as a result of front-end garbage collection and no enforced garbage bag/can limits. The Pilot was implemented to create a convenient option for residents in multi-residential properties to divert textile material from the garbage stream.

A request for quotation was issued in October 2017 seeking work with multiple non-profit organizations for a two-year Pilot. There were three successful qualifying non-profit organizations – Goodwill Niagara, Diabetes Canada and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Niagara Falls. The non-profit organizations are responsible for supplying, delivering and maintaining the textile collection container(s) at their designated properties. The container is for indoor use only and includes contact information for the non-profit and the Niagara Region's logo to identify co-branding of the program (Appendix A). The non-profit organizations are required to empty the containers at regular intervals, removing all material, and provide the Region with quarterly reports, which include the total weight of the material collected from each participating multi-residential property.

Niagara Region staff evaluated a list of multi-residential properties who were successfully participating in the Region's multi-residential diversion programs, such as Organics Cart Collection, Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and Battery Collection programs, to determine which properties to approach about joining the Pilot program. Staff contacted 63 properties to provide the benefits of the Pilot



program and determine their level of interest. Interested properties received an initial site visit from Niagara Region staff to assess building eligibility, noting the best location for an indoor textile collection container. The first phase of the Pilot included 21 properties, which were divided equitably between the three non-profit organizations based on the number of units at each property. A second site visit at each committed property was subsequently completed by Niagara Region staff and the designated non-profit organization to confirm container location and placement and to discuss the initial collection frequency at each property.

There are currently 21 properties participating in the Pilot (Appendix B), including all eight Niagara Region Long-term Care Homes and three Niagara Regional Housing properties. The first 15 properties were implemented in September and October of 2018, and approximately 3,400 kilograms of textile material was collected in Q4 of 2018. The remaining six properties were implemented in February 2019. A total of approximately 3,500 kilograms of textile material was collected in Q1 of 2019.

The total cost to implement the Pilot was \$1,300, which includes promotional and educational materials in the form of posters and door hangers highlighting the acceptable material and identifying the non-profit (Appendix C). There is no cost to the Niagara Region for the textile collection containers or collection services. Phase 2 of the Pilot aims to roll the program out to another 10 properties and is set to be implemented in May 2019.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

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Emily Hughes  
Waste Diversion Coordinator

Appendix A: Textile Collection Containers	Page 3
Appendix B: Participating Multi-Residential Properties	Page 4
Appendix C: Promotional & Educational Materials	Page 5 - 7

## Appendix A: Textile Collection Containers

### 1. Diabetes Canada



### 2. Goodwill Niagara



### 3. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Niagara Falls



## Appendix B: Participating Multi-Residential Properties

Table 1: Multi-Residential buildings currently participating in the Multi-Residential Textile Diversion Pilot Program

Property Address	Municipality
50 Gilmore Road	Fort Erie
150 Central Avenue	Grimsby
10 John Street	Grimsby
6928 Ailanthus Avenue	Niagara Falls
8111 Forest Glen	Niagara Falls
6623 Kalar Road	Niagara Falls
4644 Pettit Avenue	Niagara Falls
5130 Portage Road	Niagara Falls
272 Wellington Street	Niagara-on-the-Lake
190-200 Highway 20 W	Pelham
2 Fielden Avenue	Port Colborne
2 Ferndale Avenue	St. Catharines
7 Gale Crescent	St. Catharines
403 Ontario Street	St. Catharines
283 Pelham Road	St. Catharines
64 Roehampton Avenue	St. Catharines
156-158 Fitch Street	Welland
235 Fitch Street	Welland
211 King Street	Welland
920 Pelham Street	Welland
277 Plymouth Road	Welland

## Appendix C: Educational and Promotional Material

### 1. Door Hanger



**Recycle YOUR TEXTILES**

Your Donation Bin is Located:

**Niagara Region**

waste info line 1-800-594-5542  
niagararegion.ca/waste



**Don't trash your old clothes and textiles**

If your textiles cannot be reused, they will be recycled!

**WHAT'S ACCEPTED?**

All gently used and damaged clothing and textiles, including materials that are ripped, torn, stained or unmatched. All donations must be free from mildew and hazardous contaminants such as grease or oil.



**ALL CLOTHING**

Active wear, bathing suits, bathrobes, coats, dresses, jeans, pants, parkas, shirts, skirts, socks (singles or pairs), sweaters, t-shirts, undergarments, uniforms.



**HOUSEHOLD**

Bedding, bibs, blankets, comforters, cushions, curtains, oven mitts, pillows, rags, sewing fabric and scraps, sheets, sleeping bags, stuffed toys, towels, wash cloths



**ACCESSORIES**

Backpacks, belts, gloves, hats, jewellery, mittens, purses, scarves, ties, toques



**FOOTWEAR**

Boots, cleats, dress shoes, high heels, running shoes, slip-ons, slippers, loafers, sneakers, sandals

**WHAT'S NOT ACCEPTED?**

Household items such as lamps, dishes, furniture and electronics are not accepted.

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## 2. Textile Poster

# Recycle YOUR TEXTILES

If your textiles cannot be reused, they will be recycled!

ACCEPTED TEXTILE ITEMS:

					
shirts	pants	coats	bathing suits	sweaters	socks and underwear
					
pillows	sheets and comforters	towels	curtains	sleeping bags and blankets	stuffed toys
					
backpacks	belts	hats and gloves	jewellery	purses	ties and scarves
					
running shoes	boots	high heels and dress shoes	sandals	cleats	slippers

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All gently used and damaged clothing and textiles, including materials that are ripped, torn, stained or unmatched.  
All donations must be free from mildew and hazardous contaminants such as grease or oil.

What's NOT accepted?

  
lamps

  
dishes

  
furniture

  
electronics

If this bin requires service please contact:





### 3. Hallway Poster

# Recycle **YOUR** TEXTILES

**Don't trash your old clothes and textiles**  
If your textiles cannot be reused, they will be recycled!

A new textile recycling program  
is now available in your building.

**Your donation bin is located:**

**Help your local charitable organization:**

**Acceptable Material:**

-  **ALL CLOTHING**  
Active wear, bathing suits, bathrobes, coats, dresses, jeans, pants, parkas, shirts, skirts, socks (singles or pairs), sweaters, t-shirts, undergarments, uniforms.
-  **HOUSEHOLD**  
Bedding, bibs, blankets, comforters, cushions, curtains, oven mitts, pillows, rags, sewing fabric and scraps, sheets, sleeping bags, stuffed toys, towels, wash cloths
-  **ACCESSORIES**  
Backpacks, belts, gloves, hats, jewellery, mittens, purses, scarves, ties, toques
-  **FOOTWEAR**  
Boots, cleats, shoes, high heels, running shoes, slip-ons, slippers, loafers, sneakers, sandals

**What's NOT Accepted:**  
Household items such as lamps, dishes, furniture and electronics are not accepted.

\* All donations must be dry and free from mildew and hazardous contaminants such as grease or oil. Ripped, torn, stained and unmatched materials are accepted.

For more information call the waste-info line at  
905-356-4141 or 1-800-594-5542  
[niagararegion.ca/waste](http://niagararegion.ca/waste)

**Niagara Region**



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## MEMORANDUM

**WMPSC-C 14-2019**

**Subject: Councillor Information Requests**

**Date: Monday, April 29, 2019**

**To: Waste Management Planning Steering Committee**

**From: Lydia Torbicki, Acting Director, Waste Management Services**

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This memorandum is intended to provide Committee members with an update on the outstanding Councillor Requests from previous meetings.

### **Waste Management Planning Steering Committee**

**Meeting Date: Feb 25, 2019**

**Minute Item #4.1:**

That Waste Management staff consult with Economic Development as to how to maximize the potential of the Material Recycling Facility (MRF) and the partnership with Niagara Recycling before proceeding with the Phase 4 Opportunity Review RFP. Councillor Butters.

**Follow-up Action:** Waste Management met with Economic Development staff on March 21, 2019 and also had subsequent discussions. MRF operational and budget data and associated MRF Opportunity Review project documents were provided for background. A site visit and discussion between Economic Development staff and Niagara Recycling's CAO, also occurred. A response to WMPSC is forthcoming.

**Status:** In progress

**Minute Item #8.1: MOTION**

That staff **PROVIDE** options that could be included in the negotiated request for proposal (RFP) and terms of reference for the Material Recycling Facility Phase 4 Opportunity Review to allow for the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee to provide comments prior to the RFP being released to market.

**Follow-up Action:** A project consultant will be engaged, as per WMPSC-C 12-2018 and PWC 15-2018, to develop the negotiated request for proposal (NRFP) and the options to be included in the NRFP will be submitted to WMPSC for comment prior to release.

**Status:** In progress

**Meeting Date: March 19, 2018**

**Minute Item #3.1: MOTION**

That staff **REVIEW AND CONSIDER** potential opportunities to work with Niagara Furniture Bank with respect to large item pick-ups.

**Follow-up Action:** Establishment of a four (4) large item limit per eligible residential unit, per collection, has been approved for implementation in the next collection contract (as per PW 20-2019). A limit per residential unit is a municipal best practice/trend, and would encourage households to direct large items to organizations such as Niagara Furniture Bank.

Also, there are Niagara Region waste management-related webpages and links that encourage donations of used items, including the following:

- <http://www.niagararegion.ca/waste> contains the “Where does it go?” search tool which returns the flag ‘if this item is in good condition, [consider donating it](#)’ (for example, <https://www.niagararegion.ca/waste/disposal/donate/donate-list.aspx?d=1&q=Furniture>) for applicable items.
- <http://www.niagararegion.ca/waste/disposal/donate> contains links to:
  - A [list of items that can be donated](#) and an ‘item to donate’ search tool (<https://www.niagararegion.ca/waste/disposal/donate/donate-categories.aspx>)
  - [Etiquette for donating](#) (<https://www.niagararegion.ca/waste/disposal/donate/Etiquette-for-dropping-off.aspx>)
  - [Donation drop-off locations](#) (<https://www.niagararegion.ca/waste/disposal/donate/donate-list.asp>)
  - [Form](#) for organizations requesting to be added to the directory of donation drop-off locations (<https://www.niagararegion.ca/waste/disposal/donate/org-form.aspx>)

**Status:** Complete

**Meeting Date:** May 30, 2016

**Minute Item #6.6:** Provide information outlining options for the Material Recovery Facility pending legislative changes. (WMPSC-C 25-2016) (Councillor Petrowski).

**Follow-up Action:** An evaluation of opportunities with regard to the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) is in progress. An RFP has been drafted for the engagement of the project consultant for Phase 4 of the MRF Opportunity Review. Clauses in the contract agreement with Niagara Recycling allow for early termination.

**Status:** In progress



## **Public Works Committee**

### **Meeting Date: March 19, 2019**

#### **Meeting Item #5.3:**

Include in the request for proposal pricing information related to reducing container limits for Industrial, Commercial and Industrial, and Mixed-use properties, as well as to maintain current container limits (Councillor Nicholson).

**Follow-Up Action:** Pricing for these options will be included in the next collection contract RFP.

**Status:** Complete

#### **Meeting Item #7.1:**

That staff **BE DIRECTED** to provide a report respecting the cost to supply Niagara Region residents with recycling and compost bins.

**Follow-Up Action:** The preliminary estimate to supply Niagara Region residents with recycling and compost bins is included in WMPSC-C 16-2019 Proposed Curbside Waste Diversion Container Distribution Program.

**Status:** Complete

### **Meeting Date: February 19, 2019**

#### **Meeting Item #9.2:**

That staff request Emterra present at a future Public Works Committee meeting to provide additional information. (Councillor Foster)

**Follow-up Action:** Emterra provided the presentation at the March 19, 2019 Public Works Committee.

**Status:** Complete

### **Meeting Date: February 16, 2016**

**Meeting Item #3.1:** Include in future reports regarding this project the corporate structure, background on the technology and how this fits into our current waste management systems and long term planning for waste management (Councillor Grenier).

**Follow-up Action:** The Allanburg Energy from Waste (EFW) project has been renamed as the Grove Energy & Education Centre (GEEC) project. The proponent's information regarding the background on the technology has been included in a memorandum CL-C 16-2016, from the Commissioner of Public Works to Council, dated February 19, 2016. The proponent's corporate structure was included a subsequent memorandum to Council, dated February 23, 2016.

In September 2016, the City of Thorold rescinded its support of the GEEC project, as proposed by 1931146 Ontario Inc. and further adopted a resolution that Thorold Council does not support EFW, a form of incineration, as a viable method for municipal waste management. Thorold Council also asked that Niagara Region rescind its project

support (as it related to the Independent Electrical System Operators (IESO) application). Further, on September 27, 2016, the Province announced that it will immediately suspend the second round of its Large Renewable Procurement (LRP II) process and the Energy-from-Waste Standard Offer Program (EFWSOP).  
Memorandum WMPSC-C 38-2017 September 11, 2017 Page 3.

At its meeting of January 19, 2017, Regional Council passed the following motion:  
*"That the motion adopted by Regional Council at its meeting of February 25, 2016 as noted above, **BE RECONSIDERED**.  
That the motion respecting Energy from Waste **BE REFERRED** to the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee for consideration and recommendation to the Public Works Committee."*

Subsequently, the motion was addressed in WMPSC-C 9-2017 at the January 23, 2017 WMPSC meeting and PWC-C 9-2017 at the January 31, 2017 PWC meeting. The following resolution was approved at PWC:  
*"That Niagara Region **RESCIND** their February 2016 support for the construction and operation of the Grove Energy & Education Centre Project for the sole purpose to enable the Applicant (1931146 Ontario Inc.) to meet the eligibility requirements of the EFWSOP"*

Staff had contacted the proponents for an update on the GEEC project numerous times and no reply was received. If a new update is received by staff, it will be provided to WMPSC.

**Status:** Complete

### **Budget Review Committee of the Whole**

**Meeting Date:** October 29, 2015

**Meeting Item #5.1:** Provide advance notice of (waste management / recycling) future legislated requirements / changes to Public Works Committee meeting prior to any budget considerations (Councillor Grenier).

**Follow-up Action:** Bill 151, Waste Free Ontario Act became law November 30, 2016. The Act is high-level enabling legislation and future regulations and policy statements will provide further details on roles and responsibilities and how services will be funded. Staff will continue to provide updates related to the legislation and the potential impact on Niagara, with the most recent update provided as part of the Regional Council 2018-2022 Orientation presentation on November 21, 2018, in the staff presentation to WMPSC on February 25, 2019 and the staff presentation to Public works Committee on April 16, 2019. Staff will continue to provide updates as required.

**Status:** Complete

### **Committee of the Whole**

No outstanding waste management related items at this time.

### **Council**

**Meeting Date: January 18, 2018**

**Meeting Item # 11.3:** That staff provide regular updates at Public Works Committee respecting Emterra Environmental and waste collection. (Councillor Grenier).

**Follow-up Action:** An update was last provided at the April 16, 2019 Public Works Committee meeting and staff will continue to provide regular updates as required.

**Status:** Complete

### **COMPLETED ITEMS**

#### **Waste Management Planning Steering Committee**

**Meeting Date: April 30, 2018**

**Minute Item #6:** Investigate whether Niagara Region is the only municipality that accepts black plastics in its Blue Box program. (Councillor Burroughs)

Confirm the location that receives the tires collected by the Niagara Region drop-off depots. (Councillor Augustyn).

#### **Public Works Committee**

**Meeting Date: January 8, 2019**

**Meeting Item #6.1:**

That staff consider closed-top containers as an option for recycling collection. Councillor Ugolini.

Provide information respecting what constitutes the 36% of non-recyclable and non-compostable materials in the garbage bags collected between 2015 and 2016, as described in Report PW 3-2019. Councillor Disero.

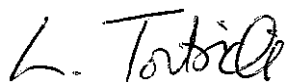
**Meeting Date: May 15, 2018**

**Meeting Item #7.2:** Councillor Bentley requested information regarding waste collection vehicles reversing on laneways in the Grimsby beach area. Catherine Habermehl, Director, Waste Management Services, advised that the Region has a policy that restricts waste collection vehicles from reversing on laneways, but that some private laneways were grandfathered in.

**Meeting Date: May 15, 2018**

**Meeting Item #7.4:** Councillor Rigby requested information respecting the City of St. Catharines hiring of a waste manager to help reduce waste. Catherine Habermebl, Director, Waste Management Services, advised that this position was for City of St. Catharines facilities; however, she has reached out to St. Catharines staff to offer assistance.

Respectfully submitted and signed by



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Lydia Torbicki, Acting Director  
Waste Management Services

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## **MEMORANDUM**

**WMPSC-C 15-2019**

**Subject: Recycling Centre End Market Update**

**Date: Monday, April 29, 2019**

**To: Waste Management Planning Steering Committee**

**From: Jennifer Wilson, Supervisor, Waste Management Services**

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The purpose of this memorandum is to provide members of the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee with an update on market trends and commodity pricing for Blue and Grey Box material processed at Niagara Region's Recycling Centre (MRF) from January to March 2019.

### **Key Facts**

- Since the adaptation of the Chinese National Sword Policy in March 2018, end market pricing has continued to decline.
- End markets are showing signs of economic slowdown due to material surpluses and lack of demand for post-consumer material.
- Market pricing for fibre streams has collapsed. Market pricing in April is currently at levels that have not been seen since January 2009 for cardboard (OCC) and hardpack (mix of boxboard (OBB) and OCC) and April 1997 for old newsprint (ONP).
- Market pricing is not expected to increase for some commodities until Q4 2019.
- It is estimated, based on current market conditions, that there will be a 2019 budget shortfall in revenue for the Recycling Centre of \$3.3 million.

### **Fibre Revenue**

Fibre stream revenue has seen significant decreases from January to March 2019. The fibre stream is comprised of the following marketed commodities: ONP, OCC (from commercial sources) and hardpack.

Table 1 illustrates the market trends in fibre revenue for Q1 2018 and Q1 2019.

Table 1 - Comparison of budgeted versus actual revenue for fibre stream at Niagara Region's Recycling Centre (January to March (Q1) 2018 vs 2019).

Commodity Type	Q1 2018 Actuals (Avg. \$/MT)	Q1 2019 Actuals (Avg. \$/MT)	Q1 Variance 2018 vs 2019	Q1 2019 Budget (Avg. \$/MT)	Q1 2019 Variance (Budget vs. Actual)
OCC	\$164	\$122	-26%	\$148	-18%
Hardpack (OBB/OCC)	\$123	\$84	-32%	\$94	-11%
Newsprint (#8) (ONP)	\$100	\$74	-26%	\$77	-4%

Market pricing for the fibre stream has collapsed due to market surpluses and lack of demand for post-consumer product and is expected to further decline into Q3 2019. Market pricing in April is currently at levels that have not been seen since January 2009 (OCC and hardpack) and April 1997 (ONP). Based on current market conditions, if there are no changes to market conditions, it is estimated that there will be a 2019 gross budget shortfall for fibre revenue of approximately \$2.52 million.

### Container Revenue

Container stream revenue has seen significant decreases from January to March 2019. The container stream is comprised of the following marketed commodities: steel, aluminum, Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) plastics (e.g. water bottles, salad dressing bottles), High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) plastic (e.g. laundry detergent bottles, shampoo and conditioner bottles), polycoat (e.g. milk or juice cartons), plastic film (e.g. grocery bags), and hi-grade mixed plastics (e.g. containers and lids).

Table 2 illustrates the market trends in container revenue for Q1 2018 and Q1 2019.

Table 2 - Comparison of budgeted versus actual revenue for container stream at Niagara Region's Recycling Centre (January to March (Q1) 2018 vs 2019).

Commodity Type	Q1 2018 Actuals (Avg. \$/MT)	Q1 2019 Actuals (Avg. \$/MT)	Q1 Variance 2018 vs 2019	Q1 2019 Budget (Avg. \$/MT)	Q1 2019 Variance (Budget vs. Actual)
Containers	\$462	\$419	-9%	\$491	-15%

The container stream revenue has declined from January to March 2019 due to market surpluses and lack of demand for post-consumer product. Based on current market conditions, if there are no changes to market conditions it is estimated that there will be

a 2019 gross budget shortfall for container revenue of approximately \$779,000. The budget shortfall in container revenue is primarily due to the weakening aluminum markets.

Overall, based on current trends for market pricing, it is estimated that there will be a budget shortfall in revenue for the Recycling Centre of \$3.3 million.

**Next Steps**

Staff will provide a further updates to members of the WMPSC in Q3 2019 on the financial outcomes of Q2 2019.

Respectfully submitted and signed by



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Jennifer Wilson  
Supervisor, Waste Management Services

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## **MEMORANDUM**

**WMPSC-C 18-2019**

**Subject: Anti-Litter Campaign**

**Date: Monday, April 29, 2019**

**To: Waste Management Planning Steering Committee**

**From: Ashley Northcotte, Engagement and Education Coordinator**

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The purpose of this memorandum is to advise members of the Waste Management Planning and Steering Committee of the upcoming Anti-litter campaign.

The prevalence of litter in our neighbourhoods (i.e. streets, green space, along shorelines, etc.) is becoming a growing concern and affects the quality of life in our greater communities. Litter can have negative impacts on wildlife, lakes, and overall aesthetics of our public spaces. To combat this issue, many organizations and volunteers host clean-up events in an effort to keep our communities clean and free from litter and waste. To support their efforts, and to discourage littering behaviour, Niagara Region will be implementing a public awareness campaign to discourage littering in public spaces.

The objective of this educational campaign is to decrease the amount of street litter in our communities, specifically in neighbourhoods, parks and other public spaces, while increasing the understanding and use of proper disposal methods for commonly littered items.

The key messages are educational in nature:

- Don't litter
- Keep our public spaces clean
- Use waste and recycling containers

The campaign will start on May 1, 2019 and will engage the public through animated characters including a coffee cup, cigarette butt, chip bag, water bottle and soft drink cup (see Appendix A for examples). These materials were determined based on conversations with St. Catharines Clean City Advisory Committee, identifying these as some of the most littered materials they find on their clean-ups. The characters are seen in a variety of different streetscapes where litter is often found; roadside, sidewalk, park, and a shoreline. The characters, shown with tears in their eyes, are upset that they have been discarded, or 'left behind,' encouraging those who litter to rethink their current behaviour and place these materials in the appropriate waste and recycling containers.

Communication tactics for this campaign include targeted public space advertising in litter hot spots (i.e. bus shelters or waste containers), web promotion, and social media. Measurement of the campaign will include engagement on social media (i.e. likes, shares



and comments) to gauge the reach of the campaign. A letter was also sent to Public Works Officials and municipal Clerks to notify them of the Anti-litter campaign, and to seek municipal representation to start a working group to tackle the litter problem in Niagara.

To accompany the anti-litter campaign, and to support phase two of the Anti-litter campaign, Niagara Region is also working with two (2) local clean-up groups to obtain bags of litter collected during their community clean ups. The sub-set of the bagged material collected will be audited by Niagara Region staff, and the data will be used to support the development of future public awareness campaigns and strategies related to litter.

Next steps include developing a working group to tackle the litter problem in Niagara through awareness campaigns and action, and to expand on the campaign for next year by acting as a hub to connect local clean up groups. Staff are also investigating lids for recycling containers, and will be reporting back to this Committee with a recommendation on this matter.

Additionally, Niagara Region will continue to take strong action on illegal dumping and illegally dumped material by utilizing dedicated municipal and private sector partnerships.

Respectfully submitted and signed by



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Ashley Northcotte,  
Engagement and Education Coordinator

Appendices

Appendix A - Anti-litter Campaign Artwork

Pages 3 - 4

## Appendix A: Anti-litter Campaign Artwork

### a) Coffee Cup:



### b) Cigarette butt



c) Soft drink cup



d) Chip bag



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## MEMORANDUM

**WMPSC-C 19-2019**

**Subject: Niagara Economic Development Review of the Material Recycling Facility**

**Date: Monday, April 29, 2019**

**To: Waste Management Planning Steering Committee**

**From: Ken Scholtens, Manager Business Development Services, Corporate Administration**

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This memo is in response to the February 25, 2019 Councillor Information Request:

*That Waste Management staff consult with Economic Development as to how to maximize the potential of the Material Recycling Facility (MRF) and the partnership with Niagara Recycling before proceeding with the Phase 4 Opportunity Review RFP.*

Niagara Economic Development staff completed a review of the MRF operational and budget data and associated MRF Opportunity Review project documents. A site visit was also completed.

### **Background (Based on the MRF Opportunity Review Project Documents)**

Municipalities are responsible for operating and managing residential Blue Box recycling services. The delivery of these services in Niagara Region involve:

- Recycling collection contracts with the private sector; and
- Recycling processing contract with Niagara Recycling, a non-profit organization, which involves the operation and maintenance of Niagara Region's Material Recycling Facility (MRF).

In some jurisdictions, the processing function is fully contracted out to the private sector and the municipality does not own a MRF.

Based on annual reviews and observations in the Phase 3 MRF Opportunity Review, Niagara's processing function is cost competitive with that of the private sector. As noted by RSM, one of the Phase 3 project consultants: 'In 2016, Niagara Region's net residential processing costs (gross processing costs less gross revenue) represented the lowest cost within Southwestern Ontario (this cost was compared to both single-stream and dual-stream MRFs within the area). In some cases, Niagara Region's MRF is substantially more cost effective...' Niagara Region retains all the revenues from the sale of processed recyclables materials and uses it to offset the cost of the overall recycling program.

The ability of a MRF to generate net revenue depends largely on processing sufficient tonnages and there is a positive relationship between the valuation of a MRF and tonnages processed, available markets and commodity pricing.

However, transition of the recycling program to full producer responsibility could significantly impact the viability of the Region's MRF as it is expected that producers would determine who would process recyclables based on a competitive bid process. This bid process would be challenging to Niagara Region if a catchment area approach (larger geographical service areas would be defined for processing contracts) is used. If Niagara Region is not successful, the MRF could be a potentially devalued asset.

## **Conclusion**

Municipalities who own a MRF will have a major decision point regarding staying in the business of processing recycled materials and accepting the risk associated with doing so, considering the transition of the program to full producer responsibility. While there is potential to increase revenue generating capabilities at the MRF and further leverage the partnership with Niagara Recycling, it is expected that producers would determine who would process recyclables based on a competitive bid process. If Niagara Region is not successful, the end result could be that the MRF becomes a potentially devalued asset.

Niagara Region and Niagara Recycling should continue to look for new opportunities, but ensure investments remain strategic pending the possible legislative changes. Cost benefit and return on investment analysis would need to be undertaken as part of investigation of the new opportunities. Appendix 1 provides options to maximize the potential of Niagara's MRF, and the partnership with Niagara Recycling.

At this point, there is no risk to Niagara Region in continuing to develop the negotiated RFP for the Phase 4 Opportunity Review work to ensure Niagara is prepared for the full impact of a transition to full producer responsibility. The negotiated RFP will not be released until more transition details are released from the province.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

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Ken Scholtens  
Manager Business Development Services  
Corporate Administration

## Appendix 1

### Options to Maximize the Potential of the MRF and the partnership with Niagara Recycling

The financial viability of MRFs in Ontario is based on the ability to secure inputs/haulage (i.e. tonnage of recyclables) and to be able to find markets for those products. Currently, aluminum recycling represents the highest revenue per metric tonne of all products. Plastics such as PET, HDPE represent a distant second and third. Although these three areas generate the greatest revenue on a per tonne basis, they represented only 5.6% of the total tonnage processed by the Region's MRF in 2018. In comparison, plastic film and mixed plastics high grade, represent the lowest revenues per tonne and account for 6.2% of the tonnage processed at the Region's MRF. Newspaper #8 and Cardboard/Boxboard, when combined, represent 69% of the total Regional tonnage, but the revenues generated on a revenue per metric tonne measure are only \$69 per tonne and \$110 per tonne, respectively. The revenue per tonne for the fibre product may decrease in 2019, however if the amount of prohibitives/garbage could be reduced through added investment to the MRF, the Region could receive a premium for these streams.

- The majority of the Region's MRF's processing capacity is dedicated to fibre product. Unless there is an ability to generate more value on the fibre stream or identify an opportunity for value-add processing to increase the MRF's revenues per tonne of these inputs, this will limit the facility's overall capacity to increase its competitiveness.
- Opportunities to improve revenue on the fibre stream (primarily newspaper #8) would have significant impact, but would require advanced technology to reduce operating costs. This would include investment in current technology such as AI, more optical sorters for polycoat cartons and aseptic packaging and reducing double handling of fibres through the installation of another baler.

The plastics being processed at the MRF represent a potential opportunity to undergo value-added manufacturing onsite to increase their associated revenue per tonne. During the tour of the MRF Norman Kraft, CEO of Niagara Recycling, provided examples of extruded plastic pellets that have the potential to be manufactured on site. However, at this time there has been no market analysis conducted to determine the feasibility for selling extruded plastics as a product.

Niagara Region and Niagara Recycling should investigate the opportunity for new product development. This includes testing the extruded plastic pellets to better understand their composition and determine if there is a potential market. This will allow Niagara Recycling to increase its revenues per metric tonne of plastics, which can be used to offset other costs associated with the facility.

- Niagara Recycling should engage the Niagara Industrial Association to get a third-party assessment of the value of extruded plastics and the possibilities for it to be used as a manufacturing input.

Niagara Recycling and Niagara Region is currently undertaking value-added manufacturing through its “Niagara Ecoglass” Sandblasting Abrasive. The process that Niagara Recycling employs allows full control over the specifications of the final product. Currently the product is only being used as a sandblasting material. However, there are other potential markets that require crushed glass as an input.

- Currently the only market outside of Niagara that Niagara Recycling is selling into is Quebec. Niagara’s strategic location allows for easy shipping of bulk goods, such as Niagara Ecoglass, into US markets along the Great Lakes. The value of the Canadian dollar and easy access to low-cost shipping opportunities provides Niagara-based companies with a significant advantage. The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Company is able to provide business development services to help determine if there are new markets that Niagara Recycling might be able to sell Ecoglass in to.
- Although Niagara Recycling is actively seeking new and alternative markets for the crushed glass materials produced by the MRF, opportunity for the MRF to create new product lines, diversify markets, and increase the profitability of the facility should be investigated.

Historically, the primary focus of the MRF has been finding cost-effective solutions for processing and maximizing revenue from the sale recyclables to third-parties. During the site tour of the MRF, aluminum, paper, cardboard, and plastics were bundled for resale. The only value-add processing that is currently occurring on the premises is the use of crushed glass into Ecoglass.

One option to consider is how the MRF should move up the supply chain by identifying value-add services that can be done onsite. This would increase the utilization rate of the facility, adding new skilled labour, and increasing the revenues for Niagara Region. For example, this could include the de-inking of paper or turning paper into biomass pellets to be used in biomass energy plants. Currently, provision of shredding services to the private and public is provided as a value added service which could be further expanded.

A consumer market that has an increasing awareness of the impacts of climate change and the need to reduce their carbon footprint is creating an opportunity for manufacturers to utilize recycled inputs and sell their end products at a premium. Cascades is a Canadian-based company that specializes in collecting and converting recyclable materials into a range of paper products. The potential changes to the Ontario recycling sector provide second-mover advantage to organizations like Niagara Recycling if there is a desire to identify markets that would allow for new product development.



# RECYCLING

PRODUCT NEWS

## BUILDING ON A UNIQUE MODEL

NIAGARA RECYCLING'S SUCCESS BUILT ON  
DIVERSE CAPABILITIES COMBINED WITH A  
UNIQUE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE MODEL **PAGE 24**

**EQUIPMENT FOCUS:  
C&D AND SCRAP  
ATTACHMENTS**

**PAGE 34**

**THE ON-SITE  
ALTERNATIVE FOR  
FOOD WASTE** **PAGE 44**



# BUILDING O



Norm Kraft, president of Niagara Recycling, and employee Kevin Fripp on the container line.



NA

# UNIQUE MODEL FOR RECYCLING

NIAGARA RECYCLING IS A NON-PROFIT SOCIAL ENTERPRISE COMPANY THAT IS EFFICIENTLY RECOVERING AN EXTENSIVE RANGE OF MATERIALS WHILE PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT FOR DEVELOPMENTALLY CHALLENGED ADULTS

BY KEITH BARKER, EDITOR

**N**iagara Recycling was incorporated in 1978 as a non-profit social enterprise company. Norm Kraft started with the company in 1989, became CEO in 1993, and has never looked back.

"I've seen everything in this business," says Kraft. "The ups and downs of the marketplace, the evolution of technology. It's certainly been an incredible ride."

Niagara Recycling pioneered recycling in the region in the Seventies, starting with door-to-door collection of newspaper using cube vans. In 1985 they implemented the second residential recycling Blue Box program in the province of Ontario – likely the second in Canada after nearby Kitchener-Waterloo.

"By the early nineties, all 12 municipalities in the Region had implemented blue box programs," says Kraft. "In 1996, the Niagara Region assumed responsibility for all waste management including recycling, and we've enjoyed a mutually beneficial 23-year partnership with them ever since."

At the start, as a non-profit social enterprise company, Kraft explains that Niagara Recycling was set up in partnership with another non-profit organization known as NTEC (Niagara Training and Employment Center) which has the sole mandate to provide assistance to people with developmental disabilities.

"We were originally one of the arms for NTEC,

where we would integrate developmentally challenged adults into our workplace," he explains. "There was hardly any equipment then, maybe a few conveyors and mostly manual sorting of newspapers...a far cry from the sophistication used in MRFs today."

He adds that to his knowledge, Niagara Recycling's partnership with the Niagara Region, combined with its social mandate, is not a model that is being used elsewhere at MRFs on the same scale.

"Most of the MRFs in Ontario are operated by large corporations, as they are in many cities across North America, so it's rather unique to have this kind of close relationship with our Region," he says, adding that their facility also includes a MRF educational component through which they conduct public tours and school tours. "Since it is a public asset, it is important to showcase the facility to the community."

"Our relationship with Niagara also provides great flexibility for the Region as program changes can easily be made, often without complex and more costly negotiations that would occur with a private sector operator," he says. "We receive a fee for running the regionally owned 100,000 square-foot MRF and that fee is put back into the community. We submit an annual budget, they cover the expenses and they receive all the revenue from the sale of commodities."

"We operate as a non-profit social enterprise with two focuses. One is obviously to help the environ-

## COVER STORY



On the fibre line at  
Niagara Recycling.

ment through recycling, but secondly, it is to support the program here for developmentally challenged adults. It's a very unique model for providing recycling services."

Working with NTEC, Niagara Recycling hires individuals with developmental disabilities who are fully integrated into their operation, working a 40-hour work week. They also run a work experience training program, providing part-time positions. According to Kraft, since 1996, Niagara Recycling has donated over \$2.5 million back into the Niagara Region to support programs for developmentally challenged adults.

"Individuals in the part-time program receive counselling and coaching and skills development, and they get behavioural support and performance assessments," explains Kraft. "It's a way of teaching individuals with disabilities about life and work skills." He adds that while they only have so many positions to offer, the part-time positions often integrate into full-time or part-time jobs within the local community.

"For any business that has an opportunity to integrate developmentally challenged individuals into the workplace, we highly recommend it," he continues. "They're working on the sorting lines,

sorting polystyrene, paper or other plastics – wherever anyone else can work. And the changes in these individual's personalities is profound – once they get into the workplace, they gain social and work skills."

He says the employment of developmentally challenged adults also provides great benefits for Niagara Recycling. "It brings a feeling of community and it boosts morale. Co-workers are always watching out for these individuals, and they have a great sense of humour and bring laughter into our workplace. They are a very special part of Niagara Recycling."

#### DUAL-STREAM AND A DIVERSITY OF INFLOW

Niagara Recycling, different from most programs in North America currently, is a dual-stream MRF, and always has been. Kraft says more and more programs, especially smaller ones, are starting to revisit the choice to operate as single-stream, especially in light of changing global markets, such as China which has all but shut their doors to anything other than nearly 100 percent pure, uncontaminated recyclable material. When fibre is mixed with plastics and other Blue Box materials as incoming material in single-stream collection programs, it takes significantly

more processing effort and infrastructure to meet very strict contamination standards – for both streams of materials.

"There's a rethink around the benefits of single-stream," he says. "The fact that we've been two-stream from day one has ensured that we maximize our revenues and diversion from landfill."

Niagara Recycling processes about 300 short tons of curbside and commercial material daily. Of that total, about 75 to 80 percent is fibre and most of the remainder is plastic and other containers. In Niagara, with about 450,000 residents, residential recyclable materials are collected in two curbside boxes. The fibre stream is collected, along with plastic film, in a curbside Grey Box, including cardboard box board, newspaper, magazines, catalogues and office paper. The second stream, collected in a curbside Blue Box, consists of glass bottles and jars, steel cans, aluminum beverage cans, foil, aluminum, steel and aluminum aerosol and paint cans, polycoat and aseptic cartons, as well as all plastics one through seven, including polystyrene (styrofoam).

Kraft says that, generally speaking, residents do a good job of keeping items separated properly, but notes that the biggest challenge remains the proper source-separation of plastic film. Residents are asked to make sure all their plastic film, grocery bags, plastic packaging and stretch wrap is put into one bag, tied and placed in the Grey Box with the fibre stream. Often however, plastic film is still placed in the Blue Box, or loose in the Grey Box, which makes separation very challenging.

"We find film stays cleaner when it's in the Grey Box, which makes it better for our end market to process," he explains. "It is easier to separate this way, because when it gets in the Blue Box container stream the bags can rip open easily on the glass and metal, and become contaminated with liquids and fine glass."

He adds that while their two-stream system is a part of why Niagara Recycling has proven to be one of the more cost-effective operations in the province, the diverse nature of the materials they accept is also a significant factor.

"We have as comprehensive a list of acceptable items as probably anyone out there," says Kraft. "Unlike most other



recycling operations in Ontario, if not Canada, we have diversified beyond the traditional model where a municipality hires a contractor to process material from Blue Box or Grey Box programs.

"For us, 52 percent of the tonnage that we process is from the residential program here. But because our facility is owned by the Region, through our unique partnership we also work together to bid on other contracts. About 48 percent of the volume we bring in is from third party municipal contracts and from commercial recycling programs that Niagara Recycling has developed over the last 30 years or more."

He says some third-party contracts they bid on in Ontario include additional fibre and containers from other municipal Blue Box programs, and all their contracts add up. "If we're processing 78,000 tons a year, those third-party contracts are close to 37,000 tons, so it allows us to generate more income for the Region."

With all of these sources, including some acceptable drop-off of items,

including textiles and bulky rigid plastics such as old Blue Boxes, lawn chairs and more, Niagara Recycling definitely has one of the more comprehensive recycling programs in Ontario and maybe in Canada. Outside of film plastic and black plastics (including food trays and flower pots), items that many programs do not accept, they also recycle aerosol paint cans and expanded polystyrene (white and coloured styrofoam.)

"We have been able to find diverse markets and we've put in equipment that has allowed us to stay in the business of recycling a wide range of commodities," he says.

Yet another example of the diversified nature of Niagara Recycling's business is that they provide on-site document destruction services. "We bought a Shred-Tech shredding truck in 2012 and we offer on site NAID (National Association for Information Destruction)-certified shredding," Kraft explains.

"We provide on-site shredding services to local businesses, institutions and

**“For any business that has an opportunity to integrate developmentally challenged individuals into the workplace, we highly recommend it.”**

**Norm Kraft**

municipal offices. It's another way to generate income.

"We bring in upwards of up to 80 tons a month," says Kraft. "Office waste is worth a significant amount of money. Plus we charge for shredding services, so it definitely brings in good extra revenue for the Region."

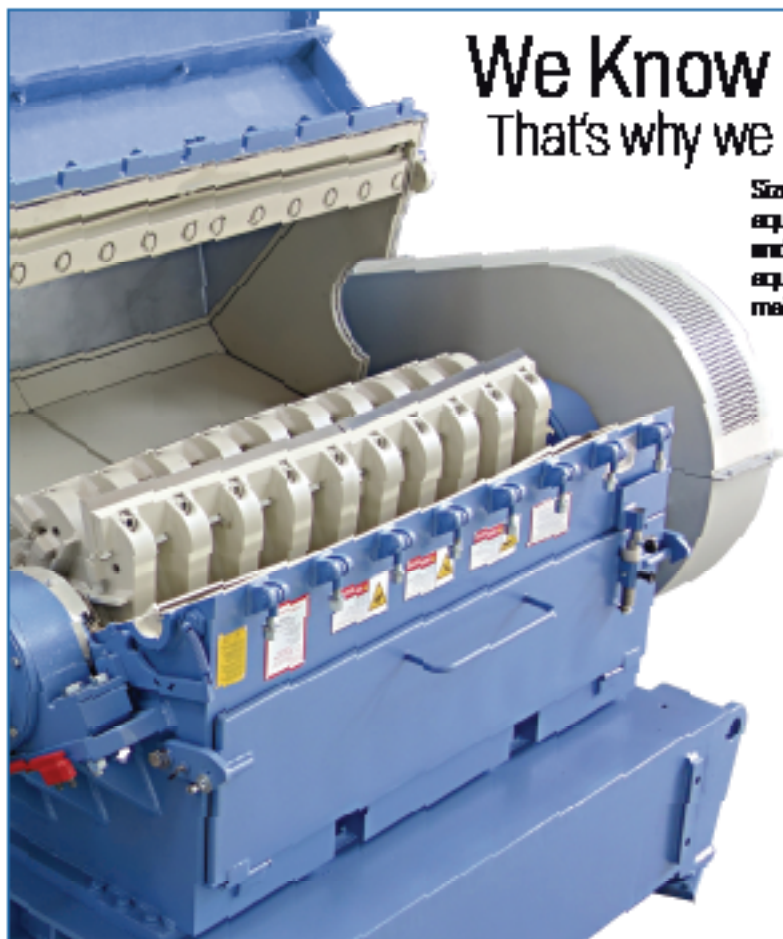
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## PROCESSING POLYSTYRENE AND GLASS

Niagara Recycling's diversified capabilities include two particularly challenging materials: polystyrene (white and coloured styrofoam) and glass.

In 2016, after their optical sorting units were installed, they also installed a cold-press polystyrene processing plant, by which styrofoam material is compacted, without melting, up to a 50-to-1 ratio.

"We make it into 50-pound blocks that are about four feet long by one foot by one foot, which we stack on a pallet," explains Kraft. "We're actually shipping that to Europe and it's been a huge benefit for the Region."

Formerly, they marketed polystyrene with their mixed plastics, but that devalued the mixed plastics. "Today, I probably couldn't even sell mixed plastics containing styrofoam," he says. "The reason we put the system in was to process the styrofoam separately from our mixed plastics. Now we get over \$50/ton for our mixed plastics and over \$250/ton for polystyrene EPS blocks."

He says their recovered polystyrene is made into pellets, and then into new products such as crown moulding and picture frames. "Something that we may look at down the road is: does it make sense for us to do some pelletizing of our styrofoam, rather than shipping it all overseas for pelletizing? Maybe it makes sense to do it right here in Ontario."

For glass collected through the Region's Blue Box and other contracts, Niagara Recycling uses a processing system they designed in-house, creating the end-product Niagara Ecoglass.

Kraft explains that while most MRFs throughout Canada accept glass and many are investing in cleanup systems so they can move the material to end markets, those markets remain very strict on quality. Glass processors charge anywhere from \$10 per ton up to \$60 per ton, plus freight.

Niagara Recycling, on the other hand, keeps it in-house, processes it and sells it for over \$100 per ton.

"We sell our Ecoglass in 50-pound bags, with our product information in French and English. We sell it in bulk, loose, dump trailers, and in large 3,000-pound sacks for some industrial customers. We sell about 90 percent into the sandblasting market. Our process makes great economic sense for glass, even when you factor in the cost of processing it. We are saving money on shipping it and not paying a glass processor to take it."

Kraft explains that their process first uses magnets to remove any small caps, lids, nails, etc. that were missed by the container line electromagnet. Then glass goes through a primary grinding stage where it is broken down to about a three-quarter-inch material. From there it goes through a series of screens and more magnets which remove even smaller pieces of metal.

"Then it goes in the dryer, which is where our process starts to move away from a traditional cleanup system," he explains. "Once we have the moisture down to less than half a percent, then that glass passes over a large multi-deck screen and makes three different product sizes that we're able to sell. We have a coarse, a medium and a fine. The largest size glass that we make is about a 16-mesh – a little bit bigger than a sand particle."

He says in total they process over 5,000 tons a year of glass,



Niagara Recycling's cold-press polystyrene processing setup compacts EPS into 50-pound blocks.

adding that because the material is very dirty when it comes in, contaminated with plastic, lids, labels, food waste and other residue, they do depend on their equipment and process to do a lot of cleaning and vacuuming to get that contamination out. "When you sell it as a sandblasting abrasive you can't have clumps of paper in there because it will jam their sandblasting nozzle."

Kraft continues, "We have a sustainable market for glass where we're actually in control of our own destiny. And we have an efficient process. We don't have to worry about having a market that may change, or where they may not take our material in the future. We've developed a very solid market for glass, which is a great accomplishment for Niagara."

## OPTICAL UPGRADES WITH END MARKETS IN MIND

In late December 2015, the Niagara Region implemented a \$2.5 million upgrade at the Niagara Recycling facility.

"We became one of the first in Ontario to use twin optical sorters to positively eject brown materials (cardboard/box-board)," says Kraft. "At that time there was nobody else doing that at the level that we were proposing."

He explains that prior to their upgrade, fibre was manually sorted after the OCC separator. Now, the twin optical sorters are not only effectively ejecting cardboard and boxboard, they also eject items that shouldn't be in the fibre stream, including poly-coat cartons, loose film, and all plastic bottles and containers.

"Each optical sorter operates at a throughput rate of 12 tons per hour, so up to 24 tons per hour over the two units, which is very impressive," says Kraft.

Niagara Recycling's optical sorting system was installed by Van Dyk, using Titech optical sorters – the largest models currently on the market at nine feet wide (shown above, opposite) While Van Dyk won the bid to put in the upgrade on the fibre optical sorting system, Kraft says the rest of the facility, since it was commissioned in 2004, is a combination of equipment and





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## COVER STORY



**Niagara Recycling uses twin Titech optical sorters to eject browns, cartons, film and plastic bottles from the fibre line at up to 24 metric tonnes/hour.**

technology from various suppliers.

At the time they installed the optical sorters in late 2015, he says the objective was mainly to help create better quality material for the local mill, Resolute Forest Products. “We made the investment to improve our quality. At that time our quality was upwards of 30 percent contamination, consisting of all the plastic, garbage, as well as cardboard and box-board. But within a year of installation, Resolute went out of business. All of a sudden, now we had to look at the export market because there wasn’t sufficient domestic capacity to take our recovered newspaper.

“Then all the ‘problems’ started happening in 2017 with China’s announcement about restricted imports of mixed recycled materials.”

At that point he says because of their 2015 upgrade, they were well suited to be able to tackle the challenges associated with the new quality requirements. “Our quality went from about 30 percent con-

tamination, including prohibitives and outthrows, down to about 12 percent, which for us was tremendous,” he says. With close to a 60 percent improvement in quality, it ensured they were able to continue to ship to export markets, other than China.

“With that investment in our optical sorters in 2015, taking a risk at that time on this equipment, it worked out very well in terms of being able to meet the current tougher market specifications.”

Currently, Kraft says about 80 percent of Niagara Recycling’s newspaper is exported to markets including Indonesia, Korea, Vietnam and India.

With respect to plastics, the story is a bit different.

“We have not shipped any of our residential Blue Box program plastics to China in almost 10 years, and never to India,” he says. “We have sustainable markets right here in Ontario and the U.S. for our plastic film, our mixed plastics, our bulky rigid plastics and our PET and

HDPE. We don’t have any dependence on foreign markets for plastics.”

Still, according to Kraft, the recent news about India planning to close its doors to mixed materials, with a similar policy to China’s, leaves a lot of questions about what effect it will have on pricing in North America. He says MRFs that were shipping to India may now have to look at possibly re-routing into facilities in Canada and the U.S., which could end up driving prices down and be a big concern for MRF operators.

“I don’t know how that’s going to impact things here, but it certainly will impact companies that ship commercial grade films and other grades overseas,” Kraft says. “It’s going to probably put renewed emphasis on the need for more advanced processing here in North America in terms of pelletizing plastics. Once you pelletize, you can ship more into foreign markets.”

#### **NEW STEWARDSHIP POLICY – UNCERTAIN FUTURE**

In Ontario, currently, the province is looking at switching to a 100 percent Stewardship-funded program for residential recyclables, similar to what has been done in other provinces in Canada. For Niagara Recycling, Kraft says the prospect of this new policy in Ontario evokes some red flags with respect to the future of their operation.

“Right now, in the province of Ontario, Stewardship Ontario pays 50 percent of the costs of our programs for collection and recovery of blue box materials,” explains Kraft. “In British Columbia, about five years ago they switched to a 100 percent Stewardship-based program. Now they want to go to a similar 100 percent stewardship-run program here.” He notes though that Ontario is somewhat different from B.C., because of the difference in scope. “Ontario produces at least three times as much recyclable volumes as B.C., so it means larger scale impacts.”

He explains that Stewards in Ontario currently pay more than \$125 million a year to municipalities to offset 50 percent of their recycling program costs. The money is removed from the residential tax base. With the proposed new program, that number could double



to about \$250 million a year.

“If you talk to the Stewards or the Provincial Environment Ministry, basically the philosophy is that if the Stewards are going to pay for the program entirely, they want full control of the collection contracts and MRF processing operations,” says Kraft. “What it means potentially is that there is going to be consolidation, there’s going to be local job losses. Companies like ours who help the community through our social enterprise model – the small companies, the non-profits who really are the engines that started recycling back in the ‘70s and ‘80s here – will likely all be gone and it’s going to be only the ‘big players’ that are going to be running our recycling facilities.”

He says as far as he understands at this early stage, what the provincial government is aiming to do is have a centralized framework that essentially takes the number of MRFs in Ontario from about 53 to as low as 10 or 12. So far, a strategy has been developed based on what is referred to as catchment areas. Due to their location and population, it is most likely the nearest centralized facility would be situated in the Hamilton area.

He says if this happens, Niagara Region material may have to be hauled to Hamilton at the Stewards’ expense, for example. “Then what opportunities will we have to stay in the business?” asks Kraft. “The Niagara Region would have to bid on processing its own material, and if Stewards don’t like the price they get from Niagara, then our region would be stuck with a potentially empty facility – a stranded asset as the Stewards refer to it.”

He says the current government is pushing this agenda, and it is expected that a new program will be rolled out by late 2021. “That’s the latest I’ve heard and read and that’s a pretty quick timetable to start transitioning municipalities over to a 100 percent Stewardship based program.” He also notes that while Stewards would only be responsible for the residential recycling program, which does not include commercial materials, they would likely also lose some of their current third party contracts with municipalities, as these would be captured in the other catchment areas established by the Stewards.

“It’s disappointing that the Stewards

and Province would not consider a hybrid model in which municipalities who own MRFs and prefer to do their own curbside collection and processing would have a choice to receive an increase in funding from the current 50 percent to about 80 percent, and could then continue to operate their recycling program on this basis. This would be a win-win situation for municipalities

and smaller operators such as us. The Stewards would save about 20 percent in funding and in Niagara, we would make up some of the difference through our unique programs such as on-site shredding, glass processing and other commercial programs. There would also be no impact in recycling service levels to the taxpayers in Niagara.”

*Continued on page 58.*

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## COVER STORY: NIAGARA RECYCLING

*Continued from page 31.*

"If we have 53 plants in Ontario and all of a sudden we're switching to a smaller number of massive MRFs, fully automated, with robotics and optical sorters, from a business perspective it makes sense. But it's a huge change and it could have local economic impacts for smaller MRFs and smaller communities across the province.

He says questions that should be asked include: how do we protect some of the smaller facilities that are out there? For some of the MRFs that have been here for many years, how do we ensure minimal job losses?

"I don't get a good feeling currently as to where companies like ours fit in in the future of recycling in our Province, and that's a big challenge we're faced with."

Still, for Kraft, despite the uncertainty of the future, overall he remains optimistic. He can certainly attest to the fact that Niagara Recycling has had an incredible journey over its 41 years in business, diverting more than 1.5 million tons of recyclables from landfill, and providing huge benefits to their region.

"Life is full of uncertainty," he says. "But I am optimistic we will find a new place in the future, and that we'll ensure continued job opportunities and support for developmentally challenged individuals in our community." *RPN*



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**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA  
WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**WMPSC 1-2019  
Monday, February 25, 2019  
Committee Room 4  
Niagara Region Headquarters  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold ON**

Committee: Councillors Bellows, Butters, Fertich, Gibson, Ugulini  
(Committee Chair), Witteveen (Committee Vice-Chair), J.  
Bacher, H. Washuta

Absent/Regrets: Bradley (Regional Chair), Diodati, Rigby

Staff: J. Gilston, Legislative Coordinator, C. Habermebl, Acting  
Commissioner, Public Works, T. Harrison, Commissioner,  
Enterprise Resource Management Services / Treasurer, F.  
Marcella, Internal Auditor, J. Mazurek, Program Manager, Waste  
Management, S. Mota, Program Financial Specialist, E. Prpic,  
Associate Director, Disposal Operations and Engineering, S.  
Tait, Program Manager, Waste Management Services, L.  
Torbicki, Acting Director, Waste Management Services, B.  
Whitelaw, Program Manager, Policy and Planning

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Jonathan Gilston, Legislative Coordinator, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

**2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

**3. SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

**3.1 Call for Nominations of Committee Chair**

Jonathan Gilston, Legislative Coordinator, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee for a two-year term (2019-2020).

Moved by Councillor Witteveen  
Seconded by Councillor Gibson

That Councillor Ugulini **BE NOMINATED** as Chair of the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee for a two-year term (2019-2020).

Moved by H. Washuta  
Seconded by Councillor Ugulini

That Councillor Witteveen **BE NOMINATED** as Chair of the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee for a two-year term (2019-2020).

3.2 Motion to Close the Nominations for Committee Chair

Jonathan Gilston, Legislative Coordinator, called a second and third time for nominations for the position of Waste Management Planning Steering Committee Chair.

There being no further nominations it was:

Moved by Councillor Gibson  
Seconded by Councillor Butters

That nominations for the position of Chair of the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee for a two-year term (2019-2020), **BE CLOSED.**

**Carried**

3.3 Voting for Position of Committee Chair

Voting by a show of hands resulted in the following:

Ugulini = 4

Witteveen = 2

Based on the result of the vote, the Legislative Coordinator announced that Councillor Ugulini had received the majority of votes and would be the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee Chair for a two-year term (2019-2020).

3.4 Call for Nominations for Committee Vice-Chair

Jonathan Gilston, Legislative Coordinator, called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee for a two-year term (2019-2020).

Moved by Councillor Gibson  
Seconded by Councillor Butters

That Councillor Witteveen **BE NOMINATED** as Vice-Chair of the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee for a two-year term (2019-2020).

3.5 Motion to Close the Nominations for Committee Vice-Chair

Jonathan Gilston, Legislative Coordinator, called a second and third time for nominations for the position of Waste Management Planning Steering Committee Vice-Chair.

There being no further nominations it was:

Moved by Councillor Butters

Seconded by Councillor Ugulini

That nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee for a two-year term (2019-2020), **BE CLOSED.**

**Carried**

3.6 Voting for Position of Committee Vice-Chair

There being only one nominee for the position of Committee Vice-Chair, the Legislative Coordinator, announced that Councillor Witteveen would be the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee Vice-Chair for a two-year term (2019-2020).

At this point of the meeting, Councillor Ugulini assumed the Chair.

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

4.1 Overview of Waste Management Services Division

Lydia Torbicki, Acting Director, Waste Management Services, provided information respecting Overview of Waste Management Services Division. Topics of the presentation included:

- Waste Management Services Sections and Overview
- Niagara Region Waste Management Facilities
- Collection Services Program Summary
- Diversion Programs and Other Initiatives
- 2010-17 Residential Diversion Rates
- 2015-16 Garbage Composition
- Governing Legislation
- Provincial Initiatives
- Major 2019 Initiatives
- Waste Management Advisory Committee (WMAC)

**Councillor Information Request(s):**

That Waste Management staff consult with Economic Development as to how to maximize the potential of the Material Recycling Facility (MRF) and the partnership with Niagara Recycling before proceeding with the Phase 4 Opportunity Review request for proposal (RFP). Councillor Butters.

**5. DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations.

**6. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**6.1 WMPSC-C 1-2019**

2019 Meeting Schedule

Moved by Councillor Witteveen

Seconded by H. Washuta

That WMPSC-C 1-2019, dated February 25, 2019, being the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee 2019 Meeting Schedule, **BE RECEIVED** and that the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee Meetings **BE HELD** on Mondays at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates in 2019:

April 29, June 24, August 26 and October 28.

**Carried**

**7. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**7.1 WMPSC-C 2-2019**

2019 Social Marketing and Education Plan and Overview of 2018 Initiatives

Moved by H. Washuta

Seconded by Councillor Witteveen

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 2-2019, being a memorandum from A. Northcotte, Engagement & Education Coordinator, dated February 25, 2019, respecting 2019 Social Marketing and Education Plan and Overview of 2018 Initiatives, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

7.2 WMPSC-C 3-2019

Councillor Information Request

Moved by Councillor Gibson

Seconded by Councillor Butters

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 3-2019, being a memorandum from L. Torbicki, Acting Director, Waste Management Services, dated January 21, 2019, respecting Councillor Information Request, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

7.3 WMPSC-C 4-2019

Illegal Dumping

Moved by Councillor Butters

Seconded by H. Washuta

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 4-2019, being a memorandum from K. Avella, Contract Supervisor, Waste Management, dated February 25, 2019, respecting Illegal Dumping, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

7.4 WMPSC-C 5-2019

Public Stakeholder Engagement Results on Proposed Collection Service Options

Moved by Councillor Butters

Seconded by Councillor Gibson

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 5-2019, being a memorandum from B. Whitelaw, Program Manager, Policy and Planning, dated February 25, 2019, respecting Public Stakeholder Engagement Results on Proposed Collection Service Options, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

7.5 WMPSC-C 6-2019

Special Events Recycling and Organics – 2018 Program Results

Moved by Councillor Gibson

Seconded by Councillor Butters

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 6-2019, being a memorandum from E. Hughes, Waste Diversion Coordinator, dated February 25, 2019, respecting Special Events Recycling and Organics – 2018 Program Results, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

7.6 WMPSC-C 7-2019

2015/2016 Waste Composition Study Results

Moved by Councillor Witteveen

Seconded by H. Washuta

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 7-2019, being a memorandum from B. Whitelaw, Program Manager, Policy and Planning, dated February 25, 2019, respecting 2015/2016 Waste Composition Study Results, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

7.7 WMPSC-C 8-2019

Ontario Waste Management Association's State of Waste in Ontario:  
Landfill Report

Moved by Councillor Gibson

Seconded by Councillor Witteveen

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 8-2019, being a memorandum from A. Winters, Program Manager, Waste Disposal Operations, dated February 25, 2019, respecting Ontario Waste Management Association's State of Waste in Ontario: Landfill Report, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**



7.8 WMPSC-C 9-2019

A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan

Moved by Councillor Butters

Seconded by H. Washuta

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 9-2019, being a memorandum from A. Winters, Program Manager, Waste Disposal Operations, dated February 25, 2019, respecting A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

7.9 WMPSC-C 10-2019

Proposed Producer Responsibility Framework for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Batteries

Moved by Councillor Gibson

Seconded by Councillor Butters

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 10-2019, being a memorandum from J. Mazurek, Acting Manager, Waste Policy and Planning, dated February 25, 2019, respecting Proposed Producer Responsibility Framework for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Batteries, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

7.10 WMPSC-C 11-2019

Closed-top Recycling Containers

Moved by Councillor Butters

Seconded by H. Washuta

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 11-2019, being a memorandum from S. Tait, Associate Director, Collection & Diversion Operations, dated February 25, 2019, respecting Closed-top Recycling Containers, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

**8.1 Material Recycling Facility Phase 4 Operations Review**

Moved by Councillor Butters  
Seconded by Councillor Witteveen

That staff **PROVIDE** options that could be included in the negotiated request for proposal (RFP) and terms of reference for the Material Recycling Facility Phase 4 Opportunity Review to allow for the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee to provide comments prior to the RFP being released to market.

**Carried**

**9. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 29, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

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Councillor Ugulini  
Committee Chair

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Jonathan Gilston  
Legislative Coordinator

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Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk