



# Recycling Council of Ontario

**Northern Ontario First Nations Environment Conference  
October 4, 2017**

**Ontario's Changing Landscape  
*Waste-Free Ontario Act***

# *Waste-Free Ontario Act* (Short Title)

Omnibus Bill that enacts two new Bills

1. *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act* (2015)
2. *Waste Diversion Transition Act* (2015)

Repeals

1. *Waste Diversion Act* (2002)



# Acts Compared

## ***Waste Diversion Act***

Focused predominately on producer responsibility

Transition of responsibility/cost from municipalities/First Nations

Created Industry Funding Organizations (IFO) or steward organizations

## ***Waste-Free Ontario Act***

Broad-based beyond producer responsibility (PR)

Primary focus for PR is on transition of IFO programs to Individual Producer focus

Creation of a new oversight Authority

Includes a provincial strategy - multifaceted



# Existing Programs

created under the *Waste Diversion Act*

- Printed Paper and Packaging (Blue Box)
- Scrap Tires
- Waste Electrical and Electronic
- Municipal Hazardous and Special Wastes.

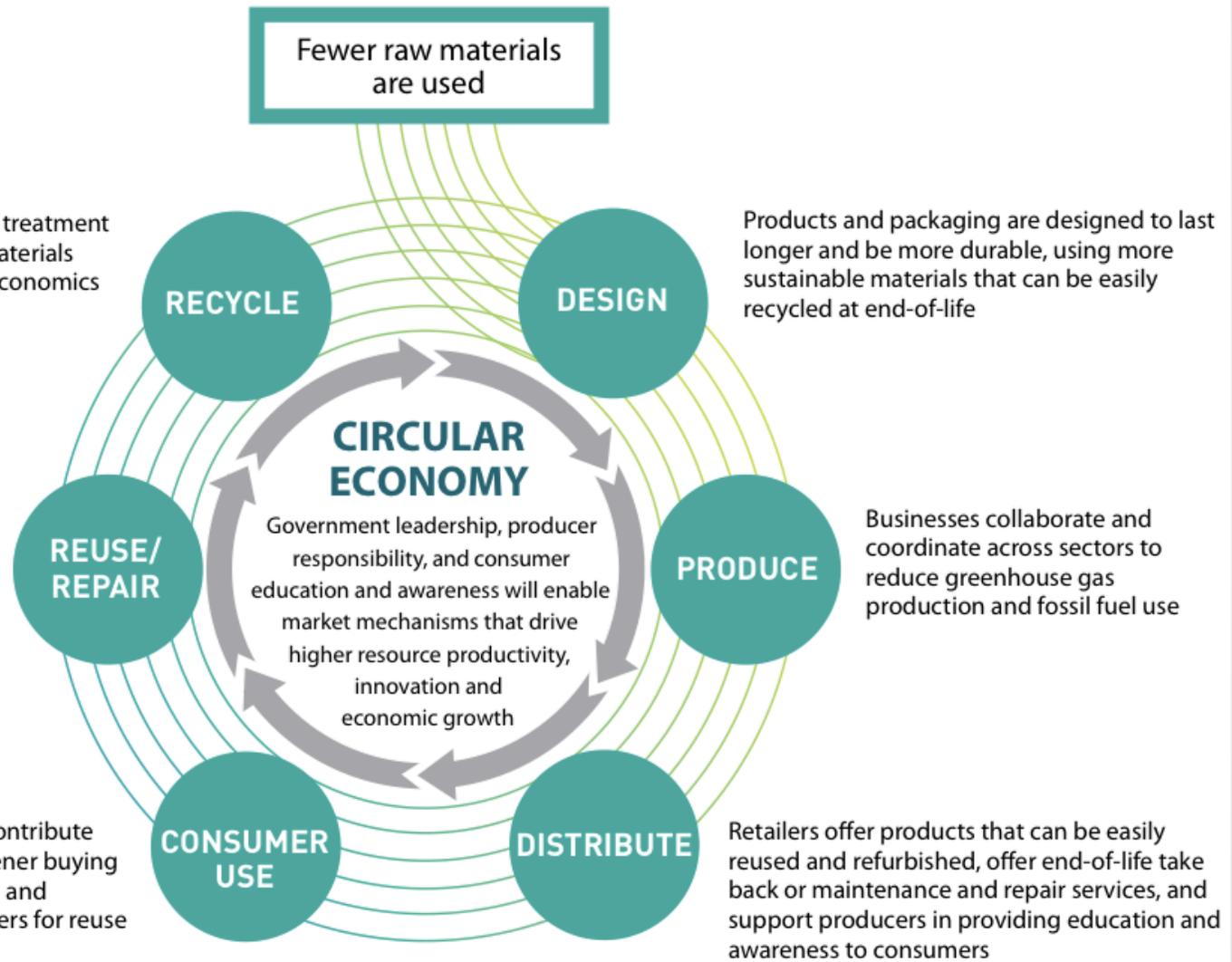


# About the *Waste-Free Ontario Act*

Improved, cost-efficient collection and treatment systems will lead to fewer and fewer materials ending up in landfill and support the economics of circular design

Producers are fully responsible for recovering materials from their products and packaging throughout their lifecycle

There are many ways consumers can contribute to a circular economy, like making greener buying choices, sharing assets (e.g., cars, tools) and repairing them or offering them to others for reuse and refurbishing



# Objectives (as stated by MOECC)

## ***Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act***

- Transform existing waste diversion framework to support circular economy
- Set overarching provincial direction and establish new producer responsibility regime

## ***Waste Diversion Transition Act***

- Ensure the smooth transition to the new producer responsibility regime

## **Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario: Building a Circular Economy**

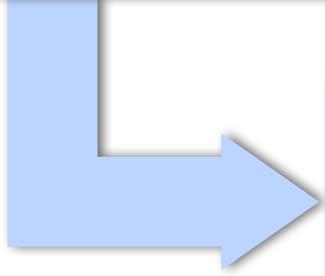
- Support achieving the goals



# Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act

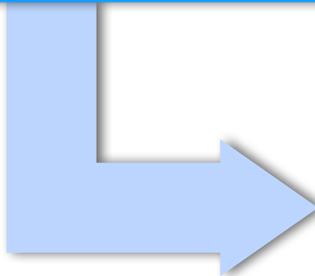
Provincial Interests

- Described specifically in the Act – Guide Decision Making
- Provincial Interests are supported in a Strategy that the Minister is required to develop



Policy Statements

- Minister Issues
- Approved by Lieutenant Governor in Council
- Certain persons/entities MUST have regard for these
- Existing Instruments must be made consistent



Creation of an Authority

- WDO transitions to the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority
- Existing board terminated upon Royal Asset



# Provincial Interests

*Ontario has a system of resource recovery and waste reduction that aims to:*

15 statements that speak to:

- reducing wastes/disposal
- GHG, toxins
- improved product and packaging design
- producer responsibility
- improving markets
- expanding education
- promoting competition
- consumer fairness

Act states that certain persons or entities... *shall have regard for these provincial interests.....*

- includes Authority, producers, service providers and operators (public or private), agencies carrying out any responsibility

# Policy Statements

- Not regulations, sets policy direction, approved by Cabinet
- *Certain persons MUST ensure that they act in a manner that is consistent with the policy statement when doing things related to resource recovery and waste reduction.*
- Must be cross-referenced and considered alongside other existing policies, i.e., *Municipal Act* (Official Plans and by-laws); *Environmental Protection Act*; *Planning Act*; *Environmental Assessment Act*; *Water Resources Act*; etc.
- Minister will develop the policy statements in consultation with a variety of interested and affected stakeholders.
- Review every 10 years.



# Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority

## Key Functions:

- Set and collect fees for the purpose of recovering its costs
- Required to appoint a Registrar
  - Operates a registry – entities such as producers, service providers (public and private), generators or agents for the above register their activities as it relates to the Act
  - Registration information could include responsibilities within the Act or related regulation specific to waste reduction, collection, management, promotion and education, reporting, and record keeping
  - Appoints inspectors – support compliance and enforcement
- Relationship to government
  - Government may ask Authority to defray its costs associated with administering the Act



# Responsible Parties

- Brand holders
- Commercial connection to the waste
- Supplies convenience packaging (or has supplied but no longer does)
- Person who markets the product
- Person who performs an activity that relates to resource recovery and waste reduction (public or private service providers)



# Responsibilities

## Design

- Improve reduction and recyclability through design
- Reduce waste generated
- Reduce or eliminate use of certain substances
- Increase use of recovered materials

## Collection

- Establish and operate a collection system
- Several specific requirements related to scope, access, standards, and coverage



# Registry

- Receive information from obligated parties
- Provide public access to information (subject to regulation)
- Provide public notice of fees
- Can be used to collect:
  - list or description of products and packaging
  - list of persons retained to provide services
  - description of how that person is fulfilling or plans to fulfill their responsibility
  - other information that could affect resource recovery or waste reduction in Ontario



# *Waste Diversion Transition Act*

- Sets up the process by which current programs under the *Waste Diversion Act* transition under the new *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act*
- Through Minister's direction - winds up current programs and Industry Funding Organizations (IFO)
- The Authority assumes oversight and enforcement of IFO programs
- IFO rules and authority to collect fees remain in place until they are wound up
- Minister may appoint administrators within the IFOs to support wind up if Authority fails its duties
- IFOs are required to consult during their wind up process



# *Waste Diversion Transition Act*

Minister has provided direction to begin transition of two programs

1. Scrap Tires
2. Blue Box = PPP



# Current Printed Paper and Packaging Recycling Residential

- Municipalities over a certain size must by law collect and manage paper products and packaging;
- ***Shared responsibility***: producers must pay 50% of local government costs of recycling under Ontario's Blue Box program
- Limited co-ordination between systems that collect and recycle paper products and packaging (local governments and their contractors) and those that use it to package products (producers)



# Minister's Direction

- Prepare an amended Blue Box Program Plan (a-BBPP) by February 15, 2018
- Include transition for Stewardship Ontario to be fully responsible for delivering PPP collection and management in Ontario
- Transition sets stage for EPR and circular economy regulation under *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act*



# Transition Goals

- Preserve integrity of residential recycling while improving environmental outcomes
- Seamless transition to EPR with uninterrupted collection service to Ontarians
- Avoid disruption of existing local government (municipal and first nations) contracts and ensure an open and competitive market
- Minimize disruption to local government capital assets



# Transition Process

- Amended Blue Box Program Plan will describe how Stewardship Ontario establishes relationships with local governments, first nations and private recycling companies as existing contracts expire
- Municipalities and First Nations communities not transitioning immediately will continue on under shared responsibility



# Minister's Request

- Stewardship Ontario to “consider expanding Blue B collection services over time” to include:
  - Multi-family dwellings not currently serviced
  - Communities not currently serviced
- There will be opportunities in the future for First Nations communities not delivering recycling service today to gain access to PPP recycling



# Consultation

- Minister requires an engagement plan for stakeholders and Indigenous Peoples
- **Stakeholder and Indigenous Peoples Engagement and Communications Plan**

[www.RPRA.ca](http://www.RPRA.ca)

- Sets out engagement approach, timelines, and activities for stakeholders and Indigenous Peoples



# Initial Engagement

- Begins with meetings to discuss and gather feedback on proposed features of an a-BBPP
  - Invitations sent to municipalities and First Nations for consultation meetings October 12 and 27
  - Module 1 – October 12: will focus on the proposed transition process including eligibility criteria for municipalities and First Nations communities wishing to transition
  - Module 2 – October 27: will focus on performance requirements for the transitioned recycling system
- Feedback is critical to draft amended Blue Box Program Plan



# Regional Meetings

- A series of local consultations with interested municipalities and First Nations communities will be held throughout November:
  - Southwestern Ontario
  - Greater Hamilton Area
  - Eastern Ontario
  - Central Ontario
  - Northwestern Ontario
  - Northeastern Ontario
- Expect an invitation



# Phase Two: Draft a-BBPP

- Authority and Stewardship Ontario will release a full draft of the a-BBPP proposal by December 22, 2017.
- Consultation webinars for stakeholders will be held on January 8 and written feedback will be requested by January 15
- a-BBPP must be submitted to Minister by February 15, 2018 deadline



# Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario: Building the Circular Economy

- Posted with the Act
- Comments through the EBR
- Reviewed every 10 years – but can be altered by Minister at any time.



# Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario: Building the Circular Economy

15 action items:

1. Empower the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority
2. Issue policy statements to provide clear direction on the provincial interest
3. Establish a registry and build data capacity to provide for evidence based decisions
4. Transition existing waste diversion programs to new producer responsibility framework without disruption of services
5. Amend the 3Rs Regulations to increase resource recovery across all sectors
6. Establish service provider requirements to protect the environment while promoting resource recovery
7. Ensure landfills are well planned and managed to minimize their need and reduce greenhouse gas emissions
8. Establish promotion and education requirements to support public participation in resource recovery

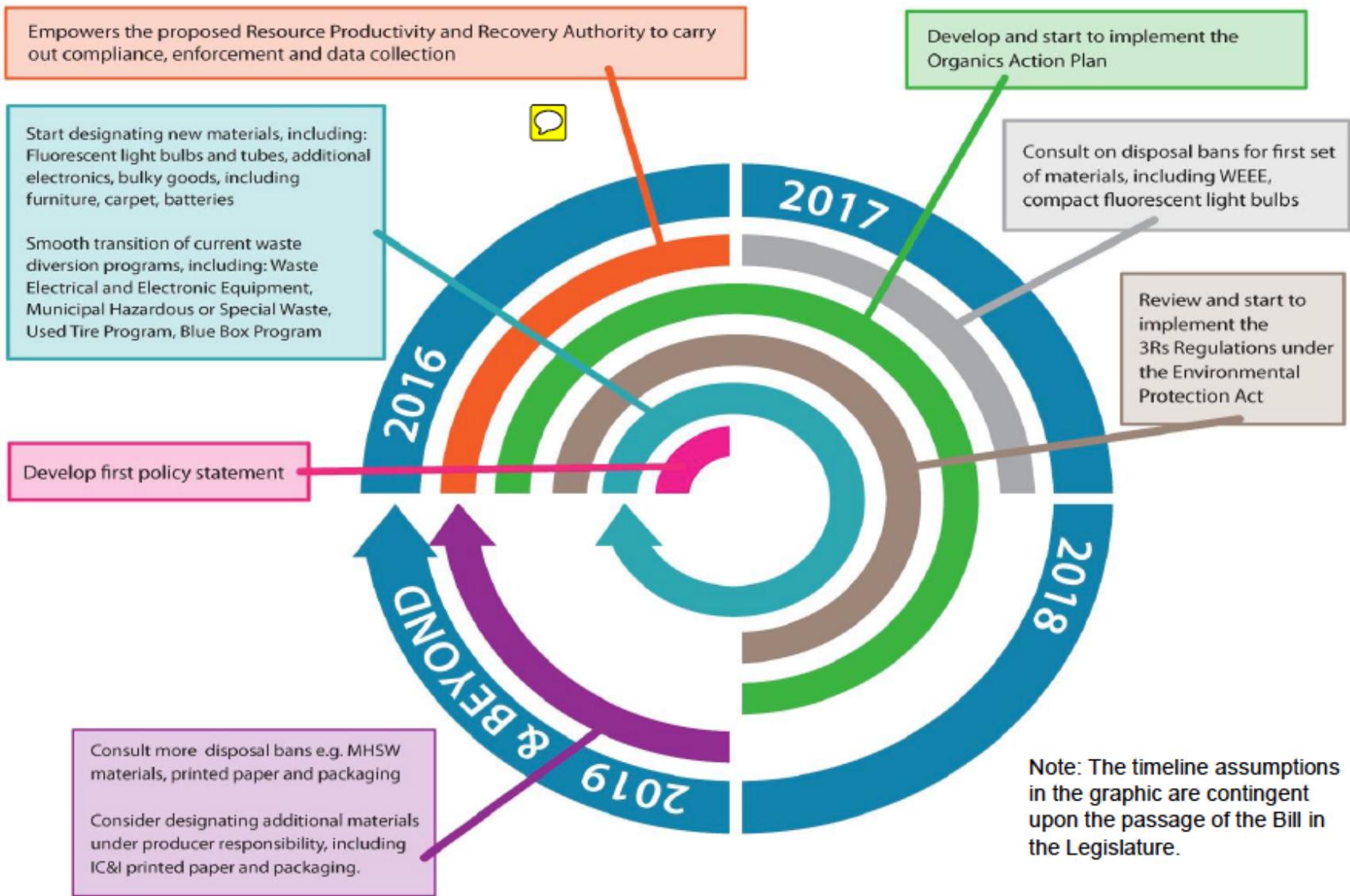


# Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario: Building the Circular Economy

15 action items *continued*:

9. Designate new materials to ensure producers are fully responsible for recovering more materials from products and packaging
10. Implement an action plan to reduce the volume of food and organic wastes going to landfill
11. Implement an Excess Soil Management Policy Framework to increase the reuse of excess soil, while protecting human health and the environment
12. Adopt and implement modern regulatory approaches to build on and promote innovative best practices
13. Improve and establish environmental standards to provide a level playing field and a strong foundation for markets
14. Use green procurement practices to build market demand for recovered materials
15. Implement disposal bans to direct materials to end-markets

# Draft Strategy - Priorities and Proposed Timelines





# Questions

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