Laura Schumi

From:Laura SchumiSent:Friday, March 08, 2019 2:34 PMTo:Laura SchumiSubject:Commercially Generated Recycling - March Board Agenda Correspondence ItemAttachments:MOE letter re Commercially Generated Recycling.pdf

Importance:

High

From: Minister, ENV ENV:EX [mailto:ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Friday, March 8, 2019 12:29 PM
To: Director Martin <<u>RMartin@csrd.bc.ca</u>>
Cc: Jennifer Sham <<u>isham@csrd.bc.ca</u>>
Subject: RE: Commercially Generated Recycling

Reference: 339087

March 8, 2019

Rhona Martin, Chair and Directors Columbia Shuswap Regional District Email: <u>rmartin@csrd.bc.ca</u>

Dear Chair Martin and Directors:

Thank you for your letter of January 22, 2019, submitting Columbia Shuswap Regional District's (CSRD's) request for the paper and packaging product (PPP) Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program to be expanded to include commercially generated recycling. I apologize for the delay in responding.

The CSRD's continued engagement in EPR is vital to the program's success and your comments regarding commercially generated packaging will be taken into account as we move forward with EPR in BC.

The ministry has been focusing on continuous improvement of BC's 22 EPR programs for the past few years and we are now in a position to consider expanding the Recycling Regulation to include other products. As you may appreciate, there are a wide variety of options to consider. For example, this may include requiring EPR on new categories of products such as single-use packaging items, mattresses, pool chemicals and other harmful products. It may also include expanding current obligated products to include commercially generated materials. As the ministry explores expanding EPR programs, I am pleased to confirm that local governments will be part of the process and that there will be broad consultation on the expansions being considered. It is important to note that the Recycling Regulation only prescribes what materials are obligated, not who collects and manages the materials at end-of-life.

The CSRD, of course, stands as a key stakeholder in this process and through the close working relationships in place with ministry staff, you will be notified as these developments unfold. For details on how you can participate at that time, please check <u>https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/recycling/product-stewardship</u>.

Thank you again for taking the time to write and for sharing your concerns with me.

Sincerely,

George Heyman Minister