

Date

The Honourable George Heyman
Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Room 112 Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister,

The _____ is writing to ask that the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECCS) to expand the scope of the Recycling Regulation for Packaging and Paper Product (PPP) to include the Industrial Commercial and Institutional (ICI) sector.

In 2014 many British Columbia local governments signed on to the Multi Materials BC (now Recycle BC) program. The program is only responsible for residential PPP, leaving the ICI sector including schools, hospitals, restaurants and entertainment events dependent on the private sector or local governments for access to recycling and does not hold the producers of the ICI PPP accountable to fund the costs for recycling.

Regional Districts, through their Solid Waste Management Plans are required to set waste diversion targets and restrict recyclable material from the garbage. With recent changes in the global commodity market, as a result of the Chinese National Sword, local governments are facing challenges that include reduced access or lack of access to recycling for the ICI sector. Without being included in the Recycling Regulation, ICI recyclables such as cardboard, paper, metal, plastic and glass containers run a huge risk of being landfilled. This shortfall in services will delay the ability of local governments to meet diversion targets set out in their Solid Waste Management Plans.

Describe your particular local impacts here if applicable

The _____ is proposing a solution to avoid valuable resources like cardboard ending up in the landfill. The onus on local government to carry the burden of cost should instead be transferred to the producers of the PPP. The current model is unsustainable as the end user, taxpayers and business, are subsidizing the conglomerates.

If local governments are expected to reach diversion targets with no compensation from producers, recyclable materials may not be handled properly. We are not the only local government feeling the impacts of the Chinese National Sword and want to ask that the Ministry expand the current Recycling Regulation to include PPP from the ICI sector.

Thank you for your time. We respectfully ask that you move expediently to assist in promoting a healthy and sustainable environment.

Sincerely,