



## Media Release

*For Immediate Release*

### **Recycling Council Releases Report on Recycling Recommendations**

**Vancouver, October 10, 2019** – The Recycling Council of BC (RCBC) is pleased to announce the release of its recently completed *A Report on EPR Priorities* document. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is the foundation for 22 provincially regulated recycling programs in BC. The province is seen as a global leader in EPR programs; existing programs include those for beverage containers, tires, and paint. These industry led programs reduce municipal waste disposal costs and the amount of garbage in landfills.

The purpose of RCBC's report is to assist the BC Ministry of Environment & Climate change Strategy (MECCS) and all levels of government to develop and improve EPR policies that meet the expectations and needs of residents across B.C. The Council engaged in a multi-step initiative over two years to gather feedback on current and future EPR programs. The process included broad stakeholder engagement from the public across B.C., as well as from waste professionals, and policy makers in government, industry, and non-profits.

Stakeholders identified priority materials for EPR inclusion, as well as suggesting improvements and refinements for existing programs. Some of the priority items mentioned for inclusion in EPR programs include propane tanks, mattresses and medical sharps.

“With the provincial and federal governments actively engaging Canadians to reduce our plastic waste, this is a great opportunity to expand BC's EPR programs,” said RCBC's CEO Brock Macdonald, “As well, this may be the opportunity to refresh the Canada-Wide Action Plan for EPR, with a renewed focus to identify where harmonization might be possible between provinces. It's as good a place to start as any.”

RCBC conducted this initiative as a collaborative effort with its multi-sector member community, including some financial support from Metro Vancouver for the final town hall meeting. A PDF of the report is available from RCBC [here](#).

-30-

#### **Media Contacts:**

*Brock Macdonald*  
Chief Executive Officer, RCBC  
Tel: 604-683-6009 ext. 307  
Email: [brock@rcbc.ca](mailto:brock@rcbc.ca)

*Harvinder Aujala*  
Director Policy & Communications, RCBC  
Tel: 604-683-6009 ext. 313  
Email: [harv@rcbc.ca](mailto:harv@rcbc.ca)