Multi-Material Stewardship Western

MMSW Transition:
Phase 2 Eligibility and Efficiency Criteria

Background – MMSW Transition:

The Household Packaging and Paper Stewardship Program Regulations, 2023 was released and came into effect on March 31, 2023. This requires the transition to a full extended producer responsibility (EPR) model, whereby producers assume operational and financial responsibility for collecting and recycling household packaging and paper products (PPP) in Saskatchewan.

In May 2024, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment approved the Household Packaging and Paper Stewardship Plan (Program Plan) submitted by Multi-Material Stewardship Western (MMSW) on behalf of producers. The approval followed months of engagement and underscores the collaborative effort towards achieving efficient and effective packaging and paper recycling in Saskatchewan. Thank you to all who provided input during the engagement sessions held June to August 2023.

MMSW is the producer responsibility organization (PRO) in Saskatchewan for delivery of the Program Plan on behalf of producers, ensuring producers are fulfilling their obligations under the new regulations. MMSW will partner with various entities to ensure effective collection and recycling of household packaging and paper, including local governments, private collection contractors, material recovery facilities, transporters, and First Nations and Métis communities.

Phase 1 of the transition is focused on the largest municipalities with curbside and multi-family collection and is scheduled to begin on December 1, 2024. Phase 2 of the transition is focused on curbside and multi-family collection in smaller communities and is scheduled to begin December 1, 2025. Phase 3 is focused on depot collection and is scheduled to begin December 1, 2026.

MMSW will be engaging directly with First Nation and Métis communities and organizations to establish and ensure appropriate and meaningful engagement and understanding in planning, developing and implementing long-term operational household recycling programs for Indigenous communities. The Phase 2 Community Curbside and Multi-Family Eligibility Criteria and the Phase 2 Efficiency Criteria outlined below is not intended to apply to, or limit, the participation of First Nation and Métis communities.

Background – Phase 2 Eligibility and Efficiency Criteria:

MMSW's Program Plan includes a commitment to develop two program elements pertaining to Phase 2, which are the focus of this document.

The intent of the Phase 2 Community Curbside and Multi-family Collection Eligibility Criteria is to outline which communities will be eligible to for the continuation of curbside and multi-family collection in

Phase 2 and under the MMSW program moving forward, as well as eligibility criteria for those communities not currently acting as curbside or multi-family collectors under the MMSW program at present.

The intent of the Phase 2 Efficiency Criteria is to outline the draft criteria through which MMSW will determine which communities eligible under Phase 2 will be given the opportunity to act as a collection service provider to MMSW and in which communities MMSW will directly operate collection services in the future as applicable. Given the significant number of small, rural and remote communities identified for Phase 2, MMSW aims to develop and implement an approach to program delivery that reduces administrative burdens, fosters operational efficiencies, drives environmental improvement and builds on regional economies of scale.

The MMSW Program Plan includes a commitment to conduct engagement on these two program elements and to submit them as amendments to the Program Plan to the SK Ministry of Environment by December 1, 2024 for review and approval.

DRAFT Phase 2 Community Curbside and Multi-Family Eligibility Criteria:

MMSW Collectors:

- All municipalities and Regional Waste Authorities (RWAs) with existing curbside collection programs participating in the existing MMSW program as of July 1, 2024 will be eligible to participate in Transition Phase 2.
- All municipalities, RWAs and First Nation and Métis communities participating in the MMSW program as a curbside collection service provider (whether under the shared responsibility program, Transition Phase 1 or Transition Phase 2) are eligible to launch and operate a multi-family collection program in the same service area if applicable.

Non-MMSW Municipalities:

Communities that did not have curbside collection programs participating in the MMSW program as of July 1, 2024 will be eligible to participate in Transition Phase 2 provided all of the following criteria are met:

- The community is an incorporated municipality and either a Town, Northern Town, Village or Northern Village;
- The community has a minimum population of 1,000 residents per the 2021 Census; and
- A curbside garbage collection program is in place and operated by the municipality (whether directly or through a contract with a private collection company) or scheduled to launch no later than coinciding with the introduction of PPP curbside collection.

Requests from communities that do not meet these criteria that wish to participate in Transition Phase 2 will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The following criteria will be considered when reviewing such requests and determining whether an exception will be granted:

- Community population and density;

- Community proximity to other curbside service areas, population centers and post-collection facilities; and
- The ability of the community to contribute to MMSW's collection targets and the establishment of an efficient and effective collection system.

DRAFT Phase 2 Efficiency Criteria:

All communities that meet the Phase 2 Community Curbside and Multi-Family Eligibility Criteria (outlined above) will be eligible to act as a collection service provider under Transition Phase 2 for the two-year period of December 1, 2025 to December 1, 2027. Communities will receive a formal offer to participate in Phase 2 from MMSW, including a Master Services Agreement (MSA), Curbside Statement of Work (SOW) and Multi-Family SOW (if applicable) and the applicable incentive rates. Communities will have the opportunity to review these documents and consider whether to accept MMSW's offer, sign the applicable collection agreements and participate in Phase 2 as a collection service provider for curbside and/or multi-family collection until December 1, 2027.

Communities that are interested in considering MMSW's offer may establish a review, signing and participation timeline for Transition Phase 2 that reflects their internal decision-making process and will not be required to launch on the first eligible day of Transition Phase 2. MMSW will communicate quarterly launch opportunities, the first of which will coincide with December 1, 2025, each with respective deadlines for offer acceptance. MMSW collectors eligible under Phase 2 that need additional time to consider this offer will continue to receive payments in accordance with the terms of their existing agreements under the shared responsibility model until they launch under Phase 2 or December 1, 2027, whichever comes first.

MMSW collectors that meet the Phase 2 Community Curbside and Multi-Family Eligibility Criteria with existing contracts for the provision of curbside collection by a private collection company that expire prior to December 1, 2027 are encouraged to extend these contracts to December 1, 2027 where possible. Where this is not possible, MMSW will explore opportunities with the collector and their private contractor to ensure uninterrupted service delivery.

Effective December 1, 2027, MMSW will directly operate curbside and, if applicable, multi-family collection services in all municipalities and RWAs that meet the Phase 2 Community Curbside and Multi-Family Eligibility Criteria and are participating in the MMSW program by December 1, 2025, except in the following cases:

- An RWA that provides PPP curbside and, if applicable, multi-family collection to two or more municipalities, First Nation or Métis communities (whether directly or through a contract with a private collection company) formally requests to act as a collection service provider under Phase 2 beyond December 1, 2027; or
- The municipality or RWA requests by December 1, 2025 to opt out of the MMSW program and intends to either terminate curbside collection services or operate those curbside collection services independently of the MMSW program after December 1, 2027.

In communities where MMSW will directly operate curbside and, if applicable, multi-family collection services beginning December 1, 2027, MMSW will be responsible for all aspects of the management of collection services to residents and will procure collection services with private waste haulers directly. Eligible communities will continue to receive curbside and, if applicable, multi-family collection services directly from MMSW provided the community maintains a minimum threshold of 30 kg of collected material per household per year. If, after 5 years of operating curbside and, if applicable, multi-family collection services a community has not achieved this threshold (or falls below the threshold after 5 years), MMSW will reserve the right to terminate that collection service.