



Assessment of Economic and Environmental Impacts of EPR Programs in BC

RCA Conference

SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 | BANFF, ALBERTA

Andrew Doi/Meegan Armstrong

Environmental Planner/Unit Head



BRITISH
COLUMBIA



EPR IN BC: THE RECYCLING REGULATION

- Enacted in 2004
- Results-based
- Maximum flexibility
- Assigns 100% of costs and responsibility to industry

Why partner with Metro Vancouver?

Metro Vancouver



Memorandum on EPR

Priorities:

- Cooperation
- Awareness and Understanding
- Support and Expansion
- Influencing Product Design
- Joint Participation

EPR Impact Study - 1

Study Rationale

2008 Economic Impacts of the B.C. Recycling Regulation

Since 2008:

- 9 new programs launched
- CCME Canada-wide Action Plan on EPR
- Expansion of datasets in Annual Reports



EPR Impact Study - 2

Measures and Methodology

Selection of measures:

- suitable for public reporting
- credible indicators of performance
- readily available

EPR Impact Study - 2

Impact Model

Three scenarios:

- low
- medium
- high

EPR Impact Study - 3

EPR Programs Examined

- Used Oil and Antifreeze
- Batteries
- Beverage Containers
- Electronic and Electrical Products (Phases I, II & III)
- Lamps and Lighting Equipment
- Paint and Household Hazardous Waste
- Smoke Alarms
- Thermostats
- Tires
- Pharmaceuticals

EPR Impact Study - 4

Assumptions and Limitations

- Assessment of EPR policy influence
- Input data pulled from 2011 Annual Reports

Recovered Material:

- Location of processors
- Downstream end-uses

EPR Impact Study - 5

Results for 2011

- \$30 million: Cost reduction for waste collection and landfilling
- \$40 million: Value of recovered materials
- 2,400: Estimated number of jobs created
- 150,425: Number of tonnes of avoided garbage disposal
- 173,000: Tonnes of eCO₂ of GHG reductions

Conclusions

- Which program was the biggest?
- Size VS Impact

Thank You

