

August 16, 2019

## **The Province Announces Important Next Steps on Blue Box Program**

As you've likely heard, yesterday, the Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, and the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, announced a plan to transition the management of Ontario's Blue Box Program to producers of plastic and other packaging.

The Province has directed Stewardship Ontario and the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority to gradually transition the program (from 2023 to 2025). The timeline is meant to ensure a seamless and orderly transition.

For more details, the provincial announcement can be found [here](#).

AMO provided remarks at the announcement, and put out a [news release](#) commending the Province on taking this important action to improve recycling in Ontario.

Municipal governments have been advocating for this shift for more than a decade.

This is an important achievement for municipal governments, as the transition to full producer responsibility places the responsibility for recycling on those that have the greatest ability to make change – the producers.

Starting in the fall, the Ministry will be consulting on the development of regulations to support the new producer responsibility framework. As staff head to the AMO Conference, we will be working with the Province to determine next steps and will report back in September.

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