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**Information item No.1**  
**Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee**  
**April 12, 2016**

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Chair and Members of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee  
**CC:** Matt Keliher, Manager, Solid Waste; Phoebe Rai, Legislative Assistant  
**FROM:** Laurie Lewis, Program Manager – Policy and Outreach, Solid Waste  
**DATE:** April 1, 2016  
**SUBJECT:** **Solid Waste Regional Chairs Committee Update**

Meetings of Regional Chairs occurred on February 5<sup>th</sup> and March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and the following items of note were discussed:

### **Priorities Group Update:**

This committee is providing input to guide the development of proposed stewardship programs. Regulation change is required to have producers of products and packaging share in the costs of end of life waste that requires collection and processing. There was a presentation at UNSM Board to provide a progress update and to engage on moving forward. The following motion was approved by UNSM Board at its meeting on March 11, 2016:

- That a half or full-day workshop be organized between the UNSM Board of Directors and the Solid Waste Regional Chairs to discuss the Province's implementation schedule and to devise an engagement strategy with UNSM members
- That the UNSM Board and Solid Waste Regional Chairs meet quarterly until provincial solid waste-resource management regulation is fully implemented.

UNSM Executive Director attended the Chairs session on March 18<sup>th</sup>. Background information on extended producer responsibility programs are provided under the policy link found on the UNSM website <http://www.unsm.ca/extended-producer-responsibility-epr.html>

### **Nova Scotia Power Mercury Recovery Program**

NS Power is leading an initiative to collect and recycle mercury containing products. This recycling program is being delivered by Efficiency One whereby a series of drop off collection points around the province are being established for mercury containing items including Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs (CFLs) and tubes. The new program will provide for the cost to contain the materials and ultimately the removal and proper end-of-life management. The program be rolled out starting the end of March and there are not any answers on whether or not the program will continue beyond Dec. 31, 2016.

This item was previously on the list for stewardship to be included in the regulation review.

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### Solid Waste

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**RRFB Economic and Environmental Impact Study**

RRFB is looking at the impact in all programs after 20 years in operation. The firm Gardner-Pinfold reviewed the impact of the RRFB from both an environmental and financial perspective in supporting municipal diversion programs.

The report is expected to be released late April.

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**Solid Waste**

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