



3R Portfolio - Good Practices to Promote the 3Rs -

Country: Canada

Major Activities

1. FEDERAL

Roles & Responsibilities

- The Government of Canada works with the provinces, territories, municipalities, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to provide support, research, and tools that encourage sustainable MSW management practices.
- Canada's federal government generally only becomes involved in MSW issues when federal lands or resources are affected, interprovincial or international transport is involved, federal assistance is provided, or, in some instances, the issue involves management of toxic substances or greenhouse gas emissions.
- Statistics Canada conducts a bi-annual Waste Management Industry Survey: <http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/16F0023XIE/16F0023XIE2002001.pdf>

Current Programs & Policies

- Participation in OECD Work Programs such as Sustainable Materials Management and Waste Prevention and Recycling.
- Project Green - Moving Forward on Climate Change: <http://www.climatechange.gc.ca/english/newsroom/2005/plan05.asp>
- Action Plan 2000 on Climate Change: <http://www.climatechange.gc.ca/english/newsroom/2000/ap2000.asp>
- Environmental Choice^M Program promoting environmentally responsible products and services: <http://www.environmentalchoice.com>
- Government of Canada Green Procurement Policy: <http://www.pwgsc.gc.ca/sd-env/sds2003/green-procurement-e.html>
- Basel Convention activities.

Funding and Support

- Support for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Waste as a Resource Guide and Green Municipal Funds: <http://kn.fcm.ca>
- Gas Tax to support municipalities in the development of infrastructure including MSW management programs (see Project Green above).
- Climate/Partnership Fund for the purchase of greenhouse gas emissions reductions from Canadian businesses (see Project Green above).

Research

- Lifecycle Assessment of MSW activities e.g. Integrated Waste Management Model for Municipalities: <http://www.iwm-model.uwaterloo.ca/>
- Landfill gas: <http://www.ec.gc.ca/nopp/lfg/en/index.cfm>

Regulations

- Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA) 1999 - Although not specific to MSW, CEPA addresses the prevention and the control of toxic substances and hazardous waste as well as the control of the export and import of non-hazardous solid waste for final disposal: http://www.ec.gc.ca/CEPARegistry/the_act/

2. PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL

- The provinces and territories are responsible for approvals, licensing, and monitoring of operations. They also have the authority to implement extended producer responsibility directives, as has been the case with items such as beverage containers, paint, tires, used motor oil, and electronic waste.
- By way of example, the Province of Nova Scotia reached 50% waste diversion in 2000 through the implementation of its Solid Waste-Resource Management Strategy: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/enla/emc/wasteman/strategy.asp>

3. MUNICIPAL

- Municipalities are primarily responsible for the collection, diversion, and disposal of MSW from residential sources. MSW from the IC&I and C&D sectors is usually collected privately but is often disposed in municipal or private landfills. Municipalities also process some IC&I recyclables and compostables that have been diverted by this sector when it is competitive with the cost of disposal.
- By way of example, the Halifax Regional Municipality has implemented a progressive MSW management system in response to the Province of Nova Scotia's Strategy: <http://www.halifax.ca/wrms/index.html>

4. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs)

- A number of non-government waste management organizations representing most of the country exist in Canada.
- NGO's play an important role in policy development, marketing materials, and development of guidelines.
- NGO's provide a key role in facilitating the exchange of information, bringing together of stakeholders, advancing sustainable waste management, and providing input to provincial, municipal, and federal initiatives Composting Council of Canada.
- NGO's are typically comprised of provincial, municipal, industry, and commercial representation.

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