

From Waste to Worth - Public comments for Jan.31/10

I congratulate the Ministry of the Environment for all their excellent proposals in achieving better management of our resources & waste.

I am especially supportive of the following:

- Implementing **EPR** (like Europe)
- Making individual **producers fully responsible** for waste diversion in **both the residential and IC&I sectors**
- Much more enforcement (as most large Businesses have not complied with 1994 mandatory recycling laws).
- **Amend the 1994 Regulations** to include medium & small Businesses too.
- **Make recycling & organic collection mandatory for residential/apartments/condos... all IC&I sectors**, not just large businesses, **all public events/festivals** and **all government buildings** including schools, fire stations, police...
- **Implement lower bag limits & clear bags for garbage only.**
- **Penalties** for non-compliance (Fines can be used to hire more Enforcement officers).
- **Facilitate the approval process of new organic processing facilities** to manage the growing need when more Municipalities get GreenCart programs.
- **Ban organics & designated recyclables from landfill or incineration** processes
- **Not counting burning waste as diversion** (Recyclables & organics should never be burned due to the lost opportunities to turn into compost & products which save our limited resources & air quality.)
- Implementing a **disposal levy** to encourage diversion (**Diversions must be less expensive** than "landfilling" in order to achieve your goal).
- **Develop Awareness campaigns** to educate the public about new waste diversion laws. (People need to know there is a link between climate change and waste so they understand why it will be law to source separate waste types).
- **Accountability & Transparency of waste diversion results** should be made **available to the public**. (One should be able to find out which hotels, restaurants, stores, etc. properly recycle/compost. Businesses will soon go green when consumers choose to shop at green stores.)

My suggestion on the best use of the revenue from a disposal levy:

-As an incentive give some levy money back to Businesses who divert waste – more for higher %'s of diversion.

-Use some to pay for education campaigns subsidize recycling/organic facilities or hire more Enforcement officers.

Page 18. What will the default requirements be for producers who are unable to develop an individual plan or obtain approval of their waste diversion plan?

Page 19. For material recovered & preserved counted as diversion: does that include landfill cover?

Thanks for the opportunity to comment. I trust the discussions will lead to action soon.

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