



Subject: *Recycling Processing Contract - Renewal*
To: Executive Committee
Date Prepared: December 6, 2023
Related Motions:
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Approved by: Jesse Hulsman, Director of Infrastructure & Operations

Summary

East Hants ships recyclables to the Municipality of Colchester recycling facility for processing under contract. The current contract term expires March 31, 2024.

December 1, 2025 Nova Scotia will be moving to an Extended Producer Responsibility system, where the cost of processing recyclables will be managed by the producers, thereby reducing costs to municipalities.

The Municipality of Colchester has provided a contract renewal to bridge their customers from April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2026 to allow coverage up-to and including launch of the new system.

Financial Impact Statement

The price per tonne for 2023-2024 is \$155. The renewal contract will see prices increase to \$165/tonne for the 2-year term. At current tonnages that would be an increase of \$11,000 per year.

Recommendation

Staff recommend that the Municipality of East Hants accept the recycling contract renewal based on a price increase of \$10/tonne (\$165/tonne) effective April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2026, with exit options for the launch of the NS EPR program for recyclables.

Recommended Motion

Move that the Infrastructure & Operations Committee recommend that Council direct the CAO to sign a 2-year contract for recycling processing with the Municipality of Colchester, effective April 1, 2024 with a rate of \$165/tonne.

Background

Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging and Paper Products (EPR for PPP) is a newly enacted regulation for Nova Scotia. This regulation has been in discussion for more than a decade, with significant effort by municipalities through individual responses to collective efforts (through NSF and NS Solid Waste Resource Regional Chairs Committee) to bring this forward. This regulation will see the costs related to collection, transportation and processing of packaging and paper products, the blue bag recycling programs, moving from municipal budgets to the industry producers.

As part of this regulation there will be a number of decisions required of municipal councils. During the September 2023 Executive and Council meetings the Municipality of East Hants decided to 'opt-in' to the program effective December 1, 2025. The Municipality registered with Divert Nova Scotia in November 2023.

Discussion

While municipalities and processors prepare for EPR for PPP to fully launch recyclables still need to be collected and processed. Processors in Nova Scotia are offering extensions to customers to ensure coverage of the service until the system is both launched and running smoothly.

East Hants' contract runs out March 31, 2024 and requested options from the Municipality of Colchester for extensions. On November 15, 2023 the Director of Solid Waste provided pricing and terms, related to EPR for PPP.
