

CSSA and Recycle BC announce performance progress on New Plastics Economy Global Commitment

Canadian Stewardship Services Alliance (CSSA) is a proud endorser of the Ellen MacArthur Foundation’s New Plastics Economy Global Commitment and its vision of a circular economy for plastics, where plastics never become waste.

In partnership with Recycle BC, CSSA committed to achieve format-specific plastic targets and is pleased to report year-over-year progress in plastic recovery performance for both rigids and flexibles (see below):

Material Category	2019 Recovery Rate	2018 Recovery Rate	Target Recovery Rate	Year to Achieve Target
General Plastic	46%	42%	50%	2025
Rigid Plastic*	56%	54%	55%	2022
			60%	2025
Flexible Plastic**	22%	19%	22%	2022
			25%	2025

* Rigid plastics include PET, HDPE, Polystyrene and Other Plastics such as #5 Polypropylene.

** Flexible plastics include Film and Laminates.

In 2019, over 185,000 tonnes of Recycle BC’s packaging and paper product (PPP) was collected, amounting to a general recovery rate of 78% (exceeding British Columbia’s 75% mandated recovery target). Over 1.85 million BC households received collection service (includes curbside, multi-family and depot service). 29,199 of those collected tonnes were plastic, an increase of 9.7% over the previous year.

And it won’t stop there. Recycle BC’s program design is driven by one overarching objective – continuous improvement in recovery effectiveness and efficiency in British Columbia. As material-specific categories achieve and maintain the target recovery rate for two years, a new target will be proposed.



More than 98% of plastics collected in British Columbia are sold to end markets in BC, with a local end market in Metro Vancouver where it is processed into pellets to be recycled into new packaging and products. In addition to successfully finding markets for its high-quality output, Recycle BC is the only packaging and paper product program in Canada that is able to provide full traceability on the end markets for its material. When identifying end markets, Recycle BC prioritizes those located in Organization for Economic Co-



operation and Development (OECD) countries and will only allow marketing of packaging and paper to non-OECD countries if those markets meet or exceed the environmental, health and safety standards equivalent to OECD standards. For more information about Recycle BC's latest achievements see its [2019 Annual Report](#).

CSSA supplies compliance and material management services to PPP programs in Canada, including Recycle BC's program in British Columbia, the only Canadian PPP program where producers have full operational and financial responsibility of the province-wide residential recycling system.



CSSA is also committed to the following:

- We will **collaborate** with businesses and governments in order to help increase reuse/recycling/composting rates for plastics;
- We will **advocate** for a system of harmonized Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regulations across Canada as a critical mechanism for developing circular supply chains; and
- We will **advocate** for public procurement policies that require increasing amounts of recycled content in packaging and products and 100% recyclable plastic packaging as effective and visible means of promoting circular economy outcomes.



Launched in October 2018, the Global Commitment now has over 450 organizations committed to eliminating problematic and unnecessary plastic packaging, and innovating so that all plastic packaging is 100% reusable, recyclable, or compostable, and can be safely and easily circulated without becoming waste or pollution.

See the [Global Commitment website](#) for more information on this initiative.