

B.C. Product Stewardship Council

Conference Call Minutes - Final

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

Start Time: 9:30 am

Present:

Janine Dougall (Bulkley-Nechako)
Jeff (Rahn Cariboo)
Darcy Mooney (Columbia Shuswap)
Sabina Kasprzak (Fraser Valley)
Laurie Gallant (Kitimat Stikine)
Andrew Doi (Metro Vancouver)
Nicole Kohnert (North Okanagan)
Shannon Anderson (Peace River)
Greg Tyson (Ministry of Environment)
Cathy Kenny (Sunshine Coast)
Dion Whyte (Sunshine Coast)

Anke Bergner (Capital)
Peter Rotheisler (Central Okanagan)
Drew Hadfield (Comox Valley)
Petra Wildauer (Fraser-Fort George)
Alan Stanley (Kootenay-Boundary)
Sharon Horsburgh (Nanaimo)
Don Hamilton (Okanagan-Similkameen)
Cameron Baughen (Okanagan-Similkameen)
Tim Des Champ (Skeena Queen Charlotte)
Greg Tyson (Ministry of Environment)

Regrets:

Brenda Fortais (Alberni Clayoquot)
Joy Mackay (Central Coast)
Nicole Ward (Central Kootenay)
Roger Tooms (Kitimat Stikine)
Jerry Cheshuk (Squamish-Lillooet)
Peter Hughes (Thompson-Nicola)
Jack Bowers (Northern Rockies)

Bob McDonald (Cowichan Valley)
Eric Sharpe East (Kootenay)
Greg Fletcher (Mount Waddington)
Frances Ladret (Powell River)
Jarred Wright (UBCM)
David Lawes (Ministry of Environment)

Staff:

Brock Macdonald Jordan Best Jennifer Ellis

Other:

Corinne Atwood (BC Bottle Depot Association)

1. Meeting called to order

- Meeting called to order at 9:32am

2. Roll call and changes to contact information (*attachment #1*)

3. Adoption of agenda

- Amendments: Added Item 8c – CCME request for comment on Canadian EPR program for packaging.

090303-1PSC Moved/seconded/approved that the agenda for the March 3, 2009 BCPSC meeting be adopted with amendments.

4. Adoption of minutes from December 9, 2008 meeting (*attachment #2*)

090303-2PSC Moved/seconded/approved that the minutes of the December 9, 2008 BCPSC meeting be adopted as circulated.

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5. Correspondence

6. Information Items

- a) BC Bottle Depot Association update (*attachment #3*)
 - Corinne Atwood from the BC Bottle Depot Association (BCBDA) presented information from the attached document. Some of the issues raised were the rights of bottle depot owners under the current system, the need for increased recycling fees, and the need to add milk containers to the Recycling Regulation.
 - Corinne asked the BCPSC to support their request to the Ministry of Environment (MoE) to implement a management board for product stewardship programs in BC (see item 8d).
 - Concerns were brought forward about why the previous attempt to form a management board failed: the proposed amendments did not pass in the BC legislature, there were legal issues with the Board's degree of authority, and there were worries that creating a Board would give power to new organizations to create regulations without going through the legislature.

- b) Update on Product Policy Institute (Sharon Horsburgh)
 - Bill 8283 in California: EPR bill requiring producers to increase the recyclability of product packaging and reduce its toxicity. There is potential for harmonization with the BC program – the population of California is a much greater incentive for producers to change their operations (compared to BC programs).

- c) BCPSC Survey regarding packaging EPR
 - It was clarified that the survey will focus on post-consumer packaging.
 - The survey will be drafted by the individuals specified at the previous meeting and will be distributed to BCPSC members by early April. Results will be presented at the RCBC conference in May.

7. Old Business

- a) *IN PROCESS* – Update on BCPSC communication to MoE regarding the standardization of waste characterization studies
 - Laurie Gallant distributed memo before the meeting regarding standardizing provincial waste characterization studies.

Action Item: BCPSC members are requested to send Laurie Gallant comments on the document regarding standardizing provincial waste characterization studies by the end of March, 2009.

- b) *IN PROCESS* – Update on RCBC's creation of a matrix to track action items and policy positions for the BCPSC (*attachment #4*)

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- It was decided that the task matrix will be circulated by RCBC staff to all BCPSC members after each meeting.
- c) *COMPLETE* – Update on motion 081209-4PSC Moved/seconded/approved that the BCPSC endorse the principles and submit a letter to MoE asking them to review the recycling regulation based on the suggestions made in the document *Comparison of the Framework Principles for Product Stewardship Policy*
 - This item is still *IN PROCESS*
 - RCBC Staff asked for clarification on goals of this letter and will contact Raymond Gaudart for more information.
- d) *IN PROCESS* – Update on BCPSC communication to MoE and regional districts regarding the BCPSC policy on packaging ERP.
 - A draft letter was sent to BCPSC members and comments were collected by RCBC
 - A final copy of the letter should be sent to members to be taken to their respective Boards as correspondence.
- e) *COMPLETE* – Ministry of Environment EPR Posters
081209-3PSC Moved/seconded/approved to ask MoE to work with the stewards to do a more broad communication campaign about product stewardship across the province.
- f) *COMPLETE* – Compilation of BCPSC member comments about EPR programs

8. New Business

- a) Health effects of compact fluorescent lights (Cathy Kenny)
 - Residents have raise concerns about the health effects of CFLs.
 - It was suggested that the BCPSC pursue these concerns with the stakeholders of the upcoming EPR program for mercury so that they are addressed through the EPR program.
- b) Encorp E-waste program in the SCR D (Cathy Kenny)
 - SCR D has been designated as “remote community” by Encorp and so there is no electronics program in the region.
 - There was a discussion about the increasing number of issues around access to EPR programs in remote areas.
- c) Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) request for comment on a Canadian EPR program for packaging
 - The deadline for comments is in May, which does not leave time for feedback to be acquired at the RCBC conference.
 - There was a discussion about whether feedback should be collected by individual regional districts or collectively by the BCPSC. RCBC is also developing a response based on member feedback and could put together a joint response with the BCPSC.

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- Individual regional districts may decide to send their own response in addition to a BCPSC document.

Action Item: RCBC Staff will compile comments and create separate BCPSC response to the CCME request for comment on a Canadian EPR program for packaging.

d) Management Board for EPR programs (Nicole Kohnert)

- It is recommended that the BCPSC write a letter of support to the Ministry of Environment for the formation of a Management Board for the monitoring of Extended Producer Responsibility programs under the Recycling Regulation, including the management of monies that are generated within the programs, depot licensing, handling fees for depots and service providers, and hiring and monitoring of collection agencies.

- It was clarified that this request originated with the BCBDA letter from Item 6a.

- It was recommended that a preface be added to clarify the purpose of the Board and how it will differ from the current structure. The preface should also detail the need to “create a legislative foundation” for the Board.

- It was recommended that the words “of support” be removed from the motion

090303-3PSC Moved/seconded/approved that the BCPSC write a letter to the Ministry of Environment recommending the formation of a Management Board for the monitoring of Extended Producer Responsibility programs under the Recycling Regulation, including the management of monies that are generated within the programs, depot licensing, handling fees for depots and service providers, and hiring and monitoring of collection agencies.

- It was suggested that the letter be circulated to regional district Boards for approval before being sent to the Ministry.

- It was suggested that the UBCM be included as a co-signatory. RCBC Staff will contact Jarred Wright about the motion.

Action Item: BCPSC members will circulate the letter from the BC Bottle Depot Association to their Boards for information before or in conjunction with the draft letter to the Ministry.

9. Stewardship Issues to Resolve

- Clarification was requested on Item 7b from the December 9, 2008 BCPSC meeting (RCBC staff requested that RCBC be copied on letters sent from individual regional districts regarding packaging EPR. RCBC staff will keep a file for BCPSC.)

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- It was clarified that this correspondence should be sent to RCBC Staff so it can be tracked, filed and included in BCPSC meetings as correspondence.

Action Item: RCBC Staff will send BCPSC members the response letter from the Ministry of Environment to Metro Vancouver regarding single-use bags.

10. Next Meeting

- The next BCPSC meeting will take place at the RCBC Conference in Whistler – Tuesday May 26th, 2009 from 5:00 to 7:00pm.

11. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:06am.