

Recycling Regulation (2004)

Policy and Regulatory Setting

Industry Product Stewardship in B.C.

British Columbia's industry-led product stewardship programs require producers (manufacturers, distributors and retailers) of designated products to take Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for the life cycle management of their products, including collection and recycling. This places the responsibility for end-of-life product management on the producers and consumers of a product and not the general taxpayer or local government.

Regulatory Framework: Results-based Recycling Regulation

The Recycling Regulation, under the authority of the Environmental Management Act, provides a single results-based framework that engages industry in new ways by providing producers with the flexibility to design product stewardship plans that work best for their business.

Key Elements of the Recycling Regulation

- **Product Stewardship Plans:** Producers of designated products are required to either have an approved product stewardship plan or, as an alternative, comply with prescriptive regulatory requirements. A product stewardship plan defines the elements of the producers' program for managing the regulated product, including program objectives, targets and performance measures. Producers may appoint an agency to undertake their duties.
- **Consultation:** Producers or their agency must conduct satisfactory consultation with affected stakeholders before the ministry approves a plan.
- **Funding:** The regulation does not specify how producers fund their programs; however, program design must ensure no costs are borne by local government and general taxpayers.
- **Accountability:** Producers, or their agency, are required to submit to the ministry and post on their website an annual report detailing the environmental performance of their program and if applicable independently audited financial statements. Third party assurance is also required for certain non-financial information included in stewardship program annual reports.

B.C. Industry Product Stewardship Programs

Industry Product Stewardship Programs		CCME Canada-wide Action Plan: Recommended Programs by 2015 and 2017
Existing Programs Paint (1994) Pesticides (1996) Gasoline (1996) Solvents and flammable liquids (1996) Pharmaceuticals (1996) Beverage Cont. (1997) Lubricating Oil (2003) Tires (2007) TV's, Computers (2007) Batteries (2009) Cell phones (2009) Audio Visual (2010) Thermostats (2010)	Fluorescent lamps (2010) Car batteries (2011) Smoke Detectors (2011) Antifreeze (2011) Small Appliances (2011) Electric/electronic tools (2012) Automatic dispensers (2012) Lighting Equipment (2012) E-Toys (2012) IT telecom. equipment (2012) Monitoring/control Equip. (2012) Upcoming – May 2014 Packaging and Printed Paper (2014)	Phase 1, by 2015: Packaging and printed paper materials Electronics and electrical Mercury-containing products (including lamps) Household hazardous and special wastes Automotive products Phase 2, by 2017: Construction and demolition materials Furniture, textiles and carpet Appliances (including ozone depleting substances)