

June 11, 2025

The Honourable Todd McCarthy, KC, MPP  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
5th Floor, 777 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario, M7A 2J3

Dear Minister McCarthy,

**RE: Wind up of the Continuous Improvement Fund and termination of the Datacall**

We are pleased to report that important milestones in the wind up of the legacy Blue Box Program have been achieved, with the final wind up of the Continuous Improvement Fund and termination of the Datacall.

On April 15, 2019, the then Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Hon. Jeff Yurek, directed RPRA and Stewardship Ontario (SO) to begin the transition of Ontario's legacy Blue Box Program to the extended producer responsibility regulatory framework outlined in the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016*.

As part of the wind up of the legacy Blue Box Program on December 31, 2025, Minister Yurek directed the Continuous Improvement Fund (CIF), which was funded by the Blue Box Program to support best practices in municipally run recycling operations, to end as soon as practical prior to the legacy Blue Box Program wind up.

The wind up of the legacy Blue Box Program and its transition to Ontario's producer responsibility regulatory framework also includes the termination of the Datacall, the annual municipal reporting process required to calculate the overall Blue Box Program system costs to apportion costs between stewards and municipalities, since producers were assuming complete financial responsibility of the new Blue Box Program.

We are pleased to report that both key milestones in the wind up of the legacy Blue Box Program have been achieved, and the CIF and Datacall have now been wound up and terminated consistent with Ministerial directions and the approved wind-up plans.

At the May 15 meeting of RPRA's Board of Directors, CIF's wind-up report and staff's analysis of the report were reviewed, and the Board passed a motion affirming that the CIF Wind-Up Plan has been fully implemented and that the wind up of the fund is now complete. Attached for your information is the CIF Wind-Up Report and RPRA staff's analysis of the report.

At the February 18 meeting of the RPRA's Governance, Regulatory and Stakeholder Affairs Committee of the Board of Directors, staff advised that the final tranche of municipalities had completed their reporting into the Datacall, and subsequently confirmed the Datacall has been terminated.

...2

The *Waste Diversion and Transition Act, 2016* does not require the Minister to take any action to terminate the CIF or the Datacall. This letter serves to confirm the completion of these two significant milestones in the wind up of the legacy Blue Box Program. RPRA will continue to oversee the remaining steps in the implementation of the approved Blue Box Program Transition & Stewardship Ontario Wind Up Plan.

RPRA is pleased to be able to support the achievement of these milestones and the broader environmental and economic outcomes envisaged by your government's strategy to advance the province's circular economy.

Sincerely,



Robert Poirier, OOnt.  
Board Chair, Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority

Cc: Noah Gitterman, CEO, Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority  
Andrew Pollock, Managing Director, Continuous Improvement Fund  
Sarah Harrison, Deputy Minister, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Charles O'Hara, Director, Resource Recovery and Policy Branch, MECP