

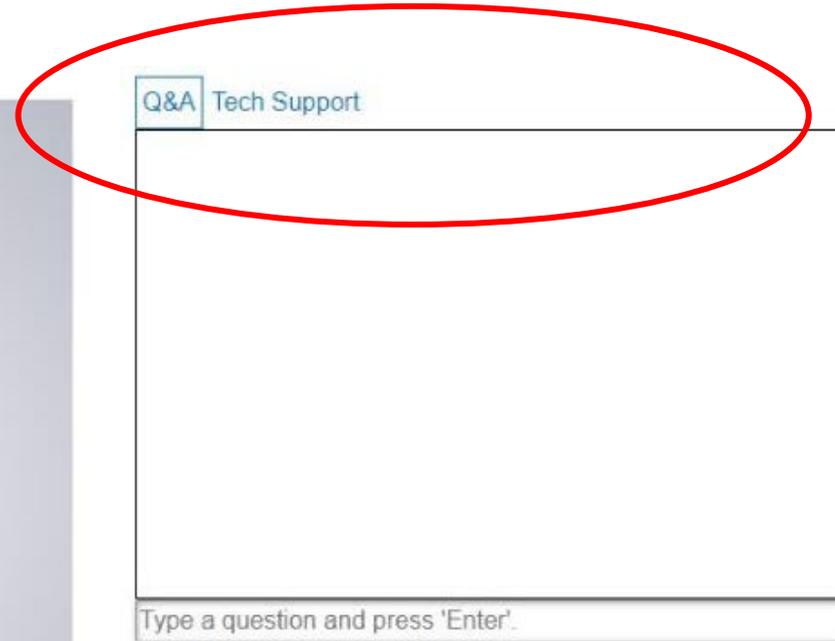
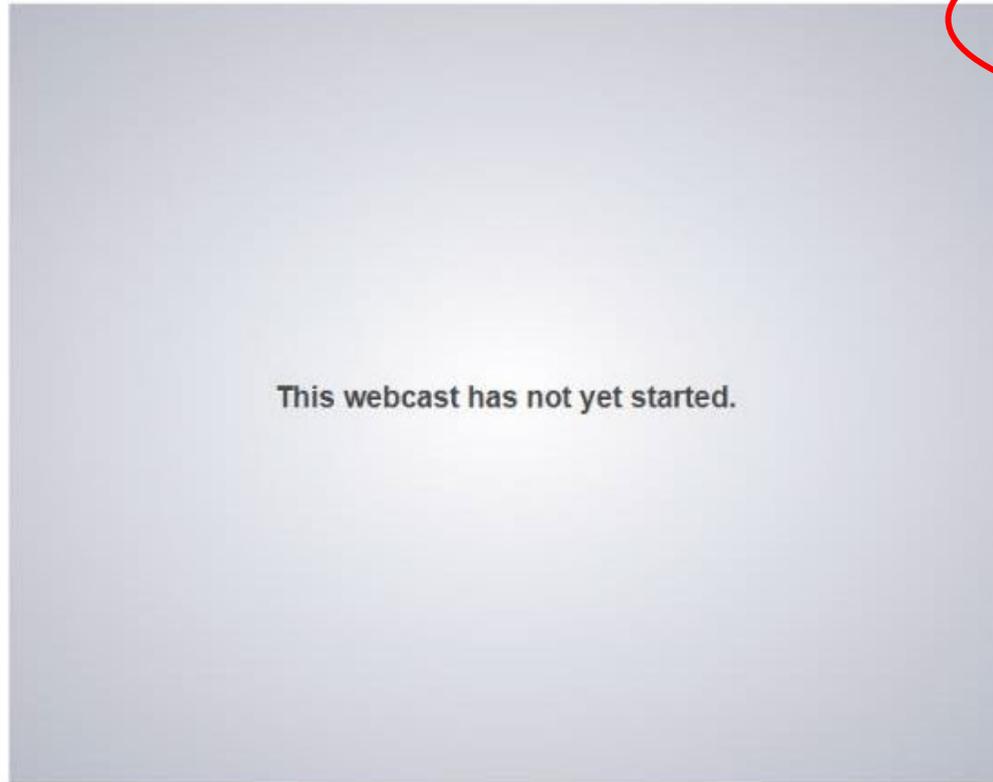
# Consultation: Stewardship Ontario's Proposed Blue Box Program Wind-Up Plan

**Session 1: Consultation, program and  
transition overview**

October 13, 2020



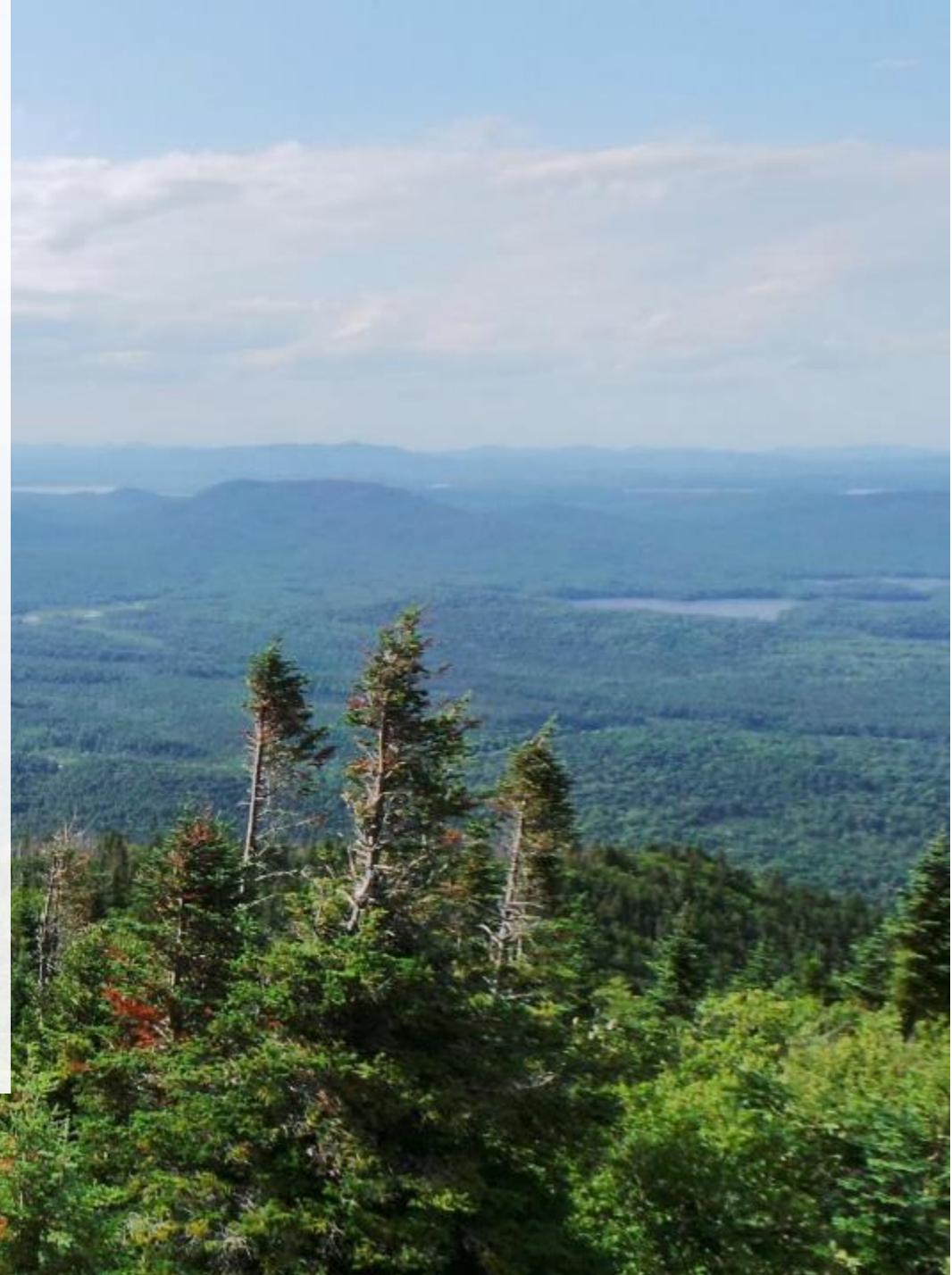
# How to ask a question



To ask a question at any time during the presentation or for technical assistance, type your question in the text box and press 'Enter.'

# Agenda

1. About the Authority
2. Transition to IPR
3. Wind-Up Plan Development Process
4. Consultation Approach
5. Consultation Themes



# About the Authority



# The Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority

- RPRA is the regulator mandated by the Government of Ontario to enforce the province's circular economy laws and individual producer responsibility (IPR) framework
- These laws were established to reduce litter and waste and keep valuable resources out of landfill by making producers individually accountable and financially responsible for their products when consumers dispose of them
- RPRA is responsible for:
  - The oversight of existing waste diversion programs and their transition to IPR
  - Enforcing requirements under the new IPR framework
  - Supporting businesses in understanding and complying with their new requirements
- Accountable to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

# Our responsibilities

- We receive our authority from the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016* (RRCEA) and the *Waste Diversion Transition Act, 2016* (WTDA)

Under the WDTA	Under the RRCEA
Oversee existing waste diversion programs and industry funding organizations until wind up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment</li> <li>• Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste</li> <li>• Blue Box</li> </ul>	Develop and operate a registry to register and receive information from obligated parties responsible for materials under the RRCEA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tires</li> <li>• Batteries</li> <li>• EEE (starting January 1, 2021)</li> </ul>
Approve wind-up plans developed by industry funding organizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oversee the implementation of wind-up plans</li> </ul>	Manage, analyze and report on the information in the Registry
	Carry out compliance and enforcement activities

A scenic view of a rocky coastline with a forested hillside and a blue sky with white clouds. The foreground shows dark, jagged rocks and green bushes. The middle ground features a calm body of water and a dense forest of evergreen trees on a rising slope. The sky is filled with large, white, fluffy clouds.

# Our Vision

**A circular economy today for a waste-free tomorrow.**

# Our Mission

**Support compliance with individual producer responsibility through education and enforcement to foster Ontario's circular economy, spur innovation, and protect the environment.**

# Transition to IPR



# Ontario's circular economy

Ontario is shifting from a linear to a circular economy.

In a **linear economy**, natural resources are extracted, manufactured into products, consumed and then thrown away.

In a **circular economy**, products and packaging are designed to minimize waste and then be recovered, reused, recycled and reintegrated back into production.

A key driver of the circular economy in Ontario is its **individual producer responsibility** (IPR) regulatory framework. IPR means that producers are responsible and accountable for collecting and managing their products and packaging after consumers have finished using them.



# What does a transition to IPR mean for Blue Box?

- Currently, the Blue Box Program is operated under both a shared producer responsibility model, in which municipalities and stewards/producers share costs to operate the program, and a collective producer responsibility model, in which stewards/producers are collectively responsible for managing their materials at end-of-life
  - Under these models, Ontario's diversion rates have stalled
  - There is a need to improve the diversion rate and address the growing challenges in delivering and funding the program
- To drive better economic and environmental benefits, Ontario is shifting to a full producer responsibility model where stewards/producers are individually accountable and financially responsible for their products when consumers dispose of them
- This new framework will hold producers accountable for their products at end-of-life and drive them to rethink the design of their products to reduce waste, keep valuable resources out of landfill and reintegrate them back into the supply chain
- The details of this new framework will be outlined in a regulation released by the Ontario government. The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks will develop and consult on a draft version of this regulation before finalizing.

# Wind-up and transition roles and responsibilities

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks	RPRA	Stewardship Ontario	Municipalities, First Nation communities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue direction letters</li> <li>• Develop and consult on new regulation for Blue Box materials under the RRCEA</li> <li>• Issue new regulation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review, consult on and approve the Blue Box Program Wind-Up Plan</li> <li>• Oversee implementation of plan</li> <li>• Continue to support Blue Box Program operations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop, consult on and submit wind-up plan (to RPRA) for approval</li> <li>• Implement approved wind-up plan</li> <li>• Continue to fulfill its responsibilities under the program</li> <li>• Wind-up SO itself after all municipalities and First Nation communities have transitioned</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to operate their programs until their respective transition dates</li> <li>• Participate in joint governance structures, such as MIPC and CIF, supporting transition planning and program wind-up</li> </ul>

# What's changing for the Blue Box Program

## Going from:

Program funded through a shared producer responsibility model, in which municipalities and stewards/producers share costs

A collection and processing system managed by participating communities

Stewards/producers collectively responsible for the end-of-life management of printed paper and packaging

## To:

Program funded through a full producer responsibility model where producers will be responsible for both costs and operations

A system managed by resource recovery service providers on producers' behalf and/or producers managing their own products

Producers individually responsible for the end-of-life management of printed paper and packaging

# What's changing for the Blue Box Program

## Going from:

Authority collects system data from participating communities through the Datacall

SO collects data for setting steward fees

*The Waste Diversion Transition Act, 2016 (WTDA)*

## To:

The Authority collects system data from producers through a secure registry to enforce individual producer compliance

Service providers, e.g., producer responsibility organizations (PROs), set prices for their services

*The Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016 (RRCEA)*

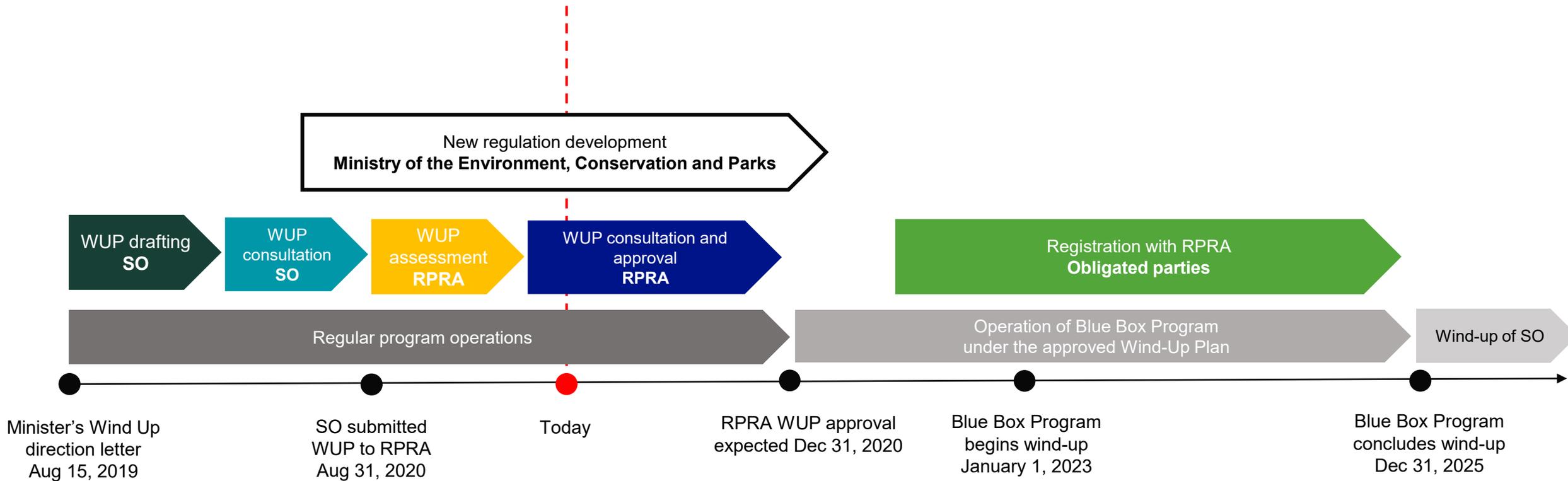
# Wind-Up Plan Development Process



# Minister's direction

- Stewardship Ontario is the industry funding organization that operates Ontario's Blue Box Program on behalf of industry stewards of packaging and printed paper
- On August 15, 2019, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks issued direction to SO and RPRA to wind up the Blue Box Program and transition it to Ontario's new individual producer responsibility framework starting on January 1, 2023 through to December 31, 2025
  - SO will wind up as a corporation after the program wind-up has been fully implemented
- SO submitted its proposed wind-up plan to the Authority by the revised August 31, 2020 deadline set by the Minister
- It is expected that the Authority must review, consult on and approve the plan no later than December 31, 2020

# Wind-Up Plan development and approval



# RPRA's approval process

- Assess whether Stewardship Ontario's proposed Blue Box Program Wind-Up Plan is compliant with the WDTA and consistent with the Minister's directions
  - Also assess against requirements of the Authority's Wind-Up Guide, a non-binding document to provide guidance to IFOs in the development of wind-up plans
- Consult with stakeholders to get feedback on the plan and inform the Authority's decision making
- Final approval of the plan will be made by the Authority's Board

A large stack of newspapers is shown, tied together with a thick, light-brown rope that runs vertically down the center. The newspapers are stacked in a way that their edges are visible, showing various headlines and text. The background is slightly blurred, suggesting a large quantity of newspapers. Overlaid in the center of the image is the word "Questions?" in a large, bold, black font.

**Questions?**

# Consultation approach



# RPRA's consultation approach

- Provide an overview of Stewardship Ontario's proposed Wind-Up Plan for the Blue Box Program
- Answer questions you may have on the wind-up of the program
- Outline key questions that we are seeking feedback on
- No in-person meetings possible due to COVID-19. RPRA provides the following pathways for providing feedback on the plan:
  - Series of webinars (recorded and posted)
  - Online group discussions
  - Survey
  - Email
  - 1:1 meetings upon request
- Questions and answers will be compiled and posted

**The development of the draft Blue Box Regulation (currently in progress by the MECP) is not in scope of this consultation**

# Online group discussions

- Online facilitated discussion to provide questions, support and concerns
- Meeting setting
- Limited group size
- Not recorded
- All comments and feedback will be captured
- Questions and answers will be compiled and posted
- Assumes awareness of Wind-Up Plan content

# Consultation themes



# Key elements of existing Blue Box Program

- Blue Box waste diversion target
- Continuous Improvement Fund
- Funding
  - Data collection, verification and auditing
    - Steward reporting (SO)
    - Municipal Datacall (RPRA)
  - Pay-in/pay-out allocation
    - Steward fee-setting methodology (SO)
    - Municipal Funding Allocation Model (RPRA)
- Market Development
- Promotion and Education
- In-Kind Program

# The Minister's direction

- SO's proposed plan should be consistent with the following principles:
  - Demonstrate transparent communications and meaningful consultation
  - Support competition and prevent conflict of Interest
  - Demonstrate fairness to stewards and protect consumers
  - Maintain program performance
- The plan should also include:
  - Implementation plan and timelines
  - Proposal to wind up the CIF as soon as practical
- SO outlines their proposed approach for implementing the Minister's direction in its wind-up plan
  - In our upcoming sessions, we will present key elements of SO's proposed plan

# Consultation webinars

## Session 2: Supporting competition and maintaining data security

- Conflict of interest mitigation approach
- Data management plan
- Intellectual property

## Session 3: Maintaining program performance and municipal funding

- Eligibility of program changes
- Promotion and education
- Market development
- Municipal funding and Datacall
- Communications plan

## Session 4: Financials and steward operations

- Funds and reserves
- Assets, liabilities and contingencies
- Financial forecast and budget
- Steward operations
- Steward fee-setting methodology change

## Session 5: Winding up the CIF

- Considerations
- Wind-up timeline
- Strategic priorities
- Financials and fund disbursements
- Governance

# How to participate

## Consultation webinars

### **Session 1: Consultation, program and transition overview**

Tuesday, October 13, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

### **Session 2: Supporting competition and maintaining data security**

Wednesday, October 14, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

### **Session 3: Maintaining program performance and municipal funding**

Wednesday, October 14, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

### **Session 4: Financials and steward operations**

Thursday, October 15, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

### **Session 5: Winding up the CIF**

Friday, October 16, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

## Online group discussions

*RSVP on or before October 14*

### **Stewards**

Monday, October 19, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

### **Municipalities, waste management industry**

Tuesday, October 20, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

### **First Nation and northern/rural communities**

Thursday, October 22, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

### **NGOs and general public**

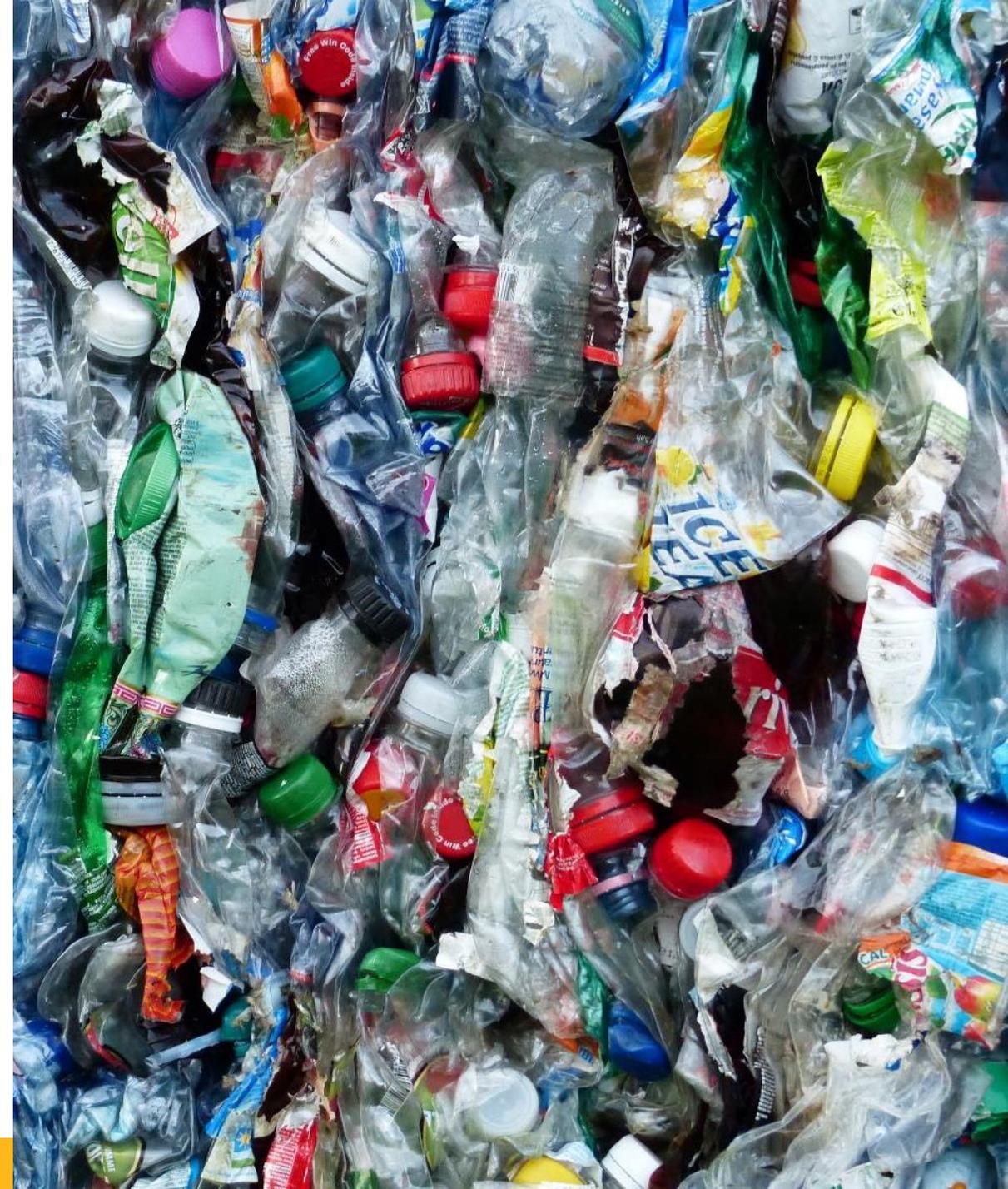
Friday, October 23, 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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**Questions?**

# Next steps

- This presentation deck and a recording will be posted to our [consultation webpage](#)
- Provide feedback by **Tuesday, November 10, 2020** via:
  - Email to [consultations@rpra.ca](mailto:consultations@rpra.ca)
  - [Online survey](#)
  - Webinar, group discussion or 1:1 meeting (upon request)
- Feedback from the consultation will be summarized in a report that will be available on the Authority's website
- If you have questions about the wind-up plan or would like to discuss it in more detail, email us at [consultations@rpra.ca](mailto:consultations@rpra.ca)



A large stack of newspapers is shown, tied together with a thick, light-brown rope. The newspapers are stacked in a way that their edges are visible, showing various headlines and text. The text "Thank You" is overlaid in the center of the image in a large, bold, black font. The background is slightly blurred, emphasizing the stack of newspapers.

Thank You