

## E&E Project Summary Report

**Project Name:** Implementation of a Sustainable Financing System For Solid Waste Management in Ontario

**Project Number:** 160

**Priority Area:** Innovative Financing & Program Compliance

**Lead Sponsor:** Cities of London and Ottawa

**Completed By:** Kelleher Environmental

**Total project value (including in-kind):** \$100,000

**E&E fund contribution:** \$64,000

### Project Overview:

#### I. Goals

- Establish a Peer Learning Group to identify the issues and challenges associated with financing waste management through a self-financed structure in Ontario, to meet the requirements of the amended *Municipal Act 2001(amended in 2007)*;
- Carry out research on experience in other jurisdictions which moved to sustainable financing models, identify how they resolved various issues (mixed use buildings, multi-family housing, absent landlords, etc) and identify solutions which could be applied to Ontario;
- Identify particular financing system design features which have increased recovery of recyclables in other jurisdictions;
- Identify known impacts and evidence on the impacts of moving to sustainable financing on recycling system costs, identifying utility design features that may lower recycling system costs;
- Use lessons learned to help Ottawa and London identify actions, next steps and timing to implement a utility, and
- Develop a Toolkit and Implementation Manual to assist other Ontario municipalities to implement sustainable financing models for waste management system financing

#### II. Accomplishments

A total of seven well-researched, well communicated discussion papers were completed and posted. There was enough interest in the subject matter to host a dedicated workshop on the subject prior to the November 2007 ORW.

#### III. Lessons Learned/Best Practice implications

The creation of sustainable financing systems for solid waste management is achievable, has and is being done, and is considered to support the best practice for policies supporting waste diversion.

#### IV. Limitations

The decision to institute a sustainable financing system by a municipality is resource-intensive, politically sensitive, and a radical departure from most existing municipal financial structures. The generation of this study will help to answer a large number of questions associated with the change and even provide implementation guidance, but ultimately the move requires that responsible individuals with vision for the next level of waste management are given the authority by their politicians to mobilize their resources to make this happen. This takes time, effort and political support.

#### Impacts (including tonnes diverted and cost impacts)

Not measurable at this time and may never be quantified as the utility function operates at a high level and is not, in itself, a discrete or easily isolated program operator.

#### Resources & Tools

Discussion papers for E&E PN 160 are posted at <http://www.stewardshipontario.ca/bluebox/eefund/projects.htm#160> and [http://www.vubiz.com/V5/Stewardship/Sustain\\_Main.asp](http://www.vubiz.com/V5/Stewardship/Sustain_Main.asp)

