



## **Quinte Waste Solutions awarded two new recycling grants worth \$46,650 from Stewardship Ontario**

**TORONTO** (February 9, 2005) —Quinte Waste Solutions (QWS) has been awarded two new grants for funding totaling \$46,650 under Stewardship Ontario’s Effectiveness & Efficiency (E&E) Fund to study best practices for public space recycling and to review and field test best practices for its depot cart program, Damian Bassett, CEO of Stewardship Ontario announced today.

“The amount of recyclable material collected in public space containers is typically low,” Bassett said, “but many municipalities and the industries supporting the blue box program believe depot carts and recycling bins located in public places can be more effectively used to divert recyclables from landfill. That is why Stewardship Ontario has approved these two projects for funding.”

The first project will test several different types of public space recycling containers (found in arenas and other public venues) in the cities of Quinte West and Belleville. QWS staff will measure the amount of material that each type of bin collects. In addition, they will survey users concerning their opinions of the containers and the program, and use the information to produce recommendations on how to strengthen the diversion performance of public space containers. The information will be shared with municipalities throughout Ontario.

The second project focuses on increasing recycling through the rural recycling depots that are used widely in the region (and the province) and which generally take in less material than do curbside recycling collection programs. This project will focus on what practices result in higher diversion rates at depots throughout the province, and then test the conclusions on depots in the region.

“It’s been difficult to increase our recovery at special events and depots in a cost-effective way but we know that there’s an impressive quantity of high quality materials out there. We’d like to find out what really makes these systems work, then go out and apply these techniques to increase our program’s overall effectiveness and diversion rate,” said Rick Clow, General Manager of Quinte Waste Solutions.

Quinte Waste Solutions is the organization responsible for all waste reduction programs for a group of municipalities that includes Belleville, Quinte West, Centre Hastings, Madoc Twp, Marmora and Lake, Stirling-Rawdon, Tweed, Tyendinga, and Prince Edward County. Quinte will provide about \$22,000 in funds or in-kind contributions toward these projects.

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These grants add to the funding that the region regularly receives to support its recycling program, which to date amounts to \$246,445,” Bassett said. “Quinte’s proposals were selected by a panel of industry and municipal experts because they will provide new information that will be valuable for municipal recycling programs that depend on public space and depot recycling programs to achieve diversion targets.”

Under the *Waste Diversion Act, 2002* and the Blue Box Program Plan, brand owners and first importers who use packaging or printed papers that are handled through Ontario municipal residential waste management programs contribute to a fund equal to 50% of the net cost of municipal residential Blue Box recycling systems. Stewardship Ontario is the industry funding organization for the Blue Box Program Plan and is authorized under the Act to collect the funds from industry and distribute them to municipalities. The E&E Fund represents 10% of stewards’ contributions.

The Effectiveness and Efficiency (E&E) Fund, launched on July 1, 2004 makes \$3.3 million available in 2004 for approved projects and up to \$9 million through 2005. To date, the E&E Fund has received more than 40 applications from Ontario municipal recycling programs.

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Backgrounder attached

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In Ontario, stewards of “Blue Box” materials pay a fee on the amount of packaging and printed papers their businesses contribute to the municipal waste management system. This provides 50% of the net funding for the municipal residential blue box recycling system.

In 2004, \$3.3 million of these funds comprise the Effectiveness and Efficiency (E&E) Fund – a program that provides financial support for municipalities to implement projects that will demonstrate how to reduce recycling costs and improve program effectiveness.

For more information and to apply:  
[www.stewardshipontario.ca](http://www.stewardshipontario.ca); see  
the **E&E Fund** in “Funding”

### Eligible Projects

Applications for funding in 2004 are welcome for “open” blue box recycling projects of any type or for the following priority areas:

- multi-family recycling;
- material recycling facility (MRF) optimization and rationalization;
- innovative financing/program compliance (e.g. user pay);
- waste audit and benchmarking studies;
- communication and education to increase the recovery of targeted materials; and
- cost containment.

### **Application Evaluation Criteria**

- 1) Will the project *divert materials cost-effectively* (e.g. lower collection or processing costs?)
- 2) Is it likely to *increase the amount of residential blue box material recycled* in Ontario?
- 3) Is it *well managed* (i.e. planned, properly sized, overseen and evaluated)?
- 4) Will it encourage *replication of results*?

### Applications

Applications are completed online at [www.stewardshipontario.ca](http://www.stewardshipontario.ca) on a continuous basis. An application requires two steps: *Intent to Apply* and a *Detailed Application*. If the *Intent to Apply* meets program goals the proponent may submit a *Detailed Application*. Submissions are evaluated by at least two peer reviewers – recycling experts selected from the public and private sectors from across the province. Based on their analysis, projects are recommended for approval or returned with detailed comments. Once approved by its Board of Directors, Stewardship Ontario notifies proponents of the decision.

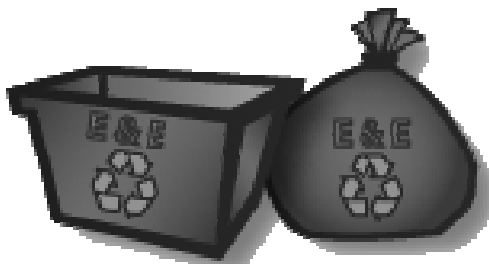
### Project Requirements

Recommended projects must:

- focus on increasing effectiveness and efficiency of recycling for blue box materials;
- be submitted *only* by an Ontario municipality (with or without a project team); and
- demonstrate that 50% matching funding (cash and/or eligible in-kind investments) is in place.

### Shared Results

All Ontario municipal blue box recycling programs can benefit from the E&E Fund, regardless of whether they participate. Watch for project reports and highlights as they are posted at [www.stewardshipontario.ca](http://www.stewardshipontario.ca).



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## **Backgrounder on Waste Diversion Ontario and Stewardship Ontario**

### **Waste Diversion Ontario ([www.wdo.ca](http://www.wdo.ca))**

Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO) is a non-government corporation created under the *Waste Diversion Act* on June 27, 2002. WDO was established to develop, implement and operate waste diversion programs for a wide range of materials that currently include Blue Box Waste, for which a program is approved, Used Tires, for which a program is posted on the Environmental Registry for comment, and Used Oil Material and Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment, for which programs are being developed. Waste diversion programs are developed after materials are designated by the Minister of the Environment. The Minister recently asked WDO to work with representatives of the affected electrical and electronics industries to develop a diversion program that would include more than 50 products, ranging from appliances to computers to cellphones and TVs. Materials such as Household Special Waste, Organic Materials, Pharmaceuticals and Fluorescent Tubes may be designated by the Minister in future.

The WDO has been authorized by the Act to work co-operatively with those industries that produce and distribute these products to establish programs to divert waste materials.

### **Stewardship Ontario ([www.stewardshipontario.ca](http://www.stewardshipontario.ca))**

The WDO designated Stewardship Ontario as the industry funding organization for Blue Box Wastes (glass, metal, paper, plastic and textiles collected in municipal recycling programs). All packaging and printed paper that fall within these categories are included in the Blue Box Program Plan and in the fees calculation. Companies designated as stewards for Blue Box Wastes can discharge their legal obligations under the Act through membership in Stewardship Ontario and paying the applicable steward fees. Currently, more than 1,730 companies (see [www.stewardshipontario.ca/xls/Prereg\\_list.xls](http://www.stewardshipontario.ca/xls/Prereg_list.xls)) have registered with Stewardship Ontario as stewards and have paid their fees. Fees vary based on the types, amounts and recyclability of packaging materials and printed papers used, i.e. packaging that is not recyclable or that has weaker markets has been designated a higher fee than packaging that has stronger markets.

### **Non-obligated Companies**

Many companies that introduce packaging and printed papers into the Ontario marketplace fall under the “de minimis” rule in the Blue Box Program Plan. If their sales are under \$2 million annually they are exempt from registering or paying fees. If their sales are over \$2 million but they produce less than 15 tonnes of “Blue Box Wastes” annually, they are exempt from paying fees but must register with Stewardship Ontario ([www.stewardshipontario.ca](http://www.stewardshipontario.ca))

### **Blue Box Program Plan**

A copy of the Blue Box Program Plan can be found at:  
[www.stewardshipontario.ca/pdf/PlanFeb28/BBPP\\_Feb28\\_Plan\\_Appendices.pdf](http://www.stewardshipontario.ca/pdf/PlanFeb28/BBPP_Feb28_Plan_Appendices.pdf)

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