

<b>Date:</b> 2023-May-4	<b>Time:</b> 2:30pm – 4:00pm
<b>SPAC Co-Chairs:</b> Paulina Leung, Tom Wright	<b>SPAC Secretary:</b> Cameron Parrack
<p><b>Attendees:</b></p> <p><u>Industry Council Members:</u>  (In Person) Ashley De Souza, Waste to Resource Ontario  (In Person) Dave Gordon, Association of Municipalities of Ontario  (In Person) Paulina Leung, Emterra Group  (Virtual) Annette Synowiec, City of Toronto  (Virtual) James Ewles, Raw Materials Company  (Virtual) Clayton Miller, Quantum Lifecycle Partners  (Virtual) Adam Moffatt, Ontario Tire Dealers Association  (Virtual) Adam McCue, Northumberland County  (Virtual) Nicole Willett, GFL Environmental  (Virtual) Josh Wiwcharyk, Loop Recycled Products</p> <p><u>RPRRA Staff:</u>  (In Person) Frank Denton, Chief Executive Officer  (In Person) Noah Gitterman, Registrar and General Counsel  (In Person) Wilson Lee, Chief of Programs and Public Affairs  (In Person) Lorella Hayes, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer  (In Person) Mary Cummins, Registrar  (In Person) Cameron Parrack, Manager of Programs and Stakeholder Relations  (In Person) Stacey Bowman, Senior Resource Recovery Analyst  (In Person) Barbora Grochalova, Senior Resource Recovery Analyst</p> <p><u>RPRRA Board:</u>  (In Person) Robert Poirier, RPRRA Board Chair  (Virtual) Tom Wright, RPRRA Board Vice-Chair</p> <p><u>MECP Representative:</u>  (Virtual) Marc Peverini, Manager, Resource Recovery Policy Branch  (Virtual) John Fox, Resource Recovery Policy Branch</p>	
<p><b>Regrets:</b>  Izzie Abrams, Waste Connections of Canada  Norm Lee, Region of Peel</p>	
<p><b>Recording Secretary:</b> Barbora Grochalova, Senior Resource Recovery Program Analyst</p>	

**1. Introductions and Co-Chair's Remarks**

- Welcome and opening remarks by the SPAC co-chairs.

## **2. CEO's Remarks**

- RPRA's CEO provided opening remarks, including noting SPAC's February 14, 2023 engagement with the board has supported internal RPRA discussions about RRCEA program performance.
  - RPRA's CEO noted that program performance is affected by several factors, including consumer behavior, regulations, producer behavior, service provider behavior as well as RPRA's compliance program.
- RPRA's CEO also shared that RPRA has successfully launched the digital registry for the hazardous waste program, and are now preparing for our next milestone, the transition of the Blue Box program to the RRCEA.
- A discussion was had on the importance of SPAC members providing feedback to RPRA on broad system compliance matters.
  - SPAC member noted that given recent compliance actions, it would be beneficial to have RPRA provide a general update on compliance issues, its compliance and enforcement KPIs (including an update on previously provided compliance and enforcement KPIs) and some of the compliance and enforcement activities that they've undertaken.
  - RPRA's registrar clarified that specific compliance matters are outside of the scope of SPAC discussion. She noted that RPRA is exploring the opportunity to establish technical committees to provide a forum for registrants with operational experience (both producers and service providers) to advise RPRA on the implementation of producer responsibility programs.
  - SPAC member noted that service providers have a stake in understanding the volume of compliance cases, how fast they are cleared, and the progress towards achieving environmental outcomes.
  - RPRA's CEO noted that the Council is an appropriate venue to discuss RPRA resourcing requirements to deliver mandate, including compliance and enforcement or to discuss broader trends within the sector that are not related to specific compliance matters or enforcement activity.
  - It was agreed that a follow up discussion was needed to further clarify the types of compliance related topics that are appropriately within the scope of SPAC.
  - SPAC members expressed an interest in participating in technical committees with the intent of considering the impacts of regulations on the marketplace.

## **3. Follow up on SPAC Engagement with RPRA Board**

- RPRA's CEO provided a summary of SPAC's key concerns presented to the RPRA Board on February 14, 2023 to confirm the accuracy of what we heard with the Council members and to share RPRA's perspective on each area of concern.
- SPAC member expressed concern that program performance and system funding will be impacted if only minimum resource recovery targets are met. The member noted that material that continues to be collected above the minimum target can potentially be left stranded or not funded by producers.
- SPAC member indicated that they would like to better understand the challenges currently being experienced with program performance.
- SPAC member suggested that RPRA more clearly communicate which materials each PRO is managing, especially with respect to the HSP materials.
  - RPRA staff committed to reviewing this information on our website to ensure the information is accessible.

- SPAC member expressed concern that RPRA may still not be adequately resourced to fulfill compliance and enforcement mandate.
  - RPRA's registrar stated that the RPRA board has allocated adequate resources to the compliance department and that she is in the process of filling several vacant roles.

#### **4. Update in Public Reporting**

- RPRA staff reviewed the organization's public reporting mandate; the process and outcomes of the consultation on public reporting conducted in 2022; the deadlines for producers to submit information to the Registry; and RPRA's target dates to publicly report supply and performance information in 2023.
- RPRA staff shared the organization's public reporting action plan.
- RPRA staff emphasized that public reporting is one of the organizational strategic priorities, and RPRA will continue to seek input from our stakeholders to identify opportunities for improvement in terms of accessibility and usefulness of reported data.
- A SPAC member acknowledged RPRA's continued work on improving public reporting and expressed broad support for the approach, which addresses many of the recommendations from SPAC members. The member indicated that expediency in reporting program data is greatly valued by the service provider community, and that a reasonable trade-off is needed between timely publication and accuracy of data.
- RPRA staff noted that caveats will be provided to indicate the reliability of the reported data, as well as potential fluctuations in data publicly reported due to ongoing verification.

#### **5. 2024-2026 Business Plan**

- RPRA staff reviewed the business planning process including assumptions that inform the development of the proposed strategic priorities.
- RPRA staff noted that RPRA proposes no changes to the strategic priorities, assuming that no new regulations or Minister's directions will be received during the business planning period.
- A SPAC member requested an update on the overall adoption of RPRA's HWP registry and mobile application.
  - RPRA staff shared that the transition from the use of paper based HWIN system to the digital HWP registry and mobile application has been well received.
  - Users of the registry have shared positive feedback on the solution and have readily shared ideas for potential enhancements.
- A SPAC member suggested that RPRA's strategic trajectory should include compliance and enforcement as a priority, as well as monitoring performance and the analysis on historical trends.
  - RPRA's registrar clarified that compliance is a priority in the business plan and throughout the business planning process.
  - RPRA staff noted that analytical modeling on historical trends is underway.

#### **6. Closing and Next Steps**

- RPRA staff outlined next steps in the business planning process and noted the SPAC would be engaged again in July on RPRA's proposed budget and forecasts for the business planning period.

- Feedback received from council members on the proposed strategic priorities will be reviewed during the next council meeting including sharing how feedback provided was considered and incorporated into the final strategic priorities.
- The CEO and SPAC co-chairs thanked the members for their participation and feedback and closed the meeting.