

PLASTICS

re-inventing & re-thinking
society's “material workhorse”

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Plastics Use in Canada

- Plastics is a \$29.2 Billion a year industry.
- Domestic plastic is mostly packaging (38%) construction (33%) and automotive (14%).
- 80% of plastics are recyclable, less than 8% are. (UK = 26%)
- 311 kilotonnes recycled in 2013 (20% of waste stream).
- Comprised of 60% bottles, 21% non-rigid plastics, 17% film and 1% foam.
- 68% processed in Canada, 16% to US and 15% overseas.

Public awareness...

Consumer fatigue...



Marine Waste...



Actions...

- WRAP (Waste Resource Action Program) – Europe 1980
- IWMC (Island Waste Management Corporation) implemented WASTE WATCH – 2002
- Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment will host the G7 – (Canada, US, UK, Italy, Germany, Spain , France) and lead the adoption of a global Plastics Charter this fall in Halifax with commitments along the entire life cycle of plastics.
- Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment will adopt Canada wide aspirational targets for waste reduction and endorse the G7 Charter.

Actions - Prince Edward Island

Regulatory...

- Waste Watch
- Energy from Waste Facility
- Central Compost Facility
- Beverage Container Act
- Extended Producer Responsibility Programs

Innovation – Source Separation



Extended Producer Responsibility EPR Programs

- Electronics
- Paint
- Used Oil/Glycol
- Lamps/Bulbs
- Lead Acid Batteries
- Medical Sharps
- Voluntary single use and rechargeable batteries, agricultural film (silage wrap), pesticides and containers.

Bill 114 - Plastic Bag Reduction Act



The Challenges... globally & locally

- Make – Use – Dispose
- Linear vs Circular Economy
- Education
- Options
- Re-invent and Re-think why and how we can sustainably manage our plastics use.