



PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. 3

Halifax Regional Council
February 10, 2009

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Labrecque".

Mike Labrecque, Director, Transportation & Public Works

DATE: January 27, 2009

SUBJECT: **Resident Accessibility to Electronic Waste and
Hazardous Waste Recycling Programs**

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Request for Information at the January 20, 2009 Regional Council meeting.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Staff has commenced gathering information which will enable the provision of a comprehensive report respecting the costs and benefits of HRM providing a "Toxic Taxi" service for the collection of household hazardous waste and electronic waste.

Household Hazardous Waste:

Staffs' investigation will determine the approvals required by Nova Scotia Environment (NSE) and the Federal Government, including pertaining to the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act. Once staff has gathered the information, discussion with Atlantic Industrial Services (AIS), the operator of the HRM Household Hazardous Waste depot located at 20 Horseshoe Lake Drive, will be held to assess how this new service could be best incorporated into the existing RFP 06-393 contract, as a component of the HRM Household Hazardous Waste program.

The Scope of Work for the Operations of the HRM HHW contract, awarded to AIS in the spring of 2007, does not include a "Toxic Taxi" service. Once the information is gathered, staff will forecast the estimated usage (i.e. participation rate) and cost of the service. This information will be measured with the current HRM HHW program which consists of forty- four Saturday operations of the HHW depot facility located in the Bayers Lake business park, plus four special mobile HHW depot events annually (two of which are held in rural communities of HRM, and two in Dartmouth).

Complete information will be provided to members of Regional Council in conjunction with the Proposed 2009-10 Business Plan and Budget.

Electronic Waste:

With respect to electronic waste, many electronic items are regulated and have been banned from disposal in a landfill by the Province. In 2007, the NSE approved a plan whereby the electronic industry recovers electronic waste. This program has been operating since February 2008. Fees, which are collected by the industry at the point of sale, fund the program.

As approved by NSE, Atlantic Canada Electronic Stewardship (ACES) has established recycling drop off centres throughout the HRM, and all of Nova Scotia. The Resource Recovery Fund Board has been contracted by ACES to oversee the operation of the electronic waste drop off centres, and the private sector regional recovery/disassembly facility.

The program, which commenced in February 2008 for televisions, computers and printers, will be expanded to all electronic waste (excluding photocopiers) in February 2009. In addition, effective January 20, 2009, the Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association launched a recovery/take back program of cell phones at many retail outlets.

Information respecting the RRFB/ACES and the CWTA program is available at www.ACESewardship.ca and www.RecycleMyCell.ca respectively.

The staff report will also assess the collection of electronic waste as a component of the potentially new "Toxic Taxi" program.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications at this time

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ATTACHMENTS

A question and answer brochure issued by ACES "Where can I recycle these electronic?"

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.



Report Prepared by :

Jim Bauld, Manager, Solid Waste Resources 490-6606

Q: How are electronics recycled?

A: Recycling electronics involves processing the materials and recovering metals, glass and plastics that can be recycled into new products.

Q: Where will my electronics go?

A: The electronics will be transported to approved processing and recycling facilities. Recyclers are required to meet Electronics Product Stewardship Canada's (EPSC) Electronics Recycling Standard (www.epsc.ca/recycle). This standard outlines the requirements for environmentally sound recycling in accordance with appropriate health, safety and export provisions.

Q: Who is managing the electronics recycling program?

A: Atlantic Canada Electronics Stewardship (ACES), an industry-led not-for-profit association, is responsible for the program in Nova Scotia. ACES was established by Electronics Product Stewardship Canada (EPSC) and the Retail Council of Canada (RCC) to implement an Electronics Stewardship Program which has been approved by the Province of Nova Scotia. ACES is committed to ensuring that electronic waste is recycled in an environmentally responsible manner.

Q: If I return my unwanted computer, how do I know my personal information will not be seen or stolen?

A: Once an electronic item is dropped off at an ACES Drop-off Centre, it will be sent to an approved recycler for processing and material recovery. However, for your own personal security, you should take steps to make sure that private data is removed from your computer. ACES does not accept liability for data or any other digital content left on electronics dropped-off for processing.

Q: Why is this program important?

A: The ACES Program ensures that electronics are managed and recycled in a safe and environmentally sound manner. This program prohibits the use of prison labour and the export of scrap electronics and hazardous materials to developing nations.

Q: Isn't it important to reuse electronics before recycling?

A: Absolutely. The ACES Program is designed to manage unwanted electronic products that have no reuse potential. If your electronic items are not at the end of their useful life, you are encouraged to donate them to family members, friends or local charities.

Q: What if I have a large volume of unwanted electronics?

A: All ACES Drop-off Centres accept large volumes (25 pieces or more) of unwanted electronic material FREE OF CHARGE. Please contact ACES at info@ACESTewardship.ca or 1-877-774-3260 to find an ACES Drop-off Centre near you and schedule a delivery.

Q: Can I return my cell phone?

A: No, cell phone recycling will be managed separately by the Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association (CWTA). For your nearest location visit www.recyclemycell.ca or phone 1-888-797-1740.

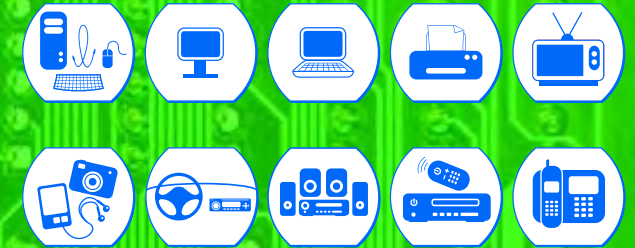


Atlantic Canada
Electronics Stewardship

www.ACESTewardship.ca
1-877-774-3260

You've got the power. Recycle it.

Where can I recycle these electronics?



*You've got the power.
Recycle it.*



Atlantic Canada
Electronics Stewardship

To find an ACES Drop-off Centre, contact:
www.ACESTewardship.ca 1-877-774-3260

Q: What is the Atlantic Canada Electronics Stewardship (ACES) Program?

A: The Atlantic Canada Electronics Stewardship (ACES) Program is a not-for-profit, industry-led electronics recycling program approved by the Province of Nova Scotia and available to all consumers and businesses within Nova Scotia.

Q: How is the ACES Program funded?

A: The program utilizes an environmental handling fee (EHF), paid at the point of purchase, on regulated electronics products. These fees provide stable financing for the collection, transportation and responsible recycling of electronics in Nova Scotia. In addition, funds are used for overall program management and public education.

Q: Why do I have to pay a fee on the purchase of new electronics?

A: Under Nova Scotia Environment's legislation, certain regulated electronic products are banned from disposal in the province's landfills. These fees ensure that unwanted electronics are recycled responsibly through the ACES Program.

Q: Do I have to pay to drop off my unwanted electronics?

A: No, unwanted electronic products can be dropped off FREE OF CHARGE at any ACES Drop-off Centre.

Q: Is the EHF a tax?

A: No, the fees Nova Scotians pay when they purchase regulated electronic products are used solely to fund the electronics recycling program and are not remitted to government.

Q: What regulated electronic items are included in the ACES Program and how much are the Environmental Handling Fees (EHF)?

A: Since February 1, 2008, the following electronic products have been regulated in Nova Scotia and are subject to an EHF at the point of purchase:



DESKTOP COMPUTERS \$10 EHF

Includes Central Processing Units (CPUs), mice, keyboards, cables and other components within the computer. This includes desktop computers, desktop computers acting as servers, and all associated keyboards and cabling.



MONITORS \$12 EHF

A display device used for displaying images from computers or other sources that does not meet the definition of a television. This includes traditional Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) and all flat panel display technologies such as LCD and plasma.



NOTEBOOK COMPUTERS \$5 EHF

Includes portable computers such as notebook, laptop, netbook and tablet personal computers.



DESKTOP PRINTERS \$8 EHF

This includes printing devices that are designed to reside on a work surface, and includes various printing technologies, including laser & LED (electrophotographic), ink jet, dot matrix, thermal, dye sublimation and "multi-function" devices that may copy, scan, fax, or print. Standalone desktop scanners and fax machines are also included in this category.



TELEVISIONS \$15 - \$45 EHF

A video display device with an imbedded television tuner. This includes various display technologies, such as traditional Cathode Ray Tube (CRT), flat panel (LCD and plasma) or rear projection.

18" or less	\$15
19" to 29"	\$25
30" to 45"	\$30
46" and up	\$45

Q: Have additional electronic products been added to Nova Scotia's electronics recycling program?

A: Yes, effective February 1, 2009 the following types of electronic products have been added and are subject to an EHF at the point of purchase:



PERSONAL OR PORTABLE AUDIO/VIDEO SYSTEMS \$0.40 EHF

Includes portable devices primarily for personal use including docking speakers; portable stereos/tape players/radios; personal CD players, portable audio recorders/portable tape/radio players; headphones; MP3 players; solid state voice recorders; digital cameras and video cameras/camcorders.



VEHICLE AUDIO/VIDEO SYSTEMS (AFTERMARKET) \$2.75 EHF

Includes amplifiers, equalizers, speakers and in-dash audio/video components.



HOME THEATRE IN A BOX (HTB) SYSTEMS \$6 EHF

Includes pre-packaged disc player/speaker/amplifier systems for use with any type of video or television display to create a home theatre experience.



HOME AUDIO/VIDEO SYSTEMS \$3.50 EHF

Includes VCRs and DVD players; mini/mid/full size package systems; single/multi CD players; clock radios; digital cable equipment; satellite cable equipment; speakers (home speakers; home theatre speakers and multi-media speakers), amplifiers, receivers, data projectors and similar audio/video systems.



NON-CELLULAR TELEPHONES \$0.85 EHF

Includes wire telephones; cordless telephones and telephone answering machines.

For detailed information on any of these regulated products visit www.ACESstewardship.ca.