

The background of the slide features a large, stylized 'H' shape composed of several overlapping triangles in various shades of blue. The word 'HALIFAX' is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the upper right portion of the 'H'.

# HALIFAX

## **Solid Waste By-Law S-608**

Public Hearing Presentation

December 2, 2014

# By-Law S-608/ Proposed Amendments to By-Law S-600

The Public Hearing is in regards to

- **Clear Bag Initiative**
  - 1 opaque/black bag
  - Remaining bags to be clear
- **Bag Limit Reduction**
  - 6 to 4 bags

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# By-Law S-608/ Proposed Amendments to By-Law S-600

## Changes to Organic Program

- Removing boxboard as a mandated green bin product (while still permitted as a kitchen scrap material catcher)
- Mandating use of kraft paper bags for separate collection of leaf and yard waste
- Banning grass clippings from collection

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# Rationale For Change

Meet the objectives of the Community Stakeholders Committee Integrated Resource Management Strategy 1995, reaffirmed by Council January 2014

- Maximize reduction, reuse and recycling of waste resources;
- Maximize environmental and fiscal sustainability of the waste program;
- Foster public stewardship and conservation.

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# Anticipated Outcome of By-Law Changes

- Increase source separation of waste material
- Ensure source separated material is put in the proper waste stream
- Reduce amount of waste put in landfill
  - Almost 50% of the materials being sent to landfills should be recycled or composted
- Free up capacity at compost facilities
- Better product quality

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# Council Direction

**January 14, 2014 - COW Session**

Initiate By-Law amendments for:

- Removing boxboard as a mandated green bin product (while still permitted as a kitchen scrap material catcher)
- Mandating use of kraft paper bags for separate collection of leaf and yard waste
- Banning grass clippings from collection
- Mandate clear bags with privacy option
- Reduce garbage bag limits from six (6) to four (4)

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# Council Direction

## **September 23, 2014 – Regional Council**

First Reading By-Law S-608, amending By-Law S-600, the Solid Waste Resource Collection and Disposal By-law.

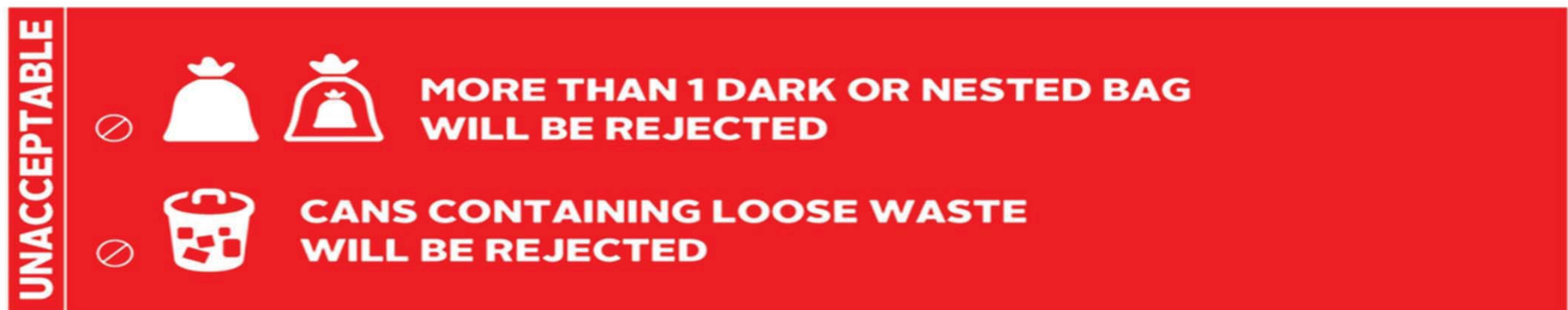
### **With one minor amendment to the proposed By-law:**

That amendment allows for one dark bag to be included in the total bag limit, in place of the nested dark bag in the original motion.

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# Clear Bags for Garbage





# Clear Bags for Garbage

**Study of 700+ homes in 3 Halifax Communities over 2 months.**

- 65% green cart participation each collection
- 45% blue bag participation each collection
- 8.7% of residents never put out their green cart
- 23.6% of residents never put out blue bag recyclables
- 29.9% of residents never put out paper recycling

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# Clear Bags for Garbage

Cities/Municipalities with Clear Bags:

- 85% of Nova Scotia Municipalities (46 of 54)
- Province of Prince Edward Island (pop. 145k)
- Markham, ON (pop. 332k)
- Peterborough County, ON (pop. 78k)
- Dufferin County, ON (pop. 56k)
- Huron County, ON (pop. 60k)

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# Bag Limit Proposal

Reducing from six (6) bags every two weeks



To four (4) bags every two weeks



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# Organics Program - Boxboard

**No Change** – Continued use of boxboard as a wrap for wet food waste.



**Change** - Excess boxboard moves to paper recycling stream.



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# Organics Program - Leaf and Yard Waste

- **No Change** - Residents can continue to use the green cart for leaf and yard waste.
- **Change** - Shifting from plastic to paper bags for excess leaf and yard waste (no grass).



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# Organics Program - Leaf and Yard Waste

## Cities/Municipalities with Kraft Bags Requirement:

Ottawa, ON - 1992/93  
Peterborough, ON - 1992-93  
Winnipeg, MB  
Gladstone, MB  
Innisfail, AB  
Red Deer, AB  
Thorsby, AB  
Medicine Hat, AB  
Spruce Grove, AB  
City of North Vancouver, BC  
City of Surrey, BC  
Port Coquitlam, BC  
City of West Vancouver, BC  
City of Vancouver, BC (Fall Only)  
Langley, BC  
Delta, BC  
Abbotsford, BC

Montreal, PQ  
Burnaby, BC  
Campbell River, BC  
Squamish, BC  
Richmond, BC  
Prince Edward Island  
Fredericton, NB  
Toronto, ON  
Hamilton, ON  
Mississauga, ON  
Windsor, ON  
Thunder Bay, ON  
Guelph, ON  
Sault Ste Marie, ON  
Kitchener, ON  
Barrie, ON  
Oshawa, ON

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# Organics Program - Grass Clippings

- **Change** - No collection of grass clippings
- **No Change** - Educating residents to manage grass clippings on the lawn – “Grasscycling”



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# Organics Program - Grass Clippings

## Cities/Municipalities with Grass Bans

- Toronto, ON
- Halton Region, ON
- Milton, ON
- Oakville, ON
- Burlington, ON
- Durham, ON
- Newmarket, ON

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# Implementing Program Changes

**Council approved initiatives would be phased in over an approximate six month period:**

## **Hauler Curbside Monitoring**

- Training for collection contractors

## **Program Compliance**

- No change to current policy
- Non-compliant residential bags/containers will be left uncollected affixed with education stickers

## **Communications Plan**

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# Implementing Program Changes

## Communication goals:

- Implement a public education campaign that helps residents:
  - Clearly and concisely explain the changes
  - Understand, embrace, and accept the changes
  - Foster a positive and progressive attitude

## Communications & Education Campaign

- Mail Notices / Direct Mail
- Mass Media
- Print & Online advertising
- Radio
- Halifax.ca
- Other Halifax channels (schools)

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# Answers to Frequent Questions

- Green bins can still be used for leaves and yard waste (no grass)
- Weeds/Dandelions/Branches can still be put in green bin
- Garbage cans can still be used but must be lined with a bag (1 may be a dark bag others must be clear)
- Solid Waste staff will help any household who needs assistance in reducing the amount of waste

**Thank you.**

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