



Meeting Date: December 20, 2023

Submitted by: Eric Joudrey

Report No: PWE 60-2023

Subject: Association of Municipalities of Ontario's Baseline Waste and Recycling Report

Recommendation:

THAT the 2023 Ontario Baseline Waste and Recycling Report Summary published by Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) be received as information.

Purpose:

The attached AMO report provides Council with a better understanding of the Ontario government's efforts to address non-hazardous solid waste (past, present, and future) and to assess its performance and identify actions that may be necessary to meet its goals.

Background:

The provincial government passed the Waste-Free Ontario Act, Strategy and Plan in 2016. The Act, Strategy and Plan are the pathways that will assist in addressing Ontario's waste management issues. The AMO's report provides a better understanding of the Ontario government's efforts to address non-hazardous solid waste management, assess its performance and identify actions that may be necessary to meet its goals. This includes providing an overview on:

- how Ontario currently manages resources and describing how this has changed over the past few decades;
- progress towards the performance goals established in the strategy (i.e., achieve 30% waste diversion rate by 2020; 50% by 2030; and 80% by 2050); and,
- opportunities to improve outcomes.

The report also includes a number of recommendations, including Industrial, Commercial & Institutional waste diversion, Extended Producer Responsibilities and expansion and enhancement of material designations, as well as ensuring proper third-party oversight. While the recent initiatives to transition waste diversion programs to full producer responsibility are a vital step, new policies and initiatives are required for the province to meet its committed 50% diversion goal by 2030. This commitment is critical given Ontario has only 10 years of disposal capacity remaining.

Analysis:

AMO report outlining the work the provincial government has undertaken to date related to initiatives for a Waste-Free Ontario Strategy and the subsequent Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan.

The Municipality is reviewing the implementation of an organic green bin program in the fourth quarter of 2024.

Middlesex Centre is a member of the Bluewater Recycling Association (BRA) who we work closely with to manage our waste diversion programs and report to the regulatory authorities on our waste initiatives, programs and environmental commitments.

<https://www.bra.org>

Financial Implications:

N/A

Strategic Plan:

This matter aligns with following strategic priorities:

- Sustainable Infrastructure and Services
- Responsive Municipal Government

Attachments:

2023 Ontario Baseline Waste & Recycling Report