# Responsible Recycling Task Force

Meeting #5 – August 24, 2018





# Agenda

- 9:00 9:30: Welcome & Introduction (Julie Colehour)
- 9:30 10:15: Recycle BC Overview & Framework (Tamara Burns)
- 10:15 10:55: National and Private Sector Sustainable Packaging Efforts (Nina Goodrich)
- 10:55 11:00: Wrap Up & Next Steps (Julie Colehour)



### Task Force Goals

- Short Term Goal: To help identify near-, mid- and long-term actions in response to reduction in export markets for mixed recyclable materials due to China National Sword policies.
- Longer Term Goal: To help establish commitment across the region to responsible recycling and domestic sorting/processing of curbside recyclables.
- Outcomes: Prepare a report with actionable items and recommendations for future action by all; if possible, develop interim tools for communications and other topics that are more immediately available.
- Role of Task Force: Not to make decisions, rather to learn about the problem, understand activities that are being implemented elsewhere and opportunities for change. They will provide guidance on next steps that will be brought back to county advisory committees and decision makers.

# Recommendations Review



Meeting	RRTF Recommendation	Responsible Recycling Framework Relevance
#1: Task Force Kick-off (4/30/18)	The region should make a commitment to responsible recycling and domestic sorting/processing of curbside recyclables.	Overall Responsible Recycling Framework
#2: What's in the bin? (6/1/18)	All regional curbside programs should remove plastic bags and shredded paper from the blue bin.	Quality vs. quantity
#3: Contracts, Waivers & Surcharges (6/18/18)	The region should have a coordinated and consistent approach to waivers.	Regional policy alignment Recycling is not free
#4: Domestic Processing Infrastructure (7/18/18)	Domestic sorting and processing should be the priority in order to create market ready bales.	Domestic processing and markets

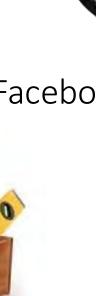
# Updates from previous meetings

July 18 Meeting Minutes approved



• Draft toolkit delivered August 15

Includes social media posts and images for Facebook,
 Twitter and Instagram



# Recycle BC Overview and Framework

Tamara Burns

VP Supply Chain, Recycle BC









# REDESIGNING RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING



#### **WHO WE ARE**

Recycle BC is a not-for-profit organization responsible for residential packaging and paper recycling throughout British Columbia.

Recycle BC ensures household materials are collected, sorted and responsibly recycled.

Our program is funded by over 1,200 businesses that include retailers, manufacturers and restaurants that supply packaging and printed paper to BC residents, shifting costs away from homeowners.



# **EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR)**

- EPR is the obligation that businesses have to reduce the environmental impact of their products and packaging
- Producer responsibility spans the entire product management lifecycle, physical and financial, for products and packaging supplied into the marketplace
- Shifts responsibility upstream, away from municipalities and regional waste authorities to the companies that put the products in the market



#### PROVINCE OF BC REGULATION

- - Recycle BC operates within the framework of the Province of BC's Environmental Management Act and the Recycling Regulation
  - The materials we collect are directed by the Regulation and we operate under our Stewardship Plan, approved by the Ministry of Environment



#### RECYCLE BC'S STEWARDSHIP PLAN



- Provides collection services
- o Processes material
- Markets material to end-markets



#### RECYCLE BC 2017 PROGRAM PERFORMANCE



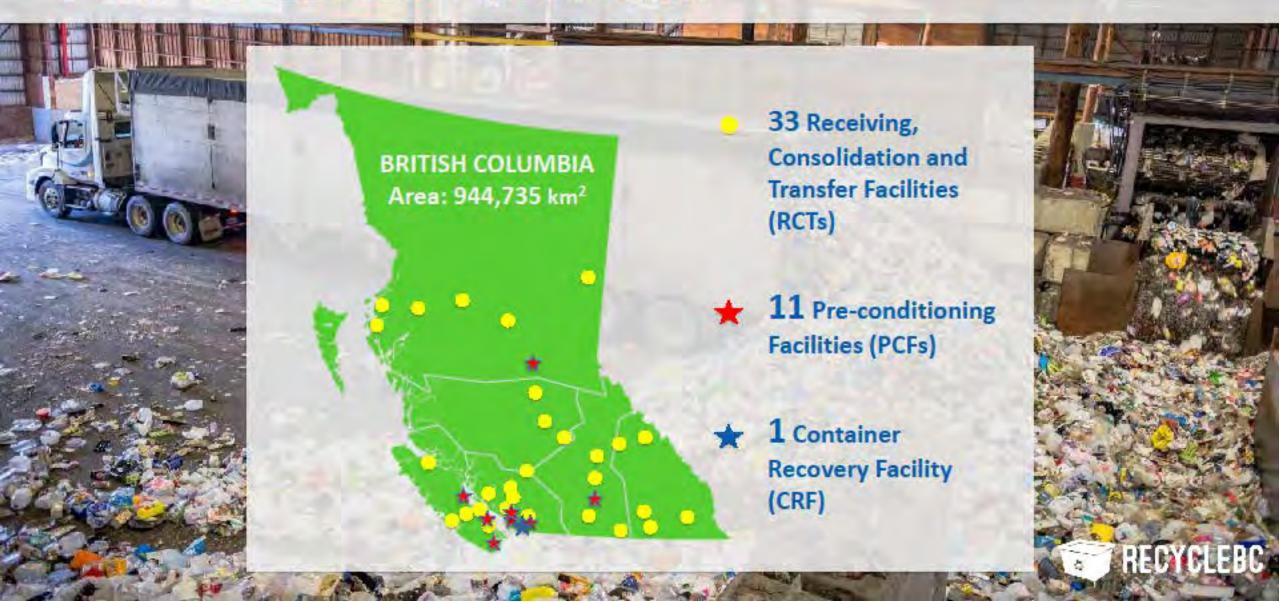




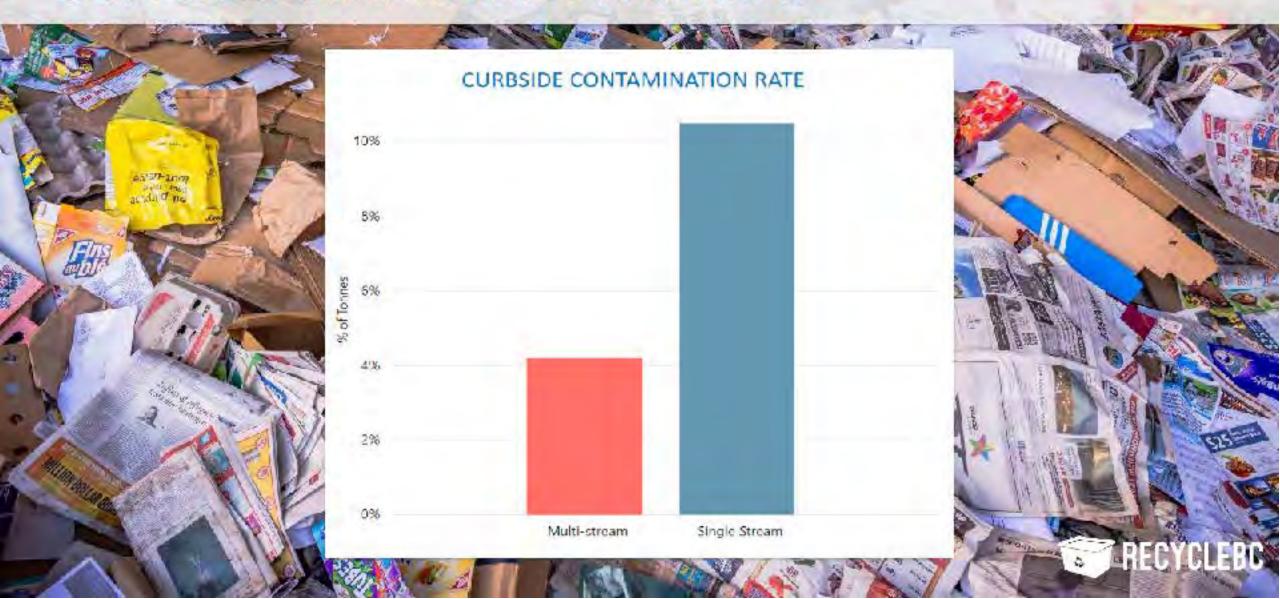




## **POST-COLLECTION NETWORK**



#### **CURBSIDE CONTAMINATION RATE**



#### **CURBSIDE CAPTURE RATES**



RECYCLEBC



# **RESPONSIBLE RECYCLING ELEMENTS**



#### STANDARDIZED MATERIAL LIST



#### SEGREGATED COLLECTON OF CERTAIN MATERIALS

Glass



**Plastic Bags** 



Foam **Packaging** 









#### **EFFECTIVE SORTING**

Receiving,
Consolidation and
Transfer Facilities

 Receive, store, and bail source separated materials separately Pre-conditioning Facilities

- Sort single stream material into fibres and mixed containers
- Pre-condition mixed containers

Container Recovery Facility

- State of the art sorting technology
   10 optical sorters
- 12-14 sorting categories

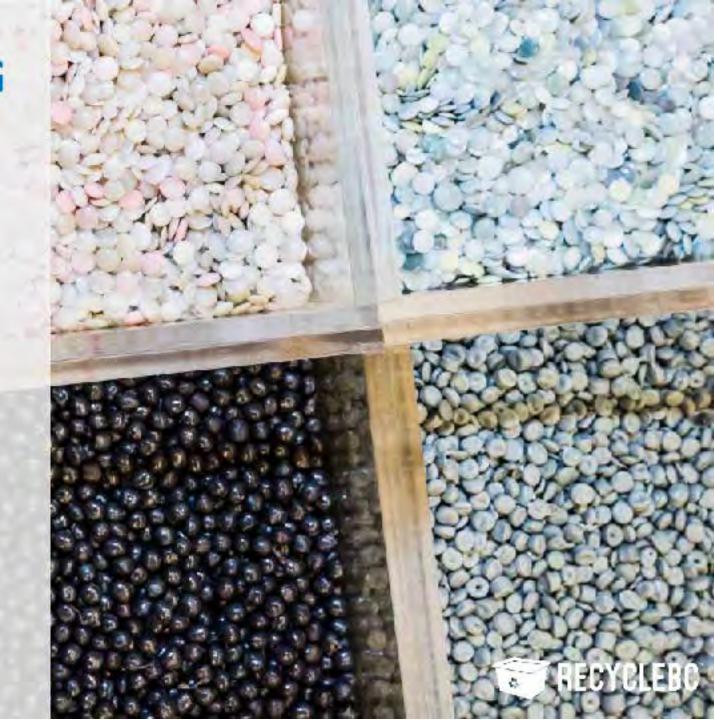


#### PROVINCIAL SYSTEM COORDINATION



# DOMESTIC PROCESSING AND END MARKETS

- Plastics BC
- Glass BC
- Metal Canada and United States
- Paper BC and overseas



# **RECYCLING IS NOT FREE**

- 100% EPR-funded program
- Businesses that supply packaging and paper to BC residents fund Recycle BC





## **WORKING WITH AND ENGAGING PRODUCERS**



#### KEURIG

- Keurig has an aggressive goal of converting all their K-Cup® pods in Canada to a recyclable format by the end of 2018
- Recycle BC worked with Keurig and our post-collection partners, Emterra Environmental and Merlin Plastics, to facilitate testing in the sorting and recycling facilities
- RFID (radio-frequency identification) technology is used to track where their K-Cup® pods end up in the material sorting line
- An average of 92% of empty polypropylene Keurig K-Cup® pods made it to the container lines at Emterra and Merlin



#### **NESPRESSO**

- - Pilot project in two BC communities, Vancouver and Coquitlam, to capture used Nespresso pods
  - Curbside and multi-family collection of pods
  - Residents put used pods in green bag, provided by Nespresso, and then put bag in container recycling bin



## **PLASTIC SQUEEZE TUBE STUDY**

- In partnership with More Recycling and supported by leading manufacturers
- Three-month pilot study in Coquitlam to understand how residents prepare tubes for recycling and what types of tubes they include for recycling
- Residents received a pink bag to place empty squeeze tubes, seal the pink bag and place in their blue box for recycling collection



#### OTHER FLEXIBLE PLASTIC PACKAGING

- Collection of Other Flexible Plastic Packaging at depots; launched June 2018 at 115 depots, full roll-out January 2019
- Research and development project in partnership with post-collection partner, Green by Nature, and Merlin Plastics
- Seeks to develop technology that will enable the recycling of Flexible Plastic Packaging
- Any material not capable of being recycled will be recovered, processed and marketed as engineered fuel





# National and Private Sector Sustainable Packaging Efforts

Nina Goodrich

Executive Director, Sustainable Packaging Coalition





# **Today's Presentation**

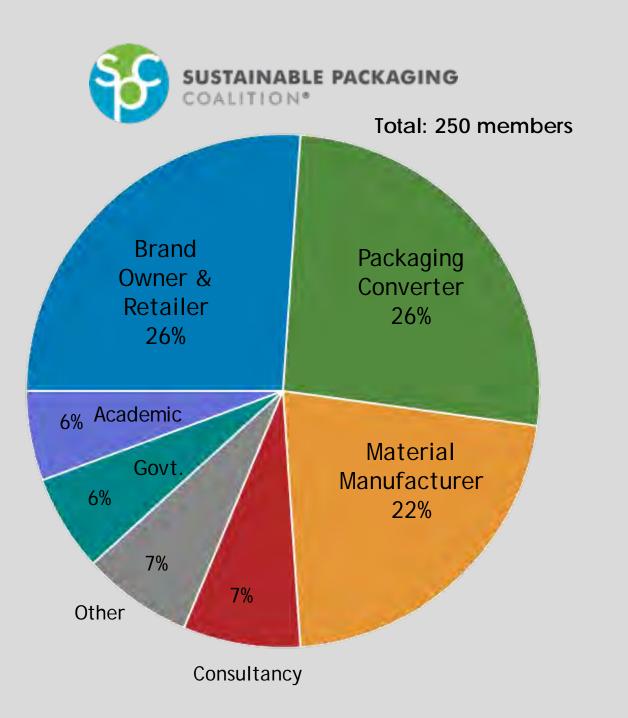
Introduction to SPC

 How the How2Recycle on-pack label is educating Brands and Consumers

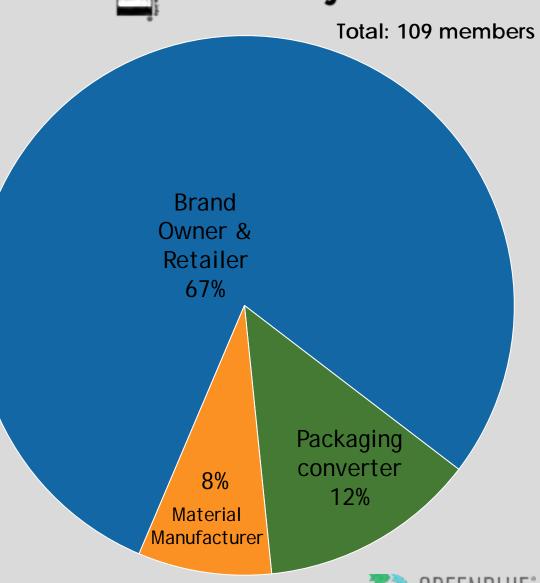
Key considerations for the future of recycling













Certified, recycled and bio-based







**RECOVERY** 

**OPTIMIZATION** 

,

Can be measured multiple ways (weight, damage reduction, shelf-life, carbon, water etc.)



# **Design for Recycling**

Design For Recycling

Design for Recycle content

# **Creating Demand**











# **Creating Supply**





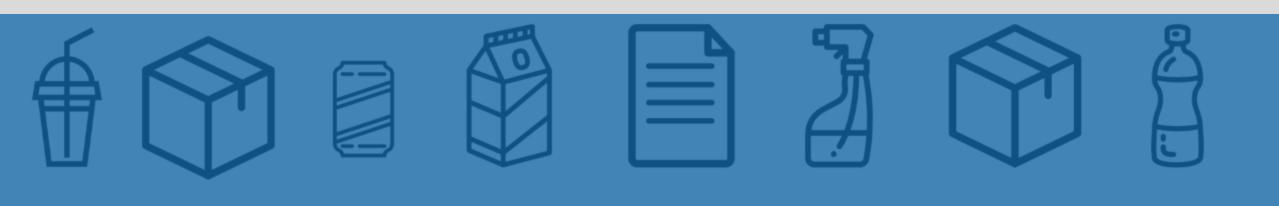
# What is How2Recycle?





How might we motivate & help brands to better understand packaging sustainability and design for recycling?

How might we empower consumers to know how to recycle?





### How does How2Recycle define recyclability?

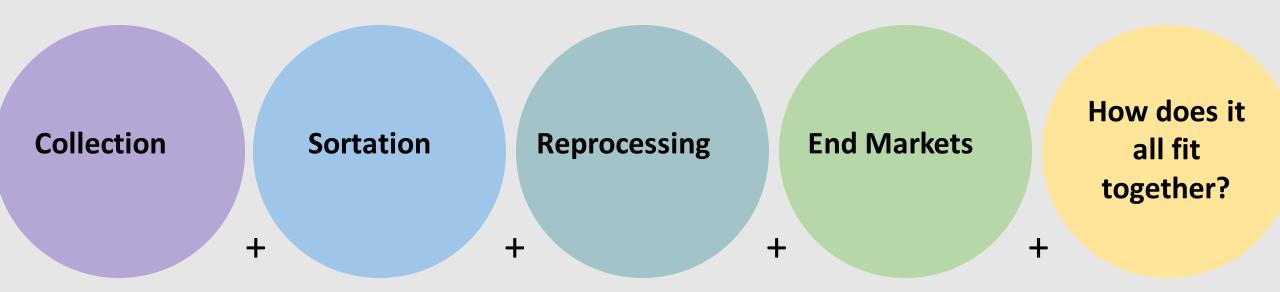




"A product or package should not be marketed as recyclable unless it can be **collected**, **separated**, or otherwise **recovered** from the waste stream through an established recycling program for **reuse or use in manufacturing** or assembling another item."



Emphasis added. Federal Trade Commission's Green Guides § 260.12 (Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims, pursuant to Code of Federal Regulations, Title 16 Part 260).



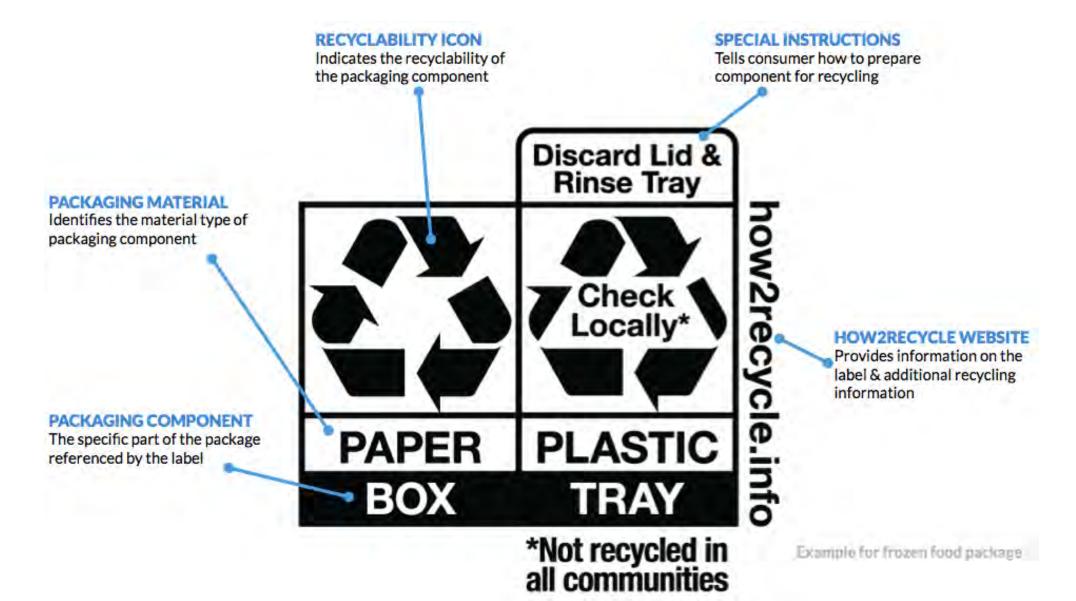


#### How2Recycle is designed with the consumer in mind.





#### It's a smarter label system.





# How does How2Recycle help recyclers?



# How2Recycle helps reduce contamination.

















C How2Recycle in Action

#### Top 18 Things You Should NOT Recycle Curbside

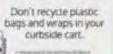


Share Top 18 Things You Should NOT Recycle Curbside:









Nope.





Nope.

Don't try to recycle food.\*



Nope.

Don't recycle propane tanks.\*



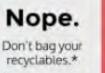
Nope.

Don't recycle electronics.\*



Nope.

Don't recycle window panes or drinking glasses.





Nope. Don't recycle howling balls.

Nope.

Don't recycle

clothes.\*

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Nope. Don't try to

recycle wood.\*

Nope.

Don't recycle

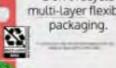
light bulbs.\*



Check

Locally.

To recycle bulky plastics.





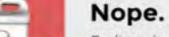


Don't recycle tanglers.



Nope. Don't try to recycle diapers.





Don't recycle hazardous materials.



Nope.

Don't recycle batteries.\* Townson the second



Nope.

Don't recycle hangers.



## 67%

Of people assume that packaging ISN'T recyclable if they don't see a claim on the package.

### Behavior change



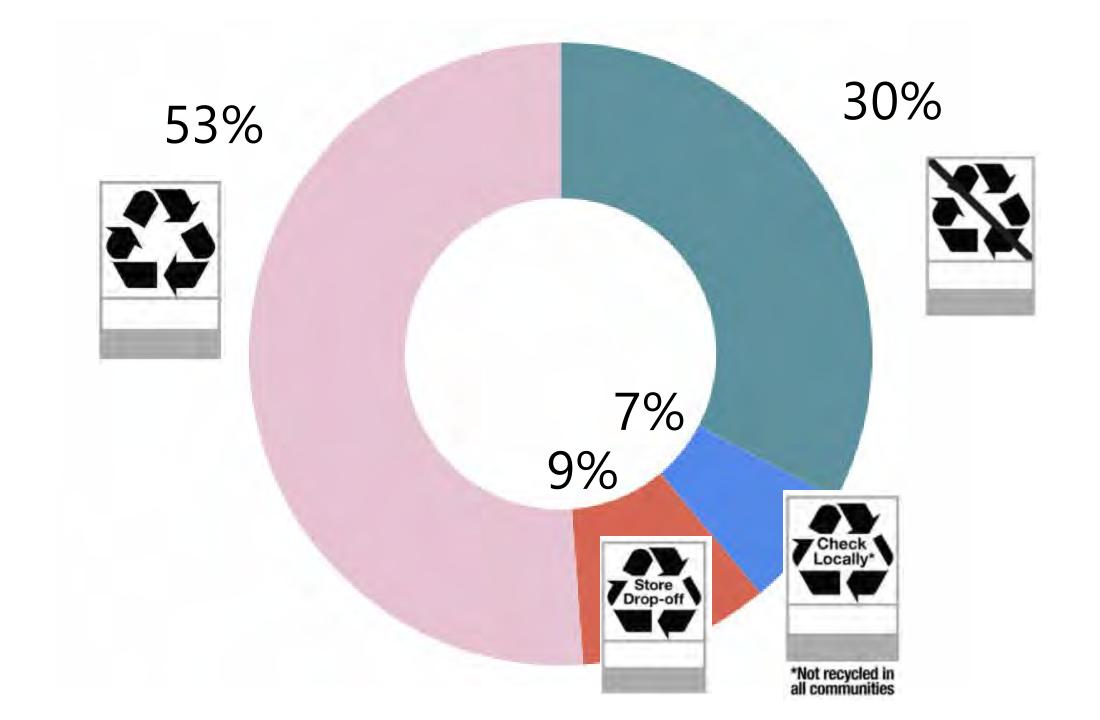


# 82% Of people learn from How2Recycle.

Survey at how2recycle.info, 2018. Report available for download at brandfolder.com/how2recycle

How does How2Recycle determine recyclability for specific packages?

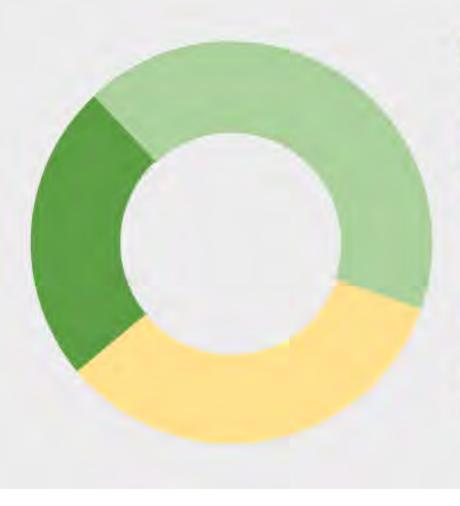




## How2Recycle is also helping improve packaging design.

Brands want to know how to measure and improve.





#### Portfolio

23%

Optimally recyclable

40%

Recyclable but needs improvement

37%

Partially or not yet recyclable

#### Personal Care



17%

Optimally recyclable

61%

Recyclable but needs improvement

22%

Partially or not yet recyclable

#### Home Care



52%

Optimally recyclable

9% Recyclable but needs

improvement

39%

Partially or not yet recyclable Since last October, How2Recycle has made over 8600 specific design recommendations to its members to improve packaging recyclability.





Look for the How2Recycle how2recycle.info



## Key considerations for the future of recycling

#### What is wrong with a "back to basics" program

- The traditional mix no longer exists and will continue to change - we need to look to the future mix
- The food industry is rapidly converting to flexible packaging
- Dual corporate goals of recyclability and low carbon footprint



#### Recycling is not free

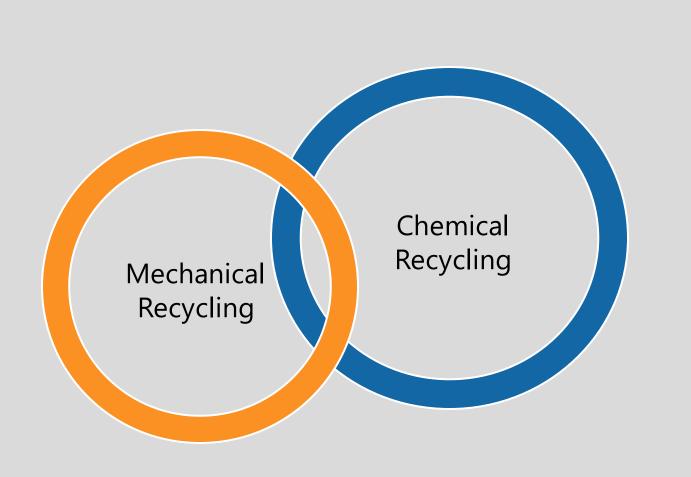
#### Cost of Collection and Processing

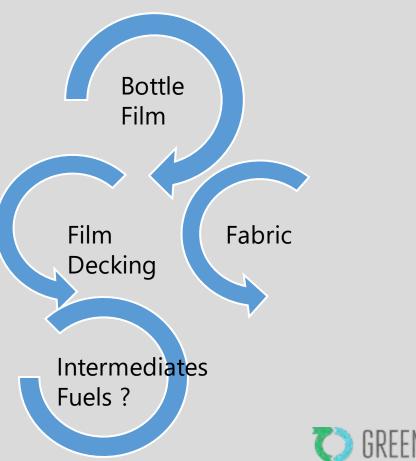
- MRF processing costs have increased to over \$90/ton
- High contamination and low commodity prices do not cover processing costs

Material reprocessing is also not free and the resulting product often has a difficult time competing with virgin materials



#### What is circularity for plastics?







## Procter & Gamble, PureCycle Introduce Virgin-like Recycled Plastic

PureCycle Technologies will buy scraps and use P&G's technology to purify them to a virgin-like quality and to make pellets for any user.

Arlene Karidis | Aug 16, 2018

### Utah-based Renewlogy offers solution to plastic waste problem

By Jed Boal, KSL TV Published: April 1, 2018 10:09 am











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GreenBlue in GreenBlue

#### Wrap Up & Next Steps

Action items, recommendations & take-aways

• Next meeting: "Recycling Systems" and Policy Approaches

**Date:** September 19, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Location: WSRA Conference Room, 635 Andover Pkwy, Tukwila WA

Parking: Free parking in outside parking lot and surrounding areas

Room: Suite 105

- November & December meetings added:
  - November 15 @ Bothell City Hall (10 12pm)
  - December 14 @ King Street Center

#### Future Meeting Schedule

Date	Topics Covered
April 30	Task Force Introduction; Responsible Recycling Framework
June 1	What's in the Bin?
June 18	Contracts, Waivers, Surcharges
July 18	Domestic Processing Infrastructure: Fiber & Plastics
August 24	Working with Producers
September 19	<ul><li>"Recycling Systems" and Policy Approaches</li><li>Policy and Legislation</li></ul>
October 26	Possible focus on Markets & Follow Ups
November 15	Review Recommendations & Next Steps
December 14	Final Outcome Document Review