

# Out with the old, in with the new

Here's how the system works now and how it would work under the new proposal. The goal is to shift the cost of recycling to businesses from taxpayers.

## HOW IT WORKS NOW:

**Municipalities** are responsible for garbage and recycling services.

**Taxpayers pay** municipalities for these services — an average of \$200-\$300 per year per household in Metro Vancouver.

**Municipalities** use that money to contract out the service or to cover the cost of in-house collectors (i.e. Vancouver and Burnaby).

**Recyclables are taken to different recycling firms** where they are processed and sold.

**Municipalities receive** return on recyclables sold as commodities, such as paper, plastic and tin.



## HOW IT IS GOING TO WORK:

**Multi-Material BC** would oversee recycling services.

**It would charge fees to businesses, based on** the amount of packaging and printed paper they distribute to consumers. **MMBC expects to collect \$110 million per year.**

**Multi-Material BC would use that money** to run its own collection services — or to compensate municipalities who opt into the program, but continue to collect their own recyclables. MMBC would control the contents of all blue boxes — except those in municipalities that opt out entirely.

**Recyclables are taken to Green by Nature EPR** — a consortium of Cascades Recovery, Emterra Environmental and Merlin Plastics — for processing and marketing.

**Any excess revenue** would be returned to businesses who paid into the MMBC program, while the cost of recycling services could be reduced in participating municipalities.

## Municipalities have three options:

- 1 They can opt out of the program and continue with their own blue-box system, with no involvement of MMBC. Delta and Langley Township have chosen this route. Delta taxpayers now pay \$50 for blue-box collection.
- 2 They can opt into the program in full. Multi-Materials BC will take over blue-box collection and hire its own contractors. This is what Coquitlam, University Endowment Lands and Anmore have chosen. Taxpayers would not be charged for recycling, so would see a reduction in their tax bills.
- 3 They can opt into the program but continue to collect blue bins themselves, as they do now. MMBC would pay them \$32-\$36 per household for the contents of the bins. This could reduce recycling costs for taxpayers.

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