

# Recycling Transition

## our “opt-out” perspective



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# Introduction



Eastern tip of Ontario

- 3 lower-tier municipalities in the United Counties of Prescott and Russell
- Joint recycling committee operated collection prior to transition
- Were NOT servicing ICI / non-eligible

# Introduction

- Opted out as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023
- CMO chose local contractors
- Each municipality now has separate contractors

# First Impressions

VERY smooth transition



# Pre-transition Concerns

## Local MRF

- MRF  
Material Receiving Facility
- Our local MRF, Recycle-Action, was too small to bid on CMO's contract

## Mixed-Use properties

- BIA – Lack of recycling service has been a source of confusion to commercial tenants for years
- Worry surrounding potential lapse of service for residential portions of these mixed-use properties

## Non-Eligibles

- ICI  
Industrial  
Commercial  
Institutional
- Institutional includes municipal buildings



# What Worked Well

- NO issues from our mixed-use properties
  - Still waiting to see how this may evolve
- Contractors know the routes
- Fielding complaints is EASY now

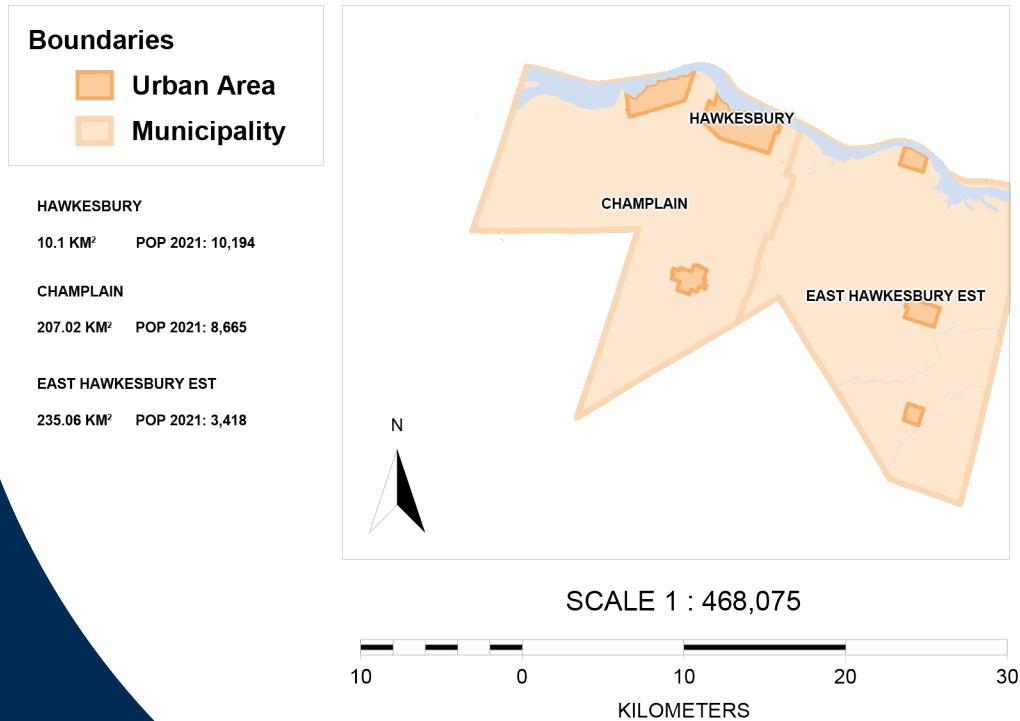


# What Didn't Work Well

- Some collection runs changed routes – slight timing adjustment for residents
- Adding eligible addresses – work in progress
- Loss of local MRF – Sorting facility closes September 30<sup>th</sup>
- Ongoing planning of a separate service for non-eligibles
  - NO private contractors in our area
  - NO other MRFs in our area – increase in transportation
  - Loss of economies of scale



# Comparative Costs



- Estimated costs for a separate recycling service are ~ 15x the cost of the grouped service
- Non-eligibles represent ~ 10% of our total units previously serviced for recycling while still being spread over the same 452 square kilometers.
- Just the tipping fees for recycling are double those for garbage.

# Advice



## **Arm yourself & your residents with information**

Classify your ICI properties  
Inform all non-eligible stakeholders of the transition  
Back-up options - Contractors and MRFs



## **Looking to add non-eligibles to the CMO contract?**

Do so BEFORE the contractor signs with CMO



## **Promotion & Education**

ZIP folder - Secure IT?  
Events or schools? Reach out to collaborate with CMO

# What's Next for our circular economy?

## The missing piece

- Need to tackle ICI
- Establish a sustainable recycling collection for our municipal buildings
- Continue considering creative solutions for our small businesses' recycling

## Organics?

- Establishing yard waste collections
- Exploring options to help our residents divert organic waste
- Looking to our neighbours rolling out SSO shortly

## Other waste diversion

- Joint Recycling Committee will continue operating a HHW event
- Promotion & education of the vast recycling options for HSP
- Promote the producer responsibility model to residents – Illustrate the shift in financial burden





# Thank you!

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