



2024 **ANNUAL** REPORT

bomb

BEVERAGE CONTAINER
MANAGEMENT BOARD

WE REGULATE and
enhance a leading
and sustainable
beverage container
system that protect's
Alberta's environment

Lake Louise



AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT

In the spirit of reconciliation, Alberta's Beverage Container Management Board (BCMB) recognizes that its headquarters are located on Treaty 6 land, the traditional territory of the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Métis, Dene, and Nakota Sioux people.

As the regulator for the province's beverage container recycling industry, BCMB oversees depots in 160 communities across Alberta. This means the organization's focus is not only within the Treaty 6 traditional territory but also the traditional lands of Treaties 7 and 8 – the Blackfoot Confederacy (Kainai, Piikani and Siksika), Stoney Nakoda, and the Tsuu T'ina Nation and the Métis People of Alberta. This includes the Métis Settlements and the Six Regions of the Métis Nation of Alberta within the historical Northwest Metis Homeland.

BCMB recognizes the enduring relationship between Indigenous peoples and these lands, honoring their rich cultures and heritage with this act of reconciliation.



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Accountability Statement

Alberta's Beverage Container Management Board's (BCMB) 2024 Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the [Beverage Container Recycling Regulation \(BCRR\)](#), which was enacted under the [Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act \(EPEA\)](#), and its [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\) with the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas](#).

The annual report ensures BCMB's mandate is being fulfilled and reports on key strategies and desired outcomes detailed in its 2025-2027 Business Plan, approved in 2024. As a Delegated Administrative Organization (DAO), this report aligns with Alberta's Government and the [Ministry of Environment and Protected Areas](#)' annual reports. It reflects BCMB's commitment to openness, accountability, and fiscal transparency.

We collaborate closely with Environment and Protected Areas to understand strategic and policy directions as they might impact Alberta's beverage container recycling system and BCMB's role as the system regulator.

Board of Directors
Beverage Container Management Board

June 18, 2025



2024 BCMB & Industry Highlights

Collection Rates

83.1%

Collection rate for beverage containers in Alberta.

80.6%

Collection rate for plastic beverage containers.

[Collection rates \(2024\) by material type.](#)

Alcohol Container Registrations

Completed on Schedule

Early in 2024, BCMB transitioned the registration of alcohol containers from the Alberta Gaming, Liquor, and Cannabis (AGLC), which had been managing registrations on behalf of liquor agencies. This project is now complete and marks the culmination of a multi-year project, completed on schedule in 2024.

Support for Jasper Wildfires

\$2.9 Million Raised

Wednesday, July 31, 2024, marked the Alberta Day of Caring for Jasper. Radio stations across the province collected donations to support those affected by the wildfires and the [Alberta Bottle Depot Association \(ABDA\)](#) participated by holding a coordinated, province-wide, collective bottle drive for the town. BCMB issued a notice to amplify the message and encourage depot participation for this great cause. A total of nearly \$2.9 million was raised for the town of Jasper, thanks to donations and matching federal and provincial funds.

Handling Commissions

14.8% Increase

Following an 18.6% decrease to average handling commissions in 2023, on November 20, 2024, the BCMB's Board of Directors approved a 14.8% increase to the average handling commission based on calculations in the 2024 Annual Update Report (AUR). The new handling commissions paid to depot operators are effective May 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026. The new handling commissions can be found on pages 5-6 in the [Handling Commission By-law](#).

App Launch

For Depots

BCMB developed and launched a new app for Depot owners, offering enhanced features and functionality to streamline operations. The app provides improved tools for submitting orders, reporting, and managing depot processes, all with upgraded security to ensure reliable and efficient use.

Improving System Efficiency and Access

Depot Siting

BCMB's Board Committees play a crucial role in reviewing policies, processes, and procedures to ensure alignment with the organization's regulatory mandate and industry best practices. This work supports small businesses, reduces environmental impacts, strengthens governance, manages risks, improves stakeholder services, and fosters innovation in Alberta's beverage container recycling system.

A key milestone in 2024 was establishing the Depot Siting Committee to evaluate depot siting criteria and ensure they meet the needs of the Common Collection System and the public. This initiative will ensure Bottle Depots are accessible for more Albertans and drive alternative collection methods. Ultimately, the Depot Siting Committee's work will keep more recyclable containers out of landfills, benefiting Albertans.

A Stronger Organizational Presence

Communications

BCMB welcomed its first-ever Director of Communications, reflecting a commitment to strengthening stakeholder engagement, education, and public awareness of Canada's leading beverage container recycling system and the economic, environmental and social benefits of recycling.

Flexible Work Environment

Staff Excellence

BCMB empowers its staff to excel by prioritizing both work-life balance and professional growth. We offer a flexible work environment alongside a robust development program, featuring dedicated education budgets and conference opportunities, ensuring our team is equipped to advance their careers and drive the success of BCMB and the beverage recycling system.

Message from the Board Chair



The past year has been another of significant change – politically, socially, and economically. These shifts have presented both challenges and opportunities for BCMB and Alberta's beverage container recycling sector.

We have witnessed changing demographics, evolving consumer expectations, and a dynamic economic landscape which demands constant agility and adaptability. These factors, coupled with the growing emphasis on plastics recycling and the ongoing implementation of [Extended Producer Responsibility \(EPR\)](#), require BCMB to remain a leader in innovation and best practices in recycling.

Change is all around us and BCMB is entering an exciting new chapter with a leadership transition this past year. This presents a valuable opportunity to further strengthen our role as a leading regulator of one of North America's most successful beverage container recycling systems.

As BCMB embraces this transformation, the organization is committed to improving our relationship with the Government of Alberta and other industry stakeholders. BCMB is also committed to enhancing its regulatory oversight, ensuring fairness, transparency, and accountability within the system. This includes refining our processes and continuing to find the most efficient system for Albertans. It also means fortifying compliance mechanisms and fostering communication and collaboration with all stakeholders.

BCMB's Board of Directors is dedicated to maintaining the highest standards of governance and leveraging the Board's expertise to drive continuous improvement in beverage container recycling across Alberta. This allows us to reaffirm our commitment to protecting the environment, promoting a circular economy, and ensuring a level playing field for all participants in the system.

Albertans have never had more beverage choices. This explosion of options presents both a challenge and an incredible opportunity for our recycling program. The future of beverage container recycling in Alberta depends on how we seize this moment. BCMB is exploring ways to help keep the province of Alberta at the forefront of beverage container recycling.

Alternative collection methods, such as deposit return programs for a wider range of materials and enhanced curbside collection, are being explored. Technological advancements in sorting (and reprocessing) are beginning to unlock new paths for material recovery, reuse, and redesign. Crucially, we are seeing a growing focus on product stewardship, with manufacturers starting to take greater responsibility for the end-of-life management of their packaging.

I am confident that by working together, we can build upon Alberta's already impressive record in beverage container recycling and create a system that is even more efficient, sustainable, and accessible for generations.

I look forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead, and I am committed to leading BCMB in its mission to regulate and enhance a leading and sustainable beverage container system that protects Alberta's environment, thereby promoting a circular economy.

Loren Falkenberg

Loren Falkenberg
Board Chair



Message from the President & CEO



I am honoured and excited to step into the role of President & CEO at BCMB. This is a dynamic time for many sectors, but Alberta's recycling industry, in particular, is ripe for innovation and growth.

I'm eager to continue working alongside BCMB's dedicated team of Board Directors and staff, as well as our valued system stakeholders, to build on Alberta's impressive recycling achievements.

I'm pleased to provide an update: Alberta's beverage container recycling system remains number one in Canada and number two in North America, a testament to its outstanding performance.¹ In 2024, Albertans returned 2.2 billion of the 2.6 billion containers sold, achieving a 83.1% collection rate and receiving nearly \$225 million in refunds. We continue to prioritize plastics recycling, supporting the government's vision for Alberta as a North American leader in plastics diversion. The number of plastic containers recycled in Alberta has increased by 19.4% over the past decade. This growth culminated last year with over 752 million plastic containers returned, achieving an 80.6% return rate for plastic.

Over the past year, BCMB has focused on key initiatives to modernize and enhance the system including the completion of managing liquor registrations, continuing the work to reduce red tape to support small businesses, reducing environmental impacts, strengthening governance, improving stakeholder services, and fostering innovation in Alberta's beverage container recycling system.

¹ [Reloop Platform, Maximising Canada's beverage container recycling potential.](#)

In the years ahead, there are more ways BCMB is committing itself to driving progress in several key areas:

- **Exploring Alternative Collection Methods:** investigate and pilot innovative collection strategies to improve accessibility and convenience for Albertans, particularly in rural and remote communities.
- **Strengthening Partnerships:** collaborate closely with industry stakeholders, municipalities, and other partners to ensure a coordinated and collaborative approach to system improvement.
- **Fostering Innovation:** continue to support research and development into new technologies and processes that enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of beverage container recycling.
- **Beverage Container Recycling Options:** explore the range of beverage containers accepted in the deposit system, ensuring that more materials are diverted from landfills and reintegrated into the circular economy.

BCMB remains committed to collaboration with stakeholders like ABCRC, ABDA, ABCC, and the [Recycling Council of Alberta \(RCA\)](#) to ensure continuous improvement and strong environmental outcomes.

I look forward to working with all Albertans to shape a sustainable future for beverage container recycling and create economic opportunities in the province.

Mark Emsden
President & CEO



About BCMB



BCMB IS RESPONSIBLE

for regulating Alberta's beverage container recycling system and leading the development of policies and programs that enable the efficient and effective recycling of beverage containers in Alberta.



Our Vision, Mandate and Value Statements guide the work we do as a regulator.

They also set the foundation for our business planning and the desired outcomes we set and measure.

VISION To be *the* leader in stewarding beverage containers to minimize their impact on the environment.

MANDATE To regulate and enhance a leading and sustainable beverage container system that protects Alberta's environment.



Value Statements

- **We value** health and safety. We ensure measures are in place so that customers and staff feel safe and know their health is important to our industry.
- **We value** our regulatory role. We strive to be leaders in the oversight of beverage container recycling and are proficient at protecting the system's reputation. We work continuously with our stakeholders to improve customer experience and satisfaction.
- **We value** a system that encourages a circular economy where producers are responsible for their products from development to end of life.
- **We value** meaningful and measurable targets for our industry. The development and use of targets that allow us to measure progress in beverage container recycling and environmental protection makes the industry accountable and provides incentive for continuous improvement.
- **We value** strong alignment among system stakeholders. A collaborative industry with joint decision making and open communication that works from a common framework will be better prepared to succeed.
- **We value** diversity and inclusion. We explore ways in which our industry and the people who work in it can reflect the differences and qualities of the Albertans we serve. We recognize that diversity and inclusion drive innovation, and we are proud to support and foster creativity in our stakeholders to reflect their unique experiences.
- **We value** innovation and technology that enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of our system. Our industry is responsive to and seeks opportunities to improve system communication, information and security.
- **We value** higher collection and recycling rates. Our efforts focus on the highest possible return of containers, while minimizing the impact of the system on the environment.
- **We value** greater awareness and public participation. We educate retailers on the necessity of advertising the deposit, inform consumers on the environmental, economic and social benefits of recycling beverage containers, and encourage participation regardless of where beverages are consumed.



BCMB's Regulatory Structure

- BCMB was established on December 1, 1997 through the [Beverage Container Recycling Regulation \(BCRR\)](#), which was enacted under the [Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act \(EPEA\)](#).
- BCMB is a not-for-profit association incorporated under the [Societies Act of Alberta](#).
- The organization operates with a 13-person stakeholder board with equal representation from manufacturers, depots, and the public, as well as a non-voting representative from the Government of Alberta.
- BCMB is a [Delegated Administrative Organization \(DAO\)](#) created through legislation to aid the Ministry of Environment and Protected Areas in achieving its goals and objectives. That means BCMB purposefully aligns itself with the Government of Alberta and the Ministry's strategic direction and priorities and functions as an arms-length, self-funded, legal entity carrying out our services and mandate.
- An [MOU](#) between BCMB and the Government of Alberta to outline each of their roles and responsibilities.

BCMB also operates in accordance with certain [By-laws, Policies, and Operating and Service Agreements](#) with industry stakeholders. These governing documents are amended as needed to keep pace with evolving beverage container recycling needs and policies at provincial, national, and global levels.



Governance

ALIGNMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

As a DAO, BCMB places specific emphasis on supporting the Government of Alberta and specifically, Alberta Environment and Protected Areas, to achieve their stewardship goals by aligning with their mandate, desired outcomes, and key objectives.

Alberta Environment and Protected Areas' 2024-2027 Business Plan states that it "works to protect and enhance the environment and ecosystems throughout the province, while supporting economic prosperity, quality of life and a sustainable future for Albertans, positioning Alberta as a leader in environmental impact."²

Alberta is well known as a leader and innovator in beverage container recycling, and our industry is a key contributor to environmental conservation and protection. We consistently achieve some of the highest collection rates for beverage containers in Canada. That also translates into strong recycling rates and significant economic and social benefits.

From an economic standpoint, the deposit on each container provides the incentive for Albertans to return beverage containers to a depot for a refund of the deposit paid on that container. In turn, the collection and recycling of the containers provide employment for over 2,500 Albertans and revenue for the industry and recycling companies that purchase the material from the Collection Service Agent (CSA)/Collection Service Providers (CSPs).

The social benefits of a deposit-return system extend from individuals to businesses and communities. Many of the depots permitted in Alberta offer employment opportunities to people with disabilities, run donation programs, support bottle drives in their communities, and offer collection/pick-up services that make recycling convenient for businesses and other organizations. Some Albertans rely on their refunds as a means of financial support, while others donate the deposit value of their beverage containers to community and charitable organizations, which support key programs for Albertans.

One of Alberta Environment and Protected Areas' key objectives is to "strengthen environmental resource stewardship and conservation through working in partnerships with municipalities, non-profit organizations, industry and Indigenous communities to ensure ...Alberta is well-positioned to move to a more circular economy that minimizes waste."³

BCMB remains focused on environmental resource stewardship, and we do not carry out that work in isolation. We listen to and collaborate with industry partners to enhance our efforts to meet and adopt best practices, ensuring consistency with provincial and national standards. BCMB is working to grow relationships with municipalities across the province to understand the varying needs of Albertans. We continually evaluate our regulatory role, the performance of the beverage container recycling system, and evolving stewardship standards and practices. While BCMB plays an important regulatory role, we also work to ensure the right structure and flexibility exist to promote innovation in the industry. To support a circular economy, BCMB continues to work to ensure all beverage containers sold in the province have an approved method of recycling and that this can be verified at end-of-life.

BCMB also fully supports the Government of Alberta's efforts to grow the circular economy for plastics through the province's Natural Gas Vision and Strategy.⁴ The strategy's goal is for Alberta to be the western North America centre of excellence for plastics diversion and recycling by 2030. Alberta has one of the highest collection and recycling rates for plastic beverage containers in Canada and the lowest average collection costs per container. Over 752 million plastic containers were returned to depots in 2024 with a current collection rate of 80.6%.

² Alberta Environment and Protected Areas 2024-2027, p. 49

³ Alberta Environment and Protected Areas 2024-2027, p. 51

⁴ Alberta's Natural Gas Vision and Strategy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BCMB's 13-member Board of Directors includes nominees from Alberta beverage producers, depots, the public (municipalities and interested citizens) and a non-voting nominee from the Government of Alberta (Alberta Environment and Protected Areas). Directors serve for three-year terms (with a maximum of three terms) and serve on Board committees as appointed. Board appointments are reviewed annually, and new directors are appointed at the BCMB's Annual General Meeting held in June each year.

Depot Nominees



Thomas Dore
Treasurer
Nominated by the
Alberta Bottle Depot
Association



Karim Dossa
Nominated by the
Alberta Bottle Depot
Association



Gagandeep Johal
Nominated by the
Alberta Bottle Depot
Association



Tom Marr-Laing
Nominated by the
Alberta Bottle Depot
Association



Cheryl McLaughlin
Nominated by the
Canadian Beverage
Association



Brian Moore
Nominated by the
Western Dairy Council



Rachel Morier
Nominated by the
Alberta Beer Container
Association



Koren Radford
Nominated by
Alberta Gaming,
Liquor and Cannabis

Government Nominee



Kate Rich
Non-voting
Nominated by
Alberta's Ministry of
Environment and
Protected Areas



BOARD OF DIRECTORS *continued*

Public Nominees



Owen Edmondson
*Nominated by the
Beverage Container
Management Board*



Loren Falkenberg
Chair
*Nominated by the
Beverage Container
Management Board*



Ken Faulkner
Secretary
*Nominated by the
Beverage Container
Management Board*



Trina Jones
*Nominated by
Alberta Municipalities*

EXECUTIVE TEAM

The Board of Directors is supported by the BCMB's Executive Team which oversees the regulatory functions and daily operations of the organization.



Mark Emsden
President & CEO
(as of April 7, 2025)
*Director of Operations
& Compliance (for 2024)*



Brent Campbell
*Director of Registrations
& Manufacturer Policy*



Nick Ford
*Director of
Communications
& Strategy*



Jamie Moore
*Director of Finance
& Administration*



Travis Wizniuk
*Director of Information
Technology & Operations*



Objectives & Key Strategies



Reporting on Objectives & Key Strategies

BCMB's 2025-2027 Business Plan, approved in 2024, reflects alignment with the mandate, outcomes and key objectives of Alberta Environment and Protected Areas. With that alignment in mind, our desired outcomes, key strategies and performance metrics guide our planning and decision making.

1 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Key Strategies

Minimize Impact

Minimize the environmental impact of beverage containers through reuse and recycling.

Sustainability

Improve the sustainability of the beverage container system and work towards a circular economy for beverage container recycling.

Reduce Footprint

Reduce the environmental footprint of the system.

2 FISCAL STEWARDSHIP

Key Strategies

Accountability

Oversee system risk through appropriate measures.

Reporting

Report clearly (using meaningful and measurable targets) on the achievement of our mandate and government expectations.

Transparency

Maintain full transparency regarding operations and finances.

3 GOVERNANCE EXCELLENCE

Key Strategies

Compliance

Achieve a high degree of compliance with operating and reporting requirements.

Integration & Alignment

Ensure a high level of integration and alignment with by-laws, policies and operations.

Communication

Deliver timely, clear and effective communication.

System Integrity

Ensure stakeholder trust through system integrity.

4 CUSTOMER EXCELLENCE

Key Strategies

Satisfies

Deliver a system that satisfies stakeholder expectations.

Quality

Ensure quality service to the public.

Awareness

Achieve widespread awareness of the importance of the system.

Accessibility

Deliver a beverage container management system that is accessible and inclusive.

5 SYSTEM EFFICIENCY & EFFECTIVENESS

Key Strategies

Innovation

Encourage innovation and continuous improvement.

Responsiveness

Demonstrate responsiveness to changing needs.

Technology

Capitalize on technological advancements.

Cost Effectiveness

Operate a system that is cost effective.



Objective 1 Environmental Protection

Protecting Alberta's environment and working towards a circular economy are at the core of the BCMB's regulatory mandate. We reduce the impact of beverage containers on the environment by minimizing the number of beverage containers discarded as litter, diverting beverage containers from the waste stream, and enabling the reuse and recycling of containers.

BCMB uses collection and recycling rates, container transportation data (from our Collection System Agent), and waste diversion from landfills to measure the system's progress in protecting the environment.

2024 Results

- In 2024, beverage sales saw a modest uptick, growing to 2.6 billion units from 2.5 billion units in 2023, according to the most recent data.
- The collection rate for 2024 was 83%, down from 85% in 2023.

Key Strategies

MINIMIZE IMPACT

Minimize the environmental impact of beverage containers through reuse and recycling.

SUSTAINABILITY

Improve the sustainability of the beverage container system and work towards a circular economy for beverage container recycling.

REDUCE FOOTPRINT

Reduce the environmental footprint of the system.



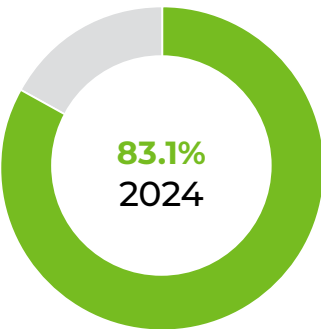
Performance Metrics

MINIMIZE IMPACT

Collection Rate

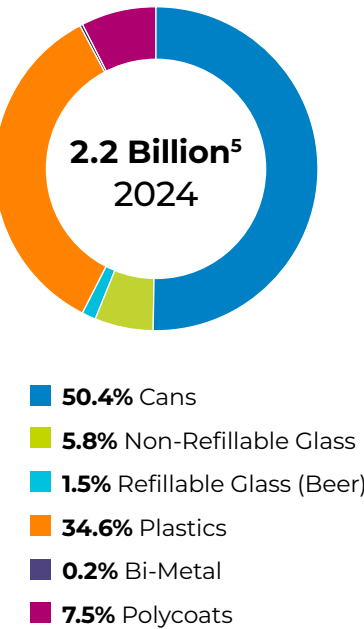
The collection rate is the percentage of beverage containers returned by Albertans, collected by depots and purchased from depots by the CSA or CSPs, compared to the number of beverage containers sold by producers in Alberta. The CSA (ABCRC) collects all non-refillable beverage containers, which equates to approximately 98% of all containers returned to Alberta depots. Refillable glass containers (primarily beer bottles) are collected by the largest CSP, the Alberta Beer Container Corporation (ABCC). Beer bottles can be refilled and reused up to 15 times.

Overall Collection Rate⁵
(Percentage)



2023	<div></div>	84.9%
2022	<div></div>	83.0%
2021	<div></div>	84.1%
2020	<div></div>	82.2%

Containers Collected by Material Stream
(Percentage)



<div></div>	50.4% Cans
<div></div>	5.8% Non-Refillable Glass
<div></div>	1.5% Refillable Glass (Beer)
<div></div>	34.6% Plastics
<div></div>	0.2% Bi-Metal
<div></div>	7.5% Polycoats

⁵For the 12-month period ending December 2024, the total system volume equated to 2.2 billion containers collected (returned to depots).



Collection Rate continued

By Container Type
(Percentage)

Cans



86.2%
2024



Non-Refillable Glass



87.1%
2024



Refillable Glass (Beer)



96.7%
2024



Plastics



80.6%
2024



Bi-Metal



61.1%
2024

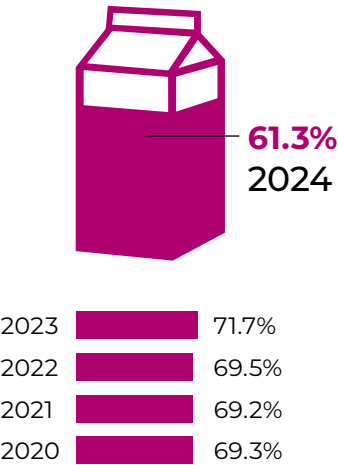


⁶Refillable glass returns sometimes exceed 100% due to the fiscal year cycle and the lag between what is reported for sale and what is collected by a depot.

Collection Rate continued

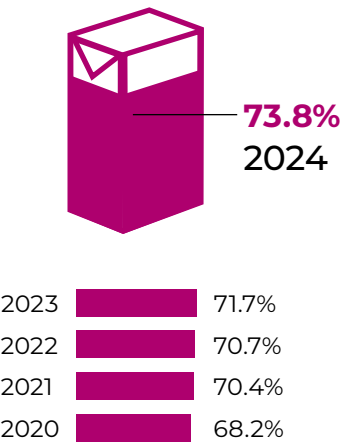
By Container Type
(Percentage)

Polycoats Combined

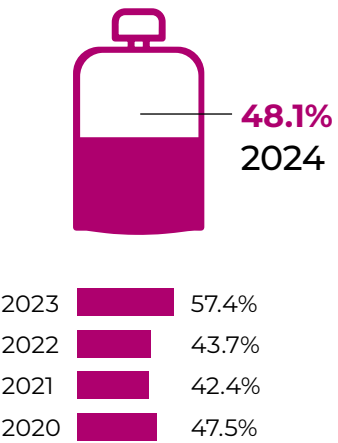


Polycoats by Type

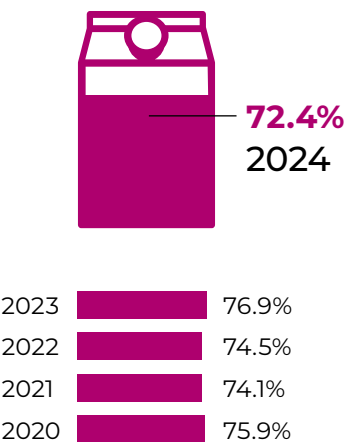
Tetra-Pak



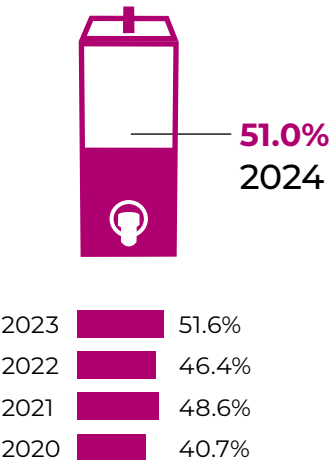
Drink Pouches



Gable Top



Bag-in-a-Box



REDUCE FOOTPRINT

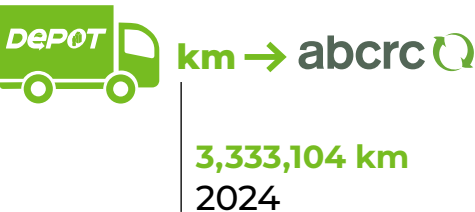
Since 2021, BCMB has reported on three of four new performance indicators, with data provided by ABCRC. Internal tracking of the recycling rate indicator will commence in 2025, and public reporting is planned for future years.

Transportation of Products from Depots to ABCRC and Transportation of Products from ABCRC to End Destination

As the beverage container recycling system's Collection System Agent, ABCRC has an operating agreement with BCMB for the collection of containers from more than 210 bottle depots. They manage an extensive and flexible transportation and logistics system to carry beverage containers as efficiently as possible through the recycling supply chain. Back-haul carriers (trucks that are returning to the Calgary and St. Albert CSA plants and would otherwise be empty) are leveraged as much as possible to reduce the environmental footprint, and several of the carriers contracted by ABCRC are members of the SmartWay Transport Partnership (SmartWay) run in Canada by Natural Resources Canada.⁷

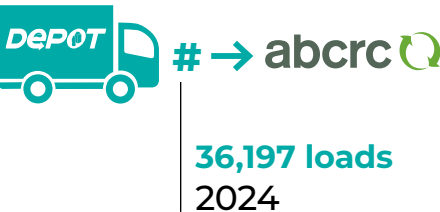
From Depots to ABCRC

Kilometers Driven⁸



2023	<div></div>	3,409,898 km
2022	<div></div>	3,199,858 km
2021	<div></div>	3,304,942 km
2020	<div></div>	3,182,358 km

Number of Loads



2023	<div></div>	36,053 loads
2022	<div></div>	33,872 loads
2021	<div></div>	34,020 loads
2020	<div></div>	32,541 loads

⁷ [Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation 2024 Sustainability Report, p.19.](#)

⁸ Mileage was adjusted to account for depot relocation and travel distance.



Material Recycled

The number of metric tonnes of beverage containers diverted from landfills each year is an excellent indicator of waste diversion and whether beverage containers are being recycled or reused.

By Container Type

(Metric tonnes diverted from landfill)

Cans



17,522 tonnes
2024

2023	16,830 tonnes
2022	14,561 tonnes
2021	14,955 tonnes
2020	14,354 tonnes

Non-Refillable Glass



49,926 tonnes
2024

2023	51,629 tonnes
2022	47,108 tonnes
2021	49,106 tonnes
2020	49,890 tonnes

Plastics



24,964 tonnes
2024

2023	24,405 tonnes
2022	20,708 tonnes
2021	20,887 tonnes
2020	19,754 tonnes

Polycoats



6,647 tonnes
2024

2023	6,168 tonnes
2022	5,073 tonnes
2021	5,138 tonnes
2020	2,555 tonnes



Transportation of Products from Depots to ABCRC and Transportation of Products from ABCRC to End Destination continued





From ABCRC to End Destination⁹

(Kilometres driven)

Cans





2,762,489 km
2024

2023		2,787,459 km
2022		2,626,643 km
2021		2,659,247 km
2020		2,558,163 km

Non-Refillable Glass







154,074 km
2024

2023		164,728 km
2022		163,523 km
2021		166,624 km
2020		170,183 km

Plastics







357,124 km
2024

2023		459,132 km
2022		319,521 km
2021		348,067 km
2020		346,979 km

Polycoats



599,033 km
2024

2023		651,507 km
2022		646,520 km ¹⁰
2021		560,027 km
2020		578,197 km

⁹The transportation of refillable glass containers is not included in the environmental performance indicators.

¹⁰ In 2022, some gable top (polycoat) was shipped to overseas destinations from the port of Montreal, incurring CO₂ emissions of approximately 24,498 kg.



Recycling Rate

The recycling rate will quantify the percentage of residual loss compared to containers collected (measured net of residuals lost during the processing of materials).

Residual Loss Compared to Containers Collected¹¹
(Percentage)

¹¹ Reporting on the new Recycling Rate indicator will begin upon completion of the Registrations & Recycling Committee project.



Objective 2 **Fiscal Stewardship**

Through sound risk management, clear reporting, and full transparency and accountability, BCMB minimizes risk and cost to the system.

Key Strategies

ACCOUNTABILITY

Oversee system risk through appropriate measures.

REPORTING

Report clearly (using meaningful and measurable targets) on the achievement of our mandate and government expectations.

TRANSPARENCY

Maintain full transparency regarding operations and finances.

2024 Results

- BCMB's 2023 Annual Report and operating budget were both completed in 2024 and provided to the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas and posted on our website.
- The overall net system cost declined slightly in 2024 to \$0.0304 per container from \$0.0384 per container in 2023.
- CSA payment, collection and operating compliance all remain high, with payment compliance near perfect at 99.9% in 2024 and the CSA inspection score at 92%.
- The new CSA operating agreement was implemented in late 2024, with the aim of improved performance for 2025, particularly related to providing supplies, payment and collection services to the depot network.
- Depot UCA filing compliance has declined slightly in 2024 to 88.5% from 98.6% in 2023.
- Sales verification also remained high, with 99.9% of sales volume achieved and verified by producers.



Performance Metrics

ACCOUNTABILITY

To ensure the viability of Alberta's beverage container recycling system, BCMB management and the Board:

- Develop and approve an annual operating budget and three-year business plan that is submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Protected Areas;
- Regularly review all value statements, outcomes and key strategies;
- Undergo an annual external audit;
- Review and approve financial statements and applicable policies quarterly; and
- Undertake quarterly risk reviews and maintain a risk register that is reviewed by the Board annually.

REPORTING AND TRANSPARENCY

Net System Cost

Alberta's beverage container recycling system is funded in three ways:

1. Container Recycling Fees (CRF) set by producers and paid by consumers at the point of purchase (which may be zero).
2. Unredeemed deposits forfeited by consumers who paid it at point of purchase and abandoned the container (never returned to a depot).
3. The salvage value of the materials recovered and recycled.

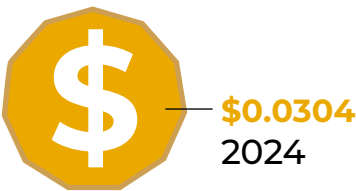
Several factors are beyond the control of the system such as the exchange rate and scrap value of materials, both of which can be volatile. This metric also considers that as the collection rate increases, funding provided by unredeemed deposits decreases.

The overall net system cost declined in 2024 to \$0.0304 per container from \$0.0384 per container in 2023



Net System Cost continued

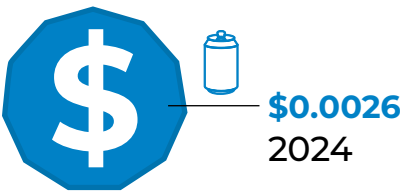
Total of All Costs and Offsetting Revenues
(Dollars per container)



2023	\$0.0384
2022	\$0.0181
2021	\$0.0236
2020	\$0.0294

By Container Type
(Dollars per container)

Cans



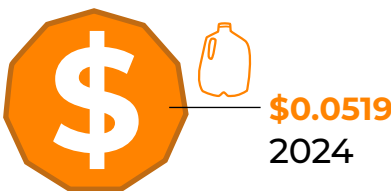
2023	\$0.0174
2022	\$0.0176
2021	\$0.0115
2020	\$0.0156

Non-Refillable Glass



2023	\$0.1042
2022	\$0.0486
2021	\$0.0806
2020	\$0.0793

Plastics



2023	\$0.0522
2022	\$0.0139
2021	\$0.0285
2020	\$0.0393

Polycoats



2023	\$0.0635
2022	\$0.0161
2021	\$0.0406
2020	\$0.0396



Collection System Agent (CSA) Compliance – Payment Compliance

The CSA is also required to operate according to standards outlined within the [Service Agreement](#), which includes the refund of the deposit and a handling commission paid to each depot for each container collected. BCMB is responsible through regulation for ensuring payment standards are maintained.

The CSA achieved near-perfect payment compliance in 2024 at 99.9%—a rate that has consistently remained at 99.9% since 2021—with only two late payments on 36,197 loads.

Payments Made to Depots

(Percentage)



2023	99.9%
2022	99.9%
2021	99.9%
2020	100%



**CSA Compliance –
Collection Compliance**

Depot volume, appointment scheduling, and adherence to the schedule are key factors in determining the standard for CSA container collection from depots.

As of December 2024, one scheduled load was not picked up from a depot without prior communication from the CSA.

Reported Loads Not Picked Up from Depots
(Number)



2023	<div></div>	16
2022	<div></div>	4
2021	<div></div>	1
2020		0



CSA Compliance – Operating Compliance

The operating agreement signed by the CSA commits them to performance standards regarding service to depots and overall operational compliance. BCMB regularly inspects both Calgary and St. Albert CSA plants for adherence to these standards. This is a collaborative process that is intended to reduce risk and serves as a feedback mechanism to enhance efficiencies.

In 2024, the CSA inspection score was 92.2%, meeting the target; this score aligns closely with scores of 92% in 2023 and 92.2% in 2022.

Inspection Score Based on Agreed-Upon Performance Standards

(Percentage)



2023	92.0%
2022	92.2%
2021	95.1%
2020	89.2%

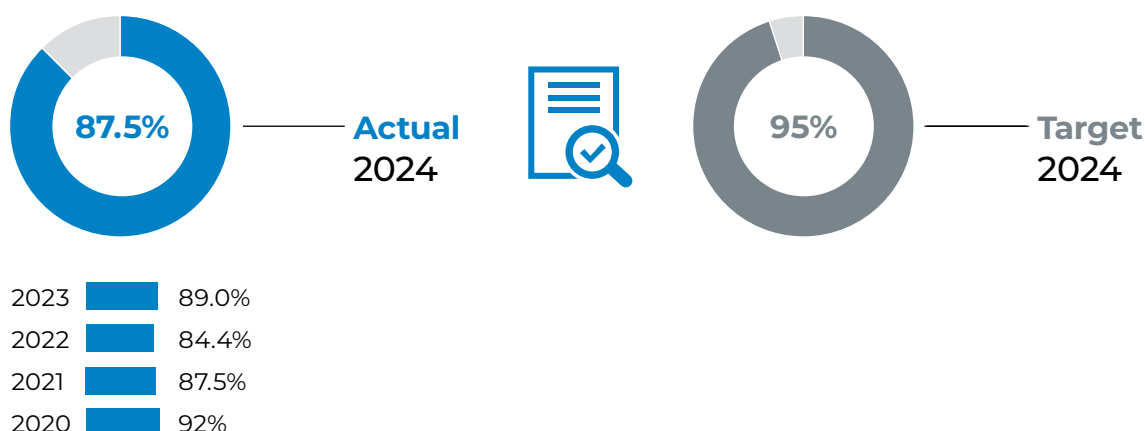
Collection Service Provider (CSP) Compliance – Operating Compliance

The CSP Operating Agreement signed by the CSP commits them to performance standards regarding service to depots and overall operational compliance. This performance measure is based on monthly evaluations of agreed-upon standards. An annual average is used to reflect the CSP's compliance score.

CSP operating compliance reached 87.5% in 2024, showing a slight drop from 89% in 2023 and an increase from 84.4% in 2022.

Evaluation Score Based on Agreed-Upon Performance Standards¹²

(Percentage)



¹² The performance measure for CSP Compliance is based on monthly evaluations. One point is assigned for each achieved standard and zero for those not achieved. Total achievements for each month are divided by the total number of standards (eight). Amounts for all months of the year are then totaled and the average taken.



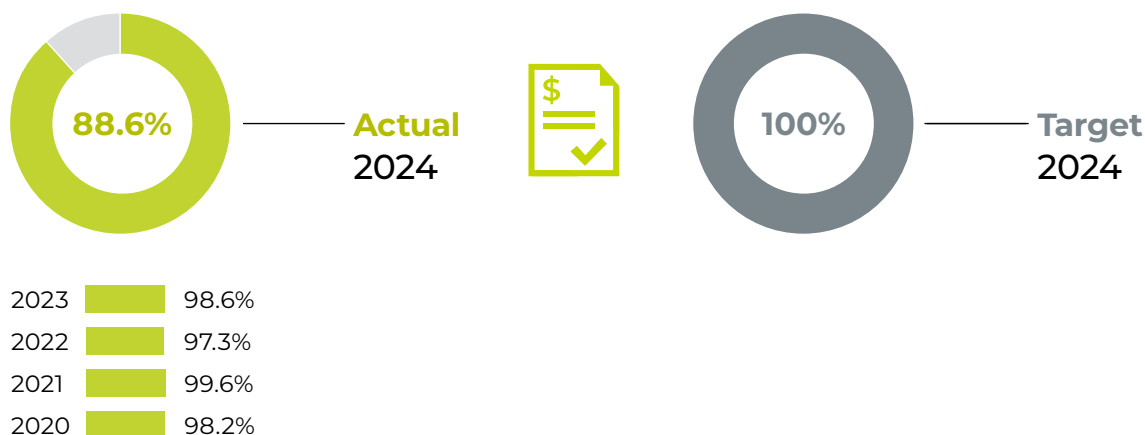
Depot Compliance – Uniform Code of Accounts (UCA) Filing Compliance

Depots are paid a handling commission for each container handled and shipped properly to the CSA or back to the producer directly through the appointed CSP. These handling commissions are set by a utility-like rate-setting process that depends on depots reporting their costs annually using a form called the UCA. The Board has set criteria for the remittance of this information, much like the process for reporting taxes; depots are required to report annually and within six months of their fiscal year-end.

The information is collected by an independent third party (a data collection agent) that analyzes and processes the information for the purposes of setting handling commissions and evaluating system performance.

Depot UCA filing compliance has remained consistently high, approaching 100% over the past few years, with compliance at 88.6% in 2024, 98.6% in 2023, and 97.3% in 2022.

Depots that Filed Required Financial Documents to the Data Collection Agent (Percentage)



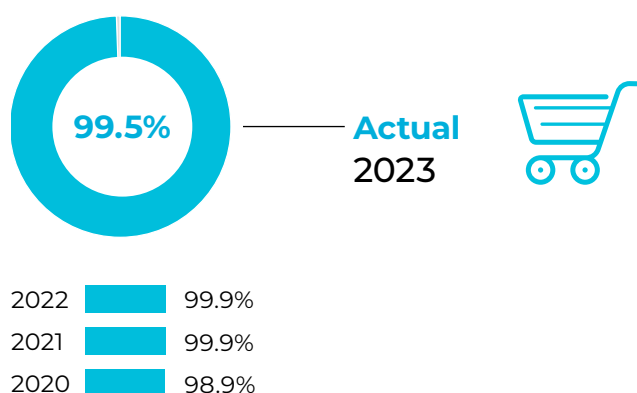
Producer Compliance – Sales Verification

In the same way depots are required to submit a UCA annually to verify their costs, producers are required to verify their total sales in Alberta for the prior year within six months of their year-end. This ensures accurate accounting of sales in the province and reflects producer accountability for their products in terms of collection and recycling rates. It also informs different calculations such as the Container Recycling Fee (set by ABCRC) and the collection rate by material stream. The CSA is responsible to report producer sales verification annually. Compliance is achieved when 90% of system volume is accounted for through producer sales verification processes.

In 2023, 99.7% of sales volume was achieved and verified by producers reflecting the 2022 fiscal year (the most recent year for which data is available). BCMB has also begun tracking and reporting on individual producer compliance. Six months post-fiscal year-end, 34% of producers were non-compliant. As of October 2024, 15.5% or 57 of 367 producers representing 0.3% of the sales volume were non-compliant in reporting sales verification data for the 2022 fiscal year.

Container Sales Remitted to CSA and Verified by Producers for Prior Year¹³

(Percentage)



¹³ Sales verification compliance represents the year prior due to BCMB reporting cycles and producer year ends.



Objective 3 Governance Excellence

From the registration of new containers to their final recycling, BCMB oversees the entire life cycle of beverage containers in Alberta. Our commitment to a strong management system ensures our by-laws, policies, and operations maintain the compliance, efficiency, and integrity of the province's recycling program.

Key Strategies

COMPLIANCE

Achieve a high degree of compliance with operating and reporting requirements.

INTEGRATION & ALIGNMENT

Ensure a high level of integration and alignment with by-laws, policies and operations.

COMMUNICATION

Deliver timely, clear and effective communication.

SYSTEM INTEGRITY

Ensure stakeholder trust through system integrity.

2024 Results

- Refund, quality control and operational compliance by depots remained high in 2024.
- The depot siting criteria review continued last year. Changes to depot siting criteria will be guided by key objectives such as promoting and maintaining depot and system viability, achieving high collection rates and enabling convenient customer access and positive experiences. The criteria will be laid out in BCMB policies, by-laws and operating principles.



Performance Metrics

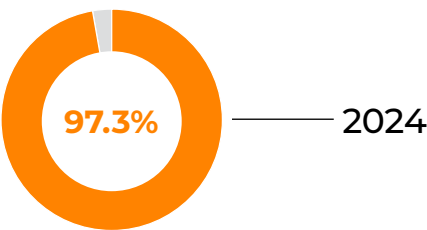
COMPLIANCE

Refund Compliance

To protect the public's refunds, BCMB conducts anonymous audits of Alberta bottle depots. In 2022, we switched to a percentage-based compliance threshold, providing a more reliable way to ensure depots are consistently providing accurate refunds.

Refund compliance within the industry standard was 97.3% in 2024, down slightly from 98.5% in 2023.

Audits Conducted within BCMB's Standard (Percentage)



Quality Control Compliance

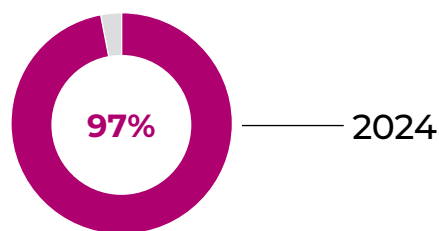
The CSA audits shipping container inventories at depots. These audits verify the accuracy of container counts reported by each depot and confirm that only containers registered with BCMB are included in their inventory. The results of these audits are reported to BCMB so it can work with the depots when variances occur. The Compliance Framework performance indicator reflects the number of audits that are reported as outside of industry standard compared to whole loads shipped over the same period (a whole load refers to a full shipment from

a depot, regardless of how many bags are in the shipment). Poor performance in relation to quality control causes a depot to be placed into the BCMB's quality control [Compliance Framework](#).

In 2024, 97% of containers were shipped from depots within the industry standard, marking a 2-percentage-point improvement over 2023 (95%).

Shipments of Containers from Depots within Industry Standard

(Percentage)



Operational Compliance

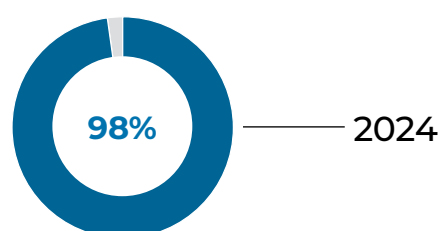
BCMB's depot inspection program is a risk-based process. Higher-performing depots are visited less frequently by BCMB Compliance Officers, and lower-performing depots receive more visits. Each depot is provided with an annual evaluation highlighting areas of high performance and areas where improvement is required. Deficiencies are usually minor in nature and depots are given a timeline for correction that takes the nature of the deficiency into account.

The percentage of depots fully compliant with BCMB by-laws and policies increased significantly in 2023 to 92%, and even further in 2024 to 98%. This number includes only depots with zero deficiencies. Should a depot have a deficiency, it is common for it to be a minor infraction that is corrected prior to entering the compliance framework.

The percentage of depots with deficiencies that were corrected prior to entering the quality control compliance framework remained the same in 2024 (94%) as 2023.

Compliant Depots within BCMB By-laws and Policies

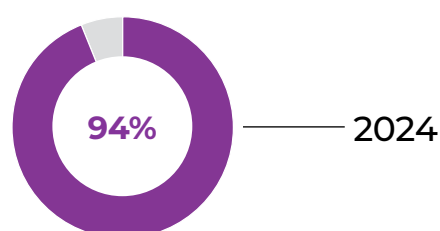
(Percentage)



2023	<div></div>	92%
2022	<div></div>	89%
2021	<div></div>	77%
2020	<div></div>	70%

Depot Deficiencies Resolved Before Compliance Framework Entry¹⁴

(Percentage)



2023	<div></div>	94%
2022	<div></div>	91%
2021	<div></div>	64%
2020	<div></div>	69%

¹⁴ The Compliance Framework includes the following four levels: Level 1 – warning letter is issued; Levels 2 & 3 – fees are assessed; Level 4 – permit is reviewed.



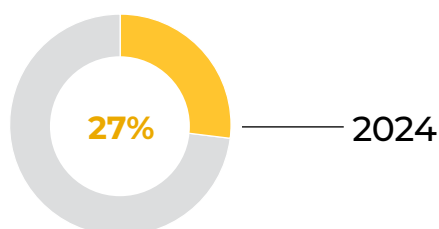
Retail Compliance

BCMB has a retail compliance program introduced in 2021 which focuses on deposit advertising and container registration. BCMB is continuing to develop educational tools and initiatives to proactively increase compliance in these areas, and positive results are being seen through these efforts.

In 2024, 27% of retailers were compliant with all standards (compared to 34% in 2022, and 31% in 2023). Compliance for deposit advertising in 2024 was 67.9%, up from 40.3% in 2023, and compliance for container registration was 77.5%, up from 70.8% in 2023.

Retail Locations Inspected that are Compliant with BCMB By-laws and Policies

(Percentage)



2023	31%
2022	34%
2021	24%

INTEGRATION, ALIGNMENT & COMMUNICATION

While BCMB does not use a specific performance metric for integration, alignment and communication, we continue to ensure our by-laws, policies and operations are aligned with our role as the system regulator. We also strive for timely, clear and effective communication with industry stakeholders and the public.

To maximize efficiency and better serve the public and industry, a joint committee is evaluating depot siting criteria, with a focus on improving access and convenience.



Objective 4 Governance Excellence

BCMB recognizes the critical role of continuous improvement in enhancing customer satisfaction and achieving our goals. We set clear expectations and have high standards of quality assurance across all areas of service delivery for system stakeholders. This will be accomplished by ensuring Alberta's system satisfies stakeholder expectations and is accessible and inclusive for all Albertans.

Key Strategies

SATISFACTION

Deliver a system that satisfies stakeholder expectations.

QUALITY

Ensure quality service to the public.

AWARENESS

Achieve widespread awareness of the importance of the system.

ACCESSIBILITY

Deliver a beverage container management system that is accessible and inclusive to all Albertans.

2024 Results

- BCMB maintained its commitment to assessing public and customer satisfaction with and awareness of beverage container recycling. Our biennial survey of public participation, satisfaction and awareness was conducted in March 2024 (based on Albertans' recycling habits and options for 2023) and the annual depot exit interviews assessing depot customer satisfaction were conducted both online and in person over the summer of 2024.
- 53% of those surveyed traveled less than 10 minutes to a depot, and 32% traveled between 11-20 minutes.
- The overall satisfaction rate with depots was 94%.
- BCMB continues to provide current and relevant information to stakeholders and the public through its website and contribute, as appropriate, to the information provided to the public on the industry website (Alberta Depot).



Performance Metrics

SATISFACTION AND QUALITY

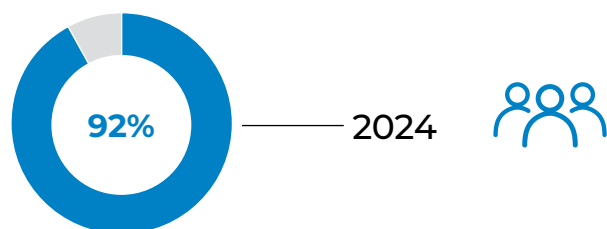
Public Satisfaction

BCMB assesses public satisfaction through a biennial survey conducted by Ipsos. The survey targets approximately 1,000 Albertans and provides data based on a representative sample of Albertans aged 18 and older. The most recent survey was conducted online in March 2024, with 1,002 online interviews completed.

The number of Albertans returning containers for a refund (participation) in 2024 rose to 92% from 89% in the previous survey (conducted in March 2022).

Participation¹⁵

(Percentage)



2023	<div></div>	89%
2022	<div></div>	87%
2021	<div></div>	87%
2020	<div></div>	92%

¹⁵ Participation refers to the percentage of respondents to the biennial Ipsos survey who state that they return beverage containers to depots. The 2023 actual is based on the most recent survey conducted in March 2024 (which applied to Albertans' 2023 recycling activities).

¹⁶ The remaining percentages (15% of 2023 and 17% for 2022 and 2021) are reflective of rural Alberta where travel times vary according to depot locations.

Average Travel Time to a Depot¹⁶

(Minutes)

< 10 minutes



53%
2024

11-20 minutes



32%
2024

2023	<div></div>	53%	<div></div>	32%
2022	<div></div>	48%	<div></div>	35%
2021	<div></div>	48%	<div></div>	35%
2020	<div></div>	51%	<div></div>	35%

< 10 minutes
 11-20 minutes

Customer Satisfaction¹⁷

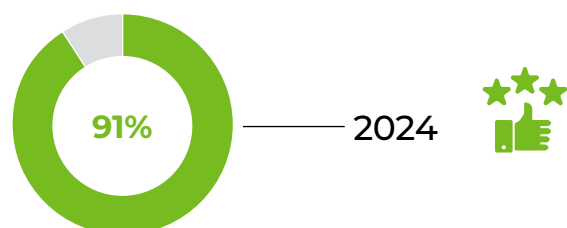
BCMB assesses depot customer satisfaction through annual Depot Exit Interviews. Customers are surveyed as they are leaving a depot after returning beverage containers. Due to COVID-19, the 2020 Depot Exit Interviews were not conducted. In 2021 and 2022 they were completed online; customers were given a card with a QR code and asked to complete the survey for a digital gift card. In 2024, a hybrid approach was taken, involving interviewers visiting depots to ask customers to complete a survey on an electronic tablet. This data supplemented the data obtained through the online survey.

Based on the data gathered since 2011, we know the strongest correlation to customer satisfaction at a depot is related to confidence in the accuracy of their

refund. If customers spend less than 10 minutes at a depot, the perception of that experience is better than if they spend more than 10 minutes at a depot.

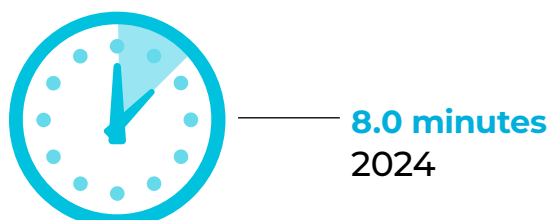
Overall satisfaction with depots rose in 2024, rising to 91% from 81% in 2023. 82% of customers reported spending 10 minutes or less at the depot during their most recent visit (an increase from 76% in 2023), with 26% completing their visit in under 5 minutes. The average wait time declined slightly, rising from 7.7 minutes in 2023 to 8.0 minutes in 2024. This increase contributed to a modest increase in customer satisfaction with wait times, which rose from 84% in 2023 to 87% in 2024.

Overall Satisfaction Rated as Very Satisfied (Percentage of respondents)



2023	81%
2022	87%
2021	87%
2020	Not completed

Average Time Spent in a Depot (Minutes)



2023	7.7 minutes
2022	8.4 minutes
2021	8.0 minutes
2020	Not completed

¹⁷ Customer satisfaction is assessed through annual Depot Exit Interviews.

AWARENESS

Public Awareness

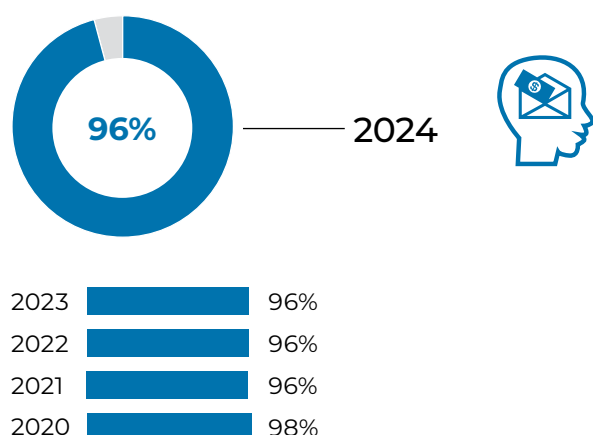
Public awareness is captured through the biennial Ipsos survey. Although BCMB doesn't set public awareness targets, program awareness is a key industry performance indicator. We have an expectation that it will be maintained at around 98% through annual marketing initiatives by the CSA¹⁸, education and other communications activities that continue to target increases in awareness surrounding deposit values and the environmental benefits of recycling beverage containers.

DEPOSIT-REFUND AWARENESS

In 2024, 96% of Albertans were aware that they could return beverage containers to a depot for a refund. The percentage of Albertans who knew the beverage container industry is regulated remained the same as 2023. Meanwhile, 58% of the population indicated that regulation is important or very important to them (steady from 2023).¹⁹

Individuals Aware of the Deposit/Refund Program

(Percentage of respondents)



¹⁸ [Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation 2023 Sustainability Report, p. 23.](#)

¹⁹ [Beverage Container Recycling – 2024 Survey of Albertans, May 2024.](#)



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

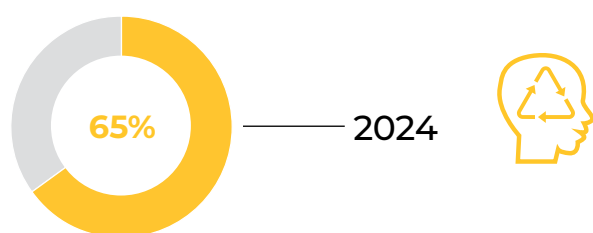
82% of Albertans believed that beverage container recycling has a significant impact on the environment (a 4% decrease from previous study conducted in March 2023); 96% were aware of some benefit to the environment through recycling beverage containers.

DEPOSIT AMOUNT AWARENESS

More than half (52%) of Albertans were aware of the actual refund amount for containers based on their size (10 cents for containers 1L and under and 25 cents for containers over 1L), matching from 52% in 2023.

Perceived Environmental Impact of Recycling

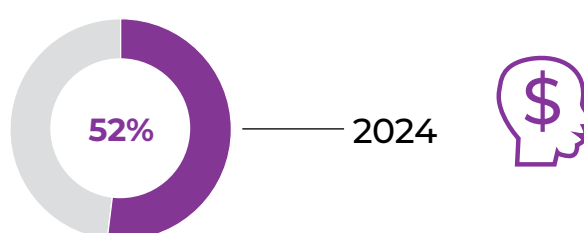
(Percentage of respondents)



2023	65%
2022	66%
2021	66%
2020	60%

Deposit Amount Awareness

(Percentage of respondents)



2023	52%
2022	47%
2021	47%
2020	52%



Customer Awareness

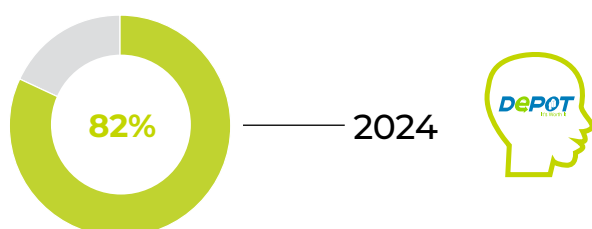
The CSA continued its marketing initiatives for the beverage container recycling industry in 2024, focusing on containers with low return rates such as milk cartons, juice boxes, and bi-metal.²⁰

Awareness of the depot network brand ('Depot, It's Worth It' logo) was down slightly in 2024 to 82% compared to 85% in 2023. The importance of an

industry marketing strategy is emphasized by the Ipsos findings related to the likelihood of returning beverage containers to a depot after learning the correct refund amounts.

Individuals Aware of the Industry Brand²¹

(Percentage of respondents)



2023	85%
2022	77%
2021	Not completed
2020	Not completed

²⁰ [Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation 2024 Sustainability Report, p. 27-28.](#)

²¹ This indicator is tracked through the annual Depot Exit Interviews. The 2020 interviews did not take place and the 2021 survey was conducted online. However, an error in the question related to recognition of the industry brand made the results invalid (BCMB's logo was used in error; should have been the depot/industry logo).



ACCESSIBILITY

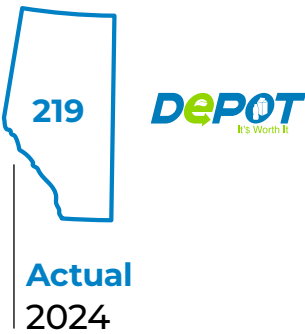
Accessibility to Depots

A primary objective of BCMB is to ensure collection locations are accessible to Albertans. To meet this objective, the Depot Siting Review Project was initiated. Until the project is complete, BCMB has stopped issuing Requests for Applications (RFAs) for new depots.

There remains one new depot under development in Calgary that is scheduled to open in 2026. Future targets will be based on any changes to siting criteria resulting from the depot siting review project.

Bottle Depots in Alberta²²

(Number)



2023	221
2022	221
2021	221
2020	224

Permits in Development^{22, 23}

(Number)



2023	1
2022	1
2021	1
2020	1

²² A moratorium has been placed on Requests for Applications (RFAs) for new depots until the depot mapping and siting project is complete. There is currently only one depot under development in Calgary.

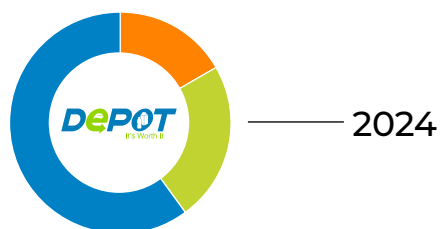
²³ Future targets will be based on any changes to siting criteria resulting from the Depot Mapping and Siting Project.



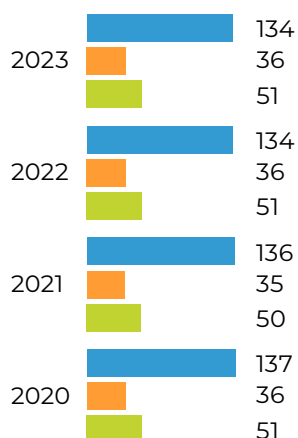
Accessibility to Depots continued

Bottle Depots in Alberta (by Classification)²⁴

(Number)



- **132** Rural (municipality with population < 10,000)
- **36** Urban (municipality with population ≥ 10,000)
- **51** Metro (City of Edmonton and City of Calgary)



Localities with a Depot²⁴

(Number)



²⁴ The number of bottle depots in Alberta (by classification) and the number of communities with a depot are performance indicators that help assess growth and/or inform depot siting decisions aimed at ensuring access and efficiency in the system.



Objective 5 **System Efficiency and Effectiveness**

BCMB is dedicated to finding ways to improve system efficiency and effectiveness. As Alberta's beverage container recycling system regulator, we seek to reduce system costs by cutting red tape by encouraging innovation and adaptation among Alberta's beverage container recycling system stakeholders.

Key Strategies

INNOVATION

Encourage innovation and continuous improvement.

RESPONSIVENESS

Demonstrate responsiveness to changing needs.

TECHNOLOGY

Capitalize on technological advancements.

COST EFFECTIVENESS

Operate a system that is cost effective.

2024 Results

- 93% (2024) of depots use the BCMB's QMS to report, track and resolve operational issues with the CSA, CSPs and BCMB.
- BCMB developed and launched a new app for Depot owners, offering enhanced features and functionality to streamline operations. The app provides improved tools for submitting orders, reporting, and managing depot processes, all with upgraded security to ensure reliable and efficient use.
- Early in 2024, BCMB transitioned the registration of alcohol containers from the Alberta Gaming, Liquor, and Cannabis (AGLC), which had been managing registrations on behalf of liquor agencies.
- Following an 18.6% decrease to average handling commissions in 2023, on November 20, 2024, the BCMB's Board of Directors approved a 14.8% increase to the average handling commission based on calculations in the 2024 Annual Update Report (AUR).



Performance Metrics

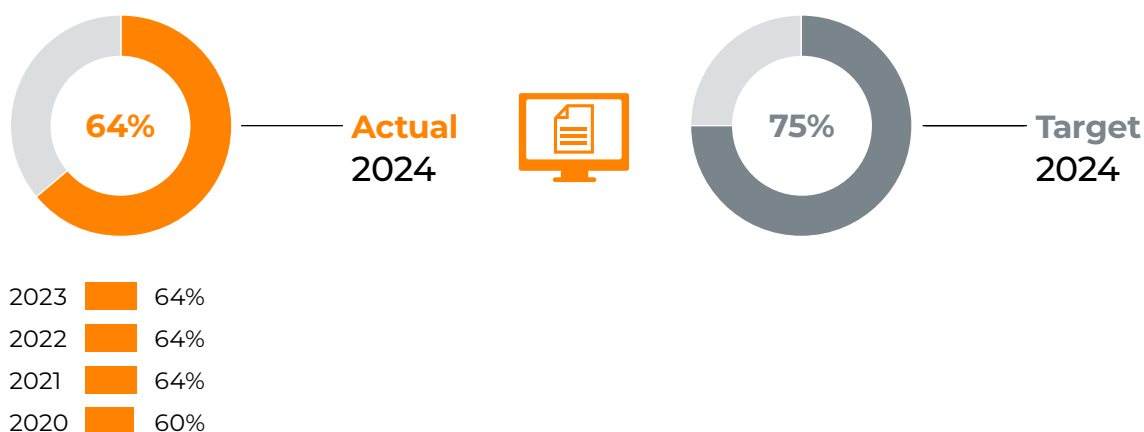
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Electronic R-bill Reporting (eR-bill)

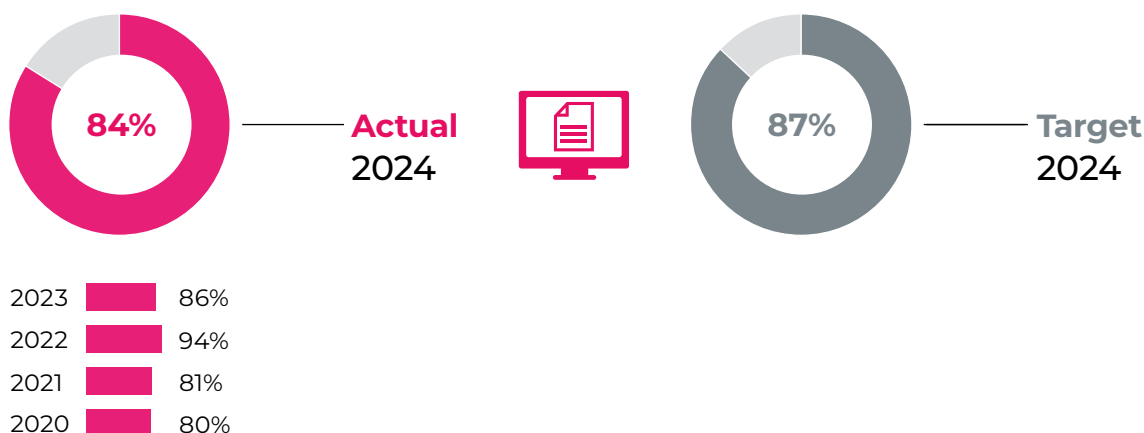
Utilizing electronic methods to compute and report shipments of containers from depots significantly reduces the number of errors on R-bills and the time required to process shipments at both ends.

In 2024, 64% of depots used electronic reimbursement bills (eR-bills), consistent with 64% in 2023. These eR-bills accounted for 84% of all reimbursement bill reporting.

Depots Utilizing eR-bill Reporting (Percentage)



Reporting that Uses eR-bill (Percentage)



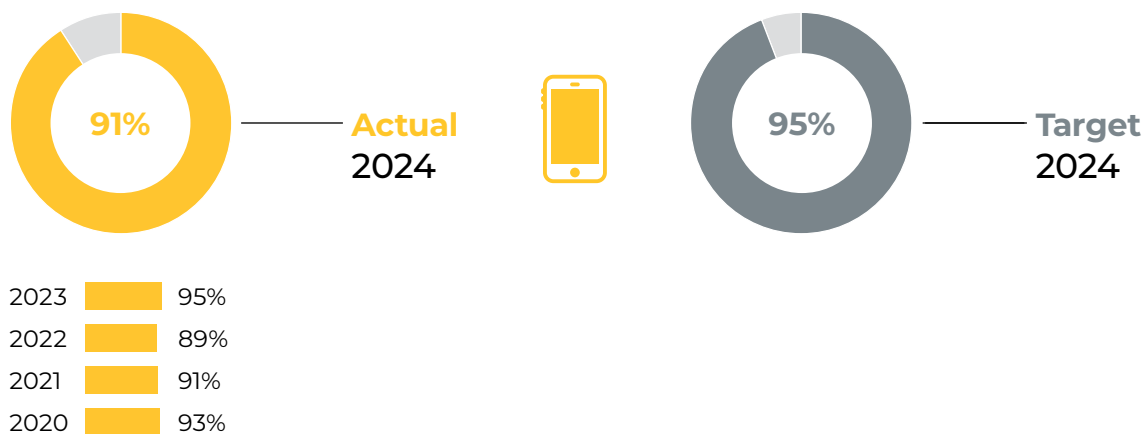
Quality Monitoring System (QMS)

The QMS is an online database used to report, track and resolve operational issues in the industry. BCMB oversees the QMS system, but industry stakeholders (depots, the ABDA, the CSA and CSPs) are the primary users of the QMS which can also be accessed using a mobile app. Depot utilization of the QMS covers those that have either submitted a ticket to address a concern and/or depots that have

responded to a ticket submitted to them by another industry partner. The QMS captures hundreds of tickets per month. The data is benchmarked, and trends are identified to address issues or successes in the industry.

Depots Utilizing Quality Monitoring System

(Percentage)



Point of Return (POR) Software

POR software is distributed and supported by several independent vendors, and all have generally demonstrated improved efficiency in several areas of depot operations and in improved customer satisfaction. As per BCMB by-law, depots handling six million or more containers annually must use a POR system, and all of them currently do.

In 2024, 75% of the total depot network had POR systems (165 out of 219 depots), up slightly from 2023 when 74% of depots had POR systems (164 of 221 depots).

Automated Sorting Equipment

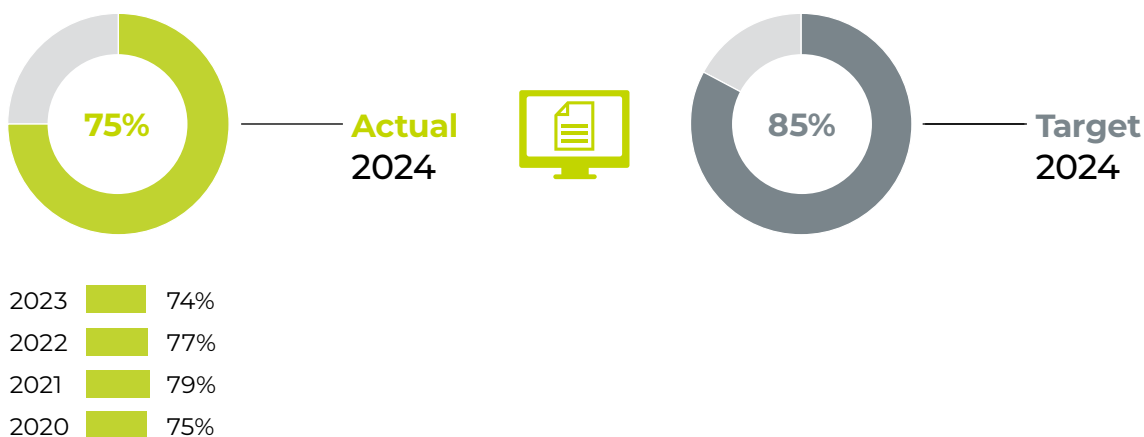
Automated sorting equipment can improve the efficiency and accuracy of sorting containers. Currently, BCMB does not report on utilization of automation within depots. However, we are working towards how best to collect this information for future reporting.

Beverage Container Registration Database

BCMB launched a new database and registration portal (Stakeholder Information Management System or SIMS) for non-alcohol manufacturers in October 2023. SIMS provides a more intuitive and efficient process for manufacturers to register themselves and their beverage containers. As of December 2024, over 246,000 containers had been registered in Alberta.

Depots Utilizing Point of Return Software

(Percentage)



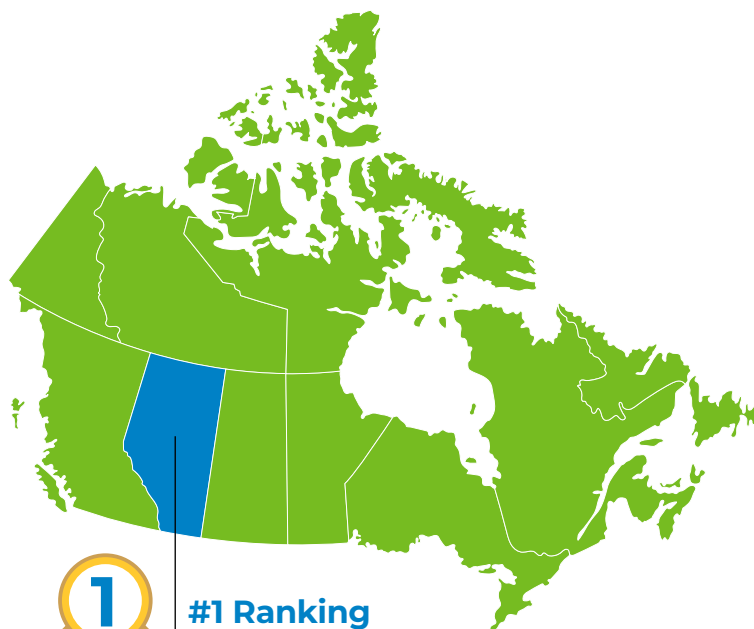
COST EFFECTIVENESS

Ranking

Comparable deposit programs exist in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Northwest Territories. In 2024, Reloop (reloopplatform.org), an international non-profit that researches and analyzes global deposit-return systems (DRS), recognized Alberta's regulated recycling system as the best in Canada and second in North America.

Comparable Deposit Jurisdictions

(Ranking)



#1 Ranking
2024

2022

2020

2018



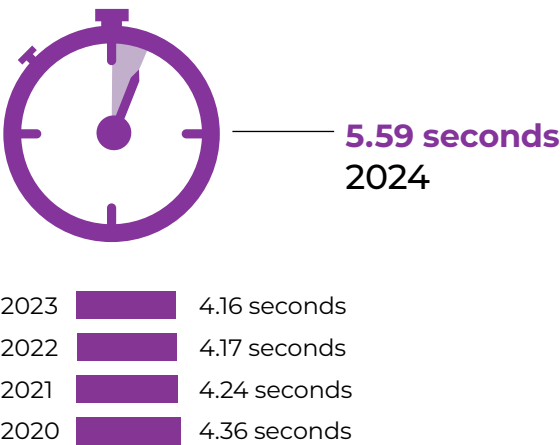
Labour Efficiency

Labour is a significant cost to the system. One way the system has become more efficient is through the handling of large numbers of containers. As technology is introduced and best practices are applied, the system has benefitted from reduced overall labour costs and hours. Progress towards efficiency can be tracked by reporting on the number of seconds per container. This is calculated by taking the total number of containers handled and dividing

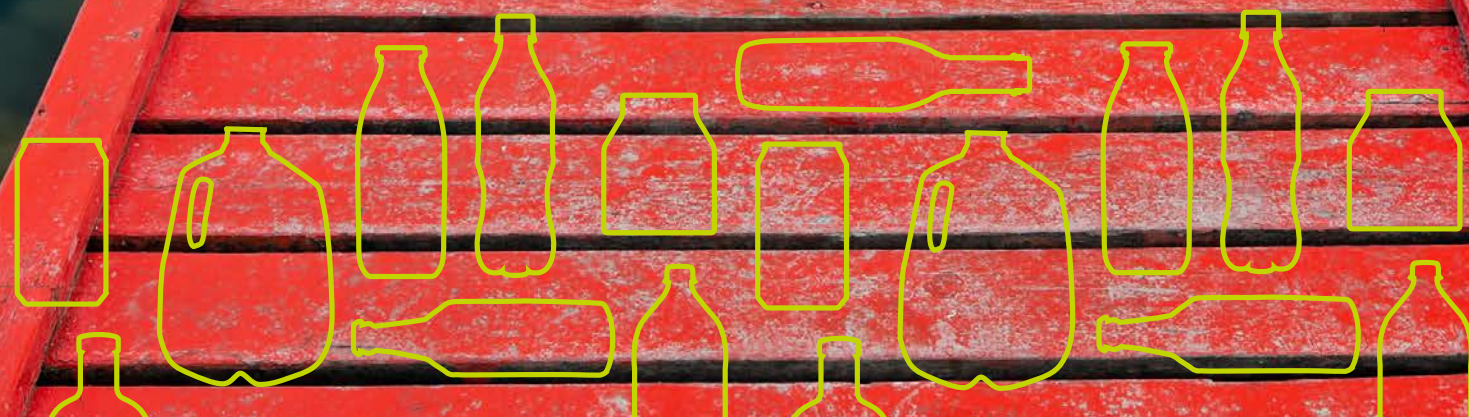
it by the total number of labor hours (as reported on the depot Uniform Code of Accounts), and isolating efficiency from the cost of labor, which has increased over the same period. The most dramatic improvements have been realized recently with the introduction of technological aids to labour within the depot processes.

Labour seconds per container was 5.59 in 2024, up from 4.16 in 2023.

Labour Time per Container at Depots
(Seconds)



Financial Statements



Management's Responsibility for Financial Reporting

Management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the accompanying financial statements, including responsibility for significant accounting judgments and estimates in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. This responsibility includes selecting appropriate accounting principles and methods, and making decisions affecting the measurement of transactions in which objective judgment is required.

In discharging its responsibilities for the integrity and fairness of the financial statements, management designs and maintains the necessary accounting systems and related internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are authorized, assets are safeguarded and financial reports are properly maintained to provide reliable information for the preparation of financial statements.

The Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibility for financial reporting and is ultimately responsible for reviewing and approving the financial statements. The Board carries out this responsibility principally through its Audit Committee. The Audit Committee is appointed by the Board and meets periodically with management and the auditors to review significant accounting, reporting and internal control matters. Following its review of the financial statements and discussions with the auditors, the Audit Committee reports to the Board of Directors prior to its approval of the financial statements. The Committee also considers, for review by the Board, the engagement or re- appointment of the external auditors.

Metrix Group LLP, an independent firm of Chartered Professional Accountants, is appointed by the Board to audit the financial statements and report directly to them; their report follows. The external auditors have full and free access to, and meet periodically and separately with, both Board and management to discuss their audit findings. The accompanying financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the Beverage Container Management Board.



Mark Emsden
President & CEO

Edmonton, Alberta
April 23, 2025



Independent Auditor's Report



To the Members of the Beverage Container Management Board

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Beverage Container Management Board (the "Board"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024, and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Board as at December 31, 2024, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Board in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, but does not include the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The Annual Report is expected to be made available to us after the date of this auditors' report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Board's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Board or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Board's financial reporting process.

(continues)

Independent Auditor's Report (continued)



Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Board's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Board to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

METRIX GROUP LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Edmonton, Alberta

April 23, 2025



Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 2)	\$ 2,799,941	\$ 2,799,210
Accounts receivable	601,004	316,507
Prepaid expenses	58,921	72,221
	3,459,866	3,187,938
RESTRICTED CASH (Note 3)	3,464,900	3,434,900
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT (Note 4)	478,450	551,924
INTANGIBLE ASSETS (Note 5)	609,527	623,524
	8,012,743	7,798,286
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 6)	161,104	365,409
Deposits	25,000	25,000
	186,104	390,409
NET ASSETS		
Restricted (Note 7)	3,464,900	3,434,900
Unrestricted	3,273,762	2,797,529
Invested in capital assets	1,087,977	1,175,448
	7,826,639	7,407,877
	\$ 8,012,743	\$ 7,798,286

Commitments (Note 8)

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

Director

Loren Faulkenberg

Director

E. Dore

See notes to financial statements



Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

For the Year Ended
December 31, 2024

	2024 (Budget) (Note 10)	2024 (Actual)	2023 (Actual)
REVENUE			
Container fees	\$ 4,427,000	\$ 4,460,215	\$ 4,396,522
Interest and other	200,000	341,592	330,962
Compliance fees	38,000	68,400	42,000
Permit fees	12,000	10,900	1,800
Product registration fees	7,800	6,360	5,500
	4,684,800	4,887,467	4,776,784
EXPENSES			
Salaries and benefits	2,676,100	2,459,471	2,164,688
Professional fees	988,200	964,689	1,012,354
Office	220,900	199,271	129,504
Amortization	150,000	158,839	63,352
Board of Directors' honoraria and expenses	167,600	146,588	141,145
Information system maintenance	155,400	131,834	108,490
Communications	231,600	129,089	115,767
Travel	149,100	101,035	70,543
Meetings	101,900	82,437	102,974
Insurance, memberships and licenses	69,700	67,132	56,493
Training and development	25,000	16,320	16,969
Bad debts	5,400	12,000	6,400
	4,940,900	4,468,705	3,988,679
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ (256,100)	\$ 418,762	\$ 788,105

See notes to financial statements



Statement of Changes in Net Assets

For the Year Ended
December 31, 2024

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Invested in Capital Assets	2024	2023
NET ASSETS –					
BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 2,797,529	\$ 3,434,900	\$ 1,175,448	\$ 7,407,877	\$ 6,619,772
Excess of revenue over expenses	418,762	–	–	418,762	788,105
Transfers (Note 7)	(33,188)	33,188	–	–	–
Reserve fund expenditures (Note 7)	3,188	(3,188)	–	–	–
Purchase of capital assets	(71,368)	–	71,368	–	–
Amortization of capital assets	158,839	–	(158,839)	–	–
NET ASSETS –					
END OF YEAR	\$ 3,273,762	\$ 3,464,900	\$ 1,087,977	\$ 7,826,639	\$ 7,407,877

See notes to financial statements



Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended
December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN)		
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 418,762	\$ 788,105
Items not affecting cash:		
Amortization	158,839	63,352
Gain (loss) on disposal of property and equipment	(1,100)	3,007
	576,501	854,464
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	(284,497)	(289,775)
Prepaid expenses	13,300	(21,122)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(204,305)	118,474
	(475,502)	(192,423)
	100,999	662,041
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of property and equipment	(19,586)	(564,184)
Change in restricted cash	(30,000)	(99,700)
Purchase of intangible assets	(51,782)	(442,184)
Proceeds on disposal of property and equipment	1,100	9,241
	(100,268)	(1,096,827)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FLOW	731	(434,786)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS – BEGINNING OF YEAR	2,799,210	3,233,996
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS – END OF YEAR	\$ 2,799,941	\$ 2,799,210

See notes to financial statements



Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2024

NATURE OF OPERATIONS

The Beverage Container Management Board (the "Board") was incorporated under the Societies Act of the Province of Alberta on October 9, 1997. As a not-for-profit organization, no provision for corporate income taxes has been provided in these financial statements, pursuant to section 149(1)(l) of the Income Tax Act. Pursuant to the Beverage Container Recycling Regulation, Alberta Regulation 101/97, the Board has been delegated responsibility to administer the regulation and supervision of the beverage container management system in the Province of Alberta.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of presentation

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes items that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash, are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value, and have a maturity of 90 days or less at acquisition.

Investments

Investments are recorded at fair value with any changes in fair value recorded in the statement of revenues and expenditures.

Property and equipment

Property and equipment are recorded at cost. Amortization of these assets is provided for using the straight line method as follows:

Leasehold improvements	10 years
Office equipment	5 years
Furniture and fixtures	5 years
Computer equipment and accessories	3 years
Computer database	10 years

Revenue recognition

Container fees represent a levy charged for each registered beverage container recycled in the Province of Alberta and are recorded when the Board receives a notice or agency statement from the Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation (ABCRC) or Brewers Distributor Ltd. (BDL) acknowledging collection of the containers. Effective January 1, 2021, containers fees are calculated based on the number of containers sold in the Province of Alberta and continue to be recorded when the Board receives a notice or agency statement from ABCRC or BDL acknowledging the sales volumes reported by manufacturers. Product registration and permitting and compliance fees are recorded as the related service is performed.

Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the recorded amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Significant areas requiring the use of management's estimates include the useful lives of tangible capital assets and the corresponding rates of amortization. All estimates are reviewed periodically and adjustments are made to the statements of operations as appropriate in the year they become known.



Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2024

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Financial instruments

Measurement of financial instruments

The Board initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value and subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash, restricted cash and accounts receivable.

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

Impairment

Financial assets measured at cost are tested for impairment when there are indicators of impairment.

The amount of the write-down is recognized in net income. The previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement, directly or by adjusting the allowance account, provided it is no greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously.

The amount of the reversal is recognized in the statement of revenues and expenses.

2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2024	2023
Operating accounts	\$ (700,059)	\$ 1,299,210
Guaranteed Investment Certificate	3,500,000	1,500,000
	\$ 2,799,941	\$ 2,799,210

The Guaranteed Investment Certificates bear interest at rates between 3.70% and 5.20% and mature between January and March 2025.

3. RESTRICTED CASH

Restricted cash is comprised of \$3,464,900 (2023 – \$3,434,900) allocated from the operating cash account. This cash has been restricted and includes amounts related to the internally restricted surplus of \$3,464,900 (2023 – \$3,434,900) (Note 7).



Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2024

4. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2024 Net book value	2023 Net book value
Computer equipment and accessories	\$ 61,606	\$ 42,235	\$ 19,371	\$ 16,642
Furniture and fixtures	191,078	55,730	135,348	169,788
Leasehold improvements	332,885	44,385	288,500	321,789
Office equipment	53,603	18,372	35,231	43,705
	\$ 639,172	\$ 160,722	\$ 478,450	\$ 551,924

5. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	2024	2023
Computer database	\$ 693,755	\$ 641,973
Accumulated amortization	(84,228)	(18,449)
	\$ 609,527	\$ 623,524

6. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

	2024	2023
Trade payable	\$ 136,921	\$ 338,208
Goods and Services Tax payable	24,183	27,201
	\$ 161,104	\$ 365,409



Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2024

7. INTERNALLY RESTRICTED SURPLUS

The Board of Directors has established an operating reserve fund to cover the costs of winding up the Board's programs and addressing significant and unexpected costs, should the Board of Directors decide this to be necessary.

	2023	Transfers	Expenditures	2024
Wind-up	\$ 2,034,900	\$ 30,000	\$ –	\$ 2,064,900
Handling Commission Review	1,000,000	–	–	1,000,000
Hearings	400,000	3,188	(3,188)	400,000
	\$ 3,434,900	\$ 33,188	\$ (3,188)	\$ 3,464,900

8. COMMITMENTS

Under the terms of operating lease agreements, the Board is required to make the following annual payments:

2025	\$ 164,734
2026	169,696
2027	170,088
2028	170,088
2029	14,174
	\$ 688,780



Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2024

9. BOARD MEMBER AND MANAGEMENT REMUNERATION

The Board has expensed honoraria, if claimed, which includes training and travel time, but not travel or other expenses, paid to its Directors and President as follows:

	2024	2023
Board Chairperson		
Ms. L. Falkenberg (a, c, d, g, h, o, r, s) (July – December)	\$ 14,440	\$ –
Mr. A. Stephens (a, c, d, g, h, o, r, s (Chair)) (January – June)	10,247	20,243
Board Members		
Mr. B. Moore (a, c, d, h, r (Chair), o, p)	15,185	18,215
Ms. T. Jones (c, d, r, s)	11,340	6,940
Mr. O. Edmondson (d (Chair), g, h (Chair), o, p, s)	10,875	12,845
Mr. K. Dossa (g, o (Chair), r)	10,455	8,003
Mr. T. Marr-Laing (c (Chair), d, h, p)	8,150	18,610
Mr. K. Faulkner (a, d, s)	7,605	3,205
Mr. T. Dore (a (Chair), g)	7,275	3,725
Mr. G. Johal (a, c, d)	6,450	6,327
Mrs. R. Morier (g, r)	5,300	4,200
Ms. P. McLeod (g)	–	805
	107,322	103,118
President (s)	222,225	200,675
	\$ 329,547	\$ 303,793

Member of Audit Committee (a)
 Member of Compliance Committee (c)
 Member of Depot Siting Committee (d)
 Member of Governance and Compensation Committee (g)
 Member of the Handling Commission Review Committee (h)
 Member of CSA Operating Agreement Committee (o)
 Member of the Hearing Panel (p)
 Member of Registrations & Recycling Committee (r)
 Member of the Service Agreement Committee (s)

The following table summarizes the Board of Directors' honoraria and expense amounts:

	2024	2023
Honoraria paid	\$ 107,322	\$ 103,118
Travel	26,148	24,504
Board advisor fees	8,830	5,025
Canada pension plan benefits	3,556	4,281
Directors' meals	732	4,217
	\$ 146,588	\$ 141,145

In 2024 and 2023, the travel and meals expense amounts were reimbursed directly to the Board of Directors.

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2024

10. BUDGET AMOUNTS

The budget amounts have been presented for information purposes and have not been audited.

11. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Board is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments and has a comprehensive risk management framework to monitor, evaluate and manage these risks. The following analysis provides information about the Board's risk exposure and concentration as of December 31, 2024.

Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the potential that a counterparty will fail to perform its obligations. The Board is exposed to credit risk from customers. An allowance for doubtful accounts is established based on factors surrounding the credit risk of specific accounts, historical trends and other information. The Board has a significant number of customers which minimizes concentration of credit risk.

Fair Values

The carrying value of cash and restricted cash, accounts receivable and accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximates their fair values due to the relatively short-term maturities or nature of these instruments.

12. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.



An aerial photograph of a lush green field with a winding stream. The grass is vibrant green and dense. The stream is dark and flows from the top right towards the bottom left. The overall scene is natural and serene.

ALBERTA IS WELL KNOWN

as a leader in beverage
container recycling,
and our industry
is a key contributor
to environmental
conservation
and protection



CONTACT US

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BEVERAGE CONTAINER
MANAGEMENT BOARD