

December 23, 2016

ATTENTION DEPOT OPERATORS AND STAFF:

**RE: BEVERAGE CONTAINERS CONTAINING NEEDLES**

**Please notify your staff of proper handling techniques for beverage containers containing needles. Depots are not obligated to accept these ‘contaminated’ containers from the public.**

It has been brought to the attention of the BCMB that ABCRC has recently encountered used needles in mega-bags. This is a cause for concern as it poses significant health risks to those involved with the transporting, handling and processing these materials.

Please be aware that needles should **not** be shipped to ABCRC due to the inherent health risk associated with new and used needles.

It is important to notify your staff of proper handling techniques for needles should they encounter them. It has been suggested that placing needles inside a strong plastic container is a good way to ensure the needles do not become loose prior to disposal. Needles may be accepted by your local fire department, police department, pharmacy or Eco-station. You can confirm this with your local municipality. If a customer attempts to return a beverage container that contains needles or other hazardous materials, please redirect them to the aforementioned locations.

Should a Depot employee accept beverage containers containing needles, the Depot will need to ensure the container is properly emptied prior to shipping to ABCRC.



BEVERAGE CONTAINER MANAGEMENT BOARD

Depots not following the above requirements will receive a warning letter for first offence, compliance levies will be issued for future non-compliance.

Thank you for considering the safety of our industry partners. Should you have any questions please contact the Beverage Container Management Board at 1-888-424-7671.