



March 21, 2020

**NOTICE TO DEPOTS
RE: COVID-19**

The BCMB is continuing to closely monitor provincial and federal updates on COVID-19 and appreciates the inquiries we have received from depots in Alberta. Depots are not considered an essential service and may be impacted by further measures imposed by Government.

As mentioned in the March 13 notice, beverage container recycling industry leaders met on March 18 to discuss our response to the pandemic. We decided that we will closely monitor system volumes as a measure of the demand on the system from the public, while continuing to ensure each stakeholder is empowered to make the best decision possible as it pertains to your business, staff and community safety.

Our bylaws do not give the BCMB the authority to close depots in a situation like the one we are experiencing with COVID-19. However, we strongly encourage all depot owners to consider the safety of your staff by regularly reviewing all safety and cleaning procedures. Provide staff with instructions on what to do if they have flu-like symptoms and know that if customers come into your depot clearly displaying flu-like symptoms, you have the right to ask them to leave and return their beverage containers at another time.

The BCMB will continue to do everything we can to support you and your depot staff during this uncertain time. ABCRC has scaled back operations in response to the declining volumes and depot closures but will continue to support those depots that choose to remain open. As noted in the previous communication, we have relaxed the minimum hours of operations at depots for a period of 30 days and will re-evaluate this decision at that time. We also fully support the decision of any depot to temporarily close if you determine that is best for staff and customers. We do ask that you use the QMS system to advise us of your decision so that we can keep our website current for your customers. If you choose to close your location, you will continue to be responsible for monitoring the QMS for information about your depot.

The BCMB is grateful for everything depots are doing to keep your staff and customers safe and healthy. We will continue to monitor the impacts of COVID-19 in Alberta and its impacts on our industry and will provide updates as necessary.

Jeff Linton
President