



DATE: March 2, 2021

TO: Depot Network

RE: **Depot Mapping Project and Request for Application (RFA) Freeze**

Attention Depot Permit Holders:

At the February 24, 2021 Board Meeting, the BCMB Board of Directors provided approval for BCMB Management to proceed with securing a third-party expert to analyze population and service area data to make recommendation on potential improvements to BCMB processes and criteria to assist in siting Depots going forward. Additionally, the Board of Directors approved a moratorium on Requests for Applications (RFAs) for new Depots until which time this Depot mapping and siting criteria project is complete, and outcomes have been considered by the Board.

As outlined in Section 4 of the [Depot By-law](#), the RFA process is the standard process the BCMB follows for issuing a new Depot permit anywhere in Alberta. At minimum, this moratorium on new Depot RFAs is anticipated to be in place until the end of 2022 while the project work is completed. Further updates regarding the timeline for the RFA moratorium will be provided by the BCMB as the project progresses.

The BCMB began consultation with metro Depots in 2019 on potential amendments to Depot siting criteria. The BCMB received feedback from some metro Depots and the ABDA that contained a general theme suggesting that BCMB Depot siting criteria may be outdated and should be reviewed in light of Depot innovation and service abilities. As a note, the BCMB inherited its current siting criteria which was used by the Government of Alberta before the Beverage Container Recycling Regulation was established in 1997.

Depot mapping and siting criteria were items further explored by the BCMB Depot Viability Committee, comprised of Directors from the Depot, Manufacturer and Public sectors. This Committee was established by BCMB Board resolution on April 21, 2020 in accordance with the Agreement reached by the Interested Parties in the 2019-20 Handling Commission Review. The purpose of the Committee is to review and make recommendations regarding the issue of Depot viability within Alberta's Common Collection System. The Committee determined that Depot viability is linked to Depot siting and access criteria as set by the BCMB. Accordingly, this Committee requested that BCMB Management proceed with this project, pending approval from the Board that was received on February 24, 2021.



Prior to recommending the RFA moratorium to the Board of Directors for consideration, the Depot Viability Committee as well as the Governance and Compensation Committee both considered the timing and impact of pausing Depot RFAs. It was agreed that the pausing of these RFAs was necessary to ensure new Depots are sited effectively and are not in conflict with any outcomes resulting from this project in the interim.

Should you have any questions, please direct them to Brent Campbell, Director, Operational Strategy and Projects at bcampbell@bcmb.ab.ca.

