



BEVERAGE CONTAINER MANAGEMENT BOARD

# Registration Requirements

## for Beverage Containers



## CONTENTS

- 3 Introduction**
- 4 Registration Requirements for Non-Alcoholic Non-Cannabis Registrants**
- 4 Registration Requirements for Alcoholic and/or Cannabis Registrants**
- 5 Registering Your Beverage Containers**
  - 5 Beverage Container Review
  - 6 Labeling Information
  - 6 Non-Refillable Beverage Container Registration(s)
- 7 Refillable Beverage Container Registration(s)**
- 8 Appendix**
  - 9 Approved Non-Refillable Beverage Containers
  - 10 Approved Label Material
  - 10 Approved Closure Material
  - 11 Approved Additional Components
- 12 For Further Assistance**



## Introduction

The Registration steps outlined in this document relate to the registration of alcoholic, cannabis and non-alcoholic non-cannabis companies as well as the registration of nonrefillable and refillable alcoholic, cannabis, non-alcoholic non-cannabis beverage containers.

### Beverage Container Material Information

Please see the Appendix starting on page 8 for information on approved container materials, approved labeling materials, approved closure material, approved additional components and not approved multi-material containers.

If a material is listed as *Not Approved*, it cannot be registered by the BCMB. All beverage containers are required to be approved containers. The BCMB maintains a list of container codes for approved beverage containers. This ensures the materials used in the composition of the containers can be recycled and will not contaminate existing material streams. The composition of the container includes all components including but not limited to the container, closure (lid), label and any inserts or attachments. If you have questions about the list of approved containers, which can be found on the BCMB Portal, please contact the BCMB.

If a material is noted as *Must Submit Application*, a Beverage Container Review form is required to be filled out and returned to the BCMB Registrations Team at [registrations@bcmb.ab.ca](mailto:registrations@bcmb.ab.ca) with corresponding images as per the form. A sample of the container material will also be required.

### Registering Your Company

For detailed instructions on registering your company, please see the [BCMB Portal User Guide](#) which can be found on the BCMB website under the Selling/Distributing Beverages tab.

**Please note that before registering your company, if you sell and/or distribute more than one type of beverage container (alcoholic, cannabis, non-alcoholic non-cannabis), you will need to create separate companies within your account for each beverage container type. You will only be charged the \$60.00 non-refundable registration fee for the first of these companies.**

If you are registering an alcoholic or a cannabis company, your legal entity name will have one of the following added to the front before being approved by the BCMB: alcoholic companies will have AGLC A – (legal entity name); cannabis companies will have AGLC C – (legal entity name).

**Please note: types of beverage containers (alcoholic, cannabis, non-alcoholic non-cannabis) can only be registered under the type of company registered (non-alcoholic non-cannabis, alcoholic, cannabis). I.e. alcoholic registrant can only register alcoholic beverage containers.**

## Registration Requirements for Non-Alcoholic Non-Cannabis Registrants

### BCMB Requirements

- \$60.00 non-refundable registration fee paid to the BCMB. Please contact the BCMB regarding payment options at [info@bcmb.ab.ca](mailto:info@bcmb.ab.ca)
- Copy of the [Alberta Incorporation Certificate](#) or [Extra-Provincial Registration Certificate](#);
- Initial registration through the BCMB Portal at [portal.bcmb.ab.ca/login](http://portal.bcmb.ab.ca/login), and;
- Signed Manufacturer Agreement. This document can be found on the BCMB website under the Selling/Distributing Beverages tab.

### Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation (ABCRC) Requirements

- Refundable, initial deposit of \$5,000.00 or a three-month sales forecast (whichever is greater) paid to the ABCRC. Please contact the ABCRC at [arstaff@abcrc.com](mailto:arstaff@abcrc.com) regarding payment, and;
- Signed Collection Systems Agent (CSA) Agreement<sup>1</sup>. For more information on the ABCRC CSA Agreement, please contact ABCRC at [arstaff@abcrc.com](mailto:arstaff@abcrc.com).

ABCRC documentation package for the CSA Agreement and information on the Initial Deposit can be found on the BCMB website under the Selling/Distributing Beverages tab.

After completing all BCMB and ABCRC requirements and information is confirmed, the company will be approved as a registrant.

<sup>1</sup>The Beverage Container Recycling Regulation (BCRR) requires that Manufacturers appoint, use and maintain a Collection System Agent (CSA) to operate a common collection system. ABCRC will act, on the part of the registered manufacturer, to collect and process empty post-consumer beverage containers and to reimburse Alberta Depots as required under the BCRR.

## Registration Requirements for Alcoholic and/or Cannabis Registrants

### BCMB Requirements

- Cannabis Registrants:  
Licensed Producer (LP) Contract Number from AGLC;
- Alcoholic Registrants:  
Agent Number with AGLC is required;
- \$60.00 non-refundable registration fee paid to the BCMB. Please contact the BCMB regarding payment options, and;
- Initial registration through the BCMB Portal at [portal.bcmb.ab.ca/login](http://portal.bcmb.ab.ca/login).

### Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Commission (AGLC) Requirements

- All AGLC requirements are to be met (AGLC website: [aglc.ca](http://aglc.ca)).

After completing the BCMB requirements and Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Commission (AGLC) requirements and information is confirmed, the company will be approved as a registrant.



## Registering Your Beverage Containers

Manufacturers can decide whether their container will be registered as non-refillable or refillable. If the beverage container is registered as non-refillable then the BCRR provides that the container is managed by the Collection System Agent (CSA), also known as the Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation (ABCRC), using the Common Collection System. If the Manufacturer wants to register their beverage container as a refillable container, they have the option of managing the beverage container on their own by acting as a Collection Service Provider (CSP) or contracting an independent third-party to act on their behalf. All beverage containers are collected through the province-wide Depot network. If refillable, the beverage containers are prepared by the Depot to be collected by the CSP.

Only individual beverage containers are required to be registered, not packages or cases. In the case of a variety pack, please ensure the individual beverage containers are registered.

All beverage containers differing in brand, flavour, size, material, and/or UPC are required to be registered separately through the BCMB Portal. The BCMB has 10 business days from the date submitted to approve the registrations. For all registrants, the first beverage container registration is free, and each additional registration is \$10.00.

### Beverage Container Review

If you are unsure whether the container you wish to register is considered a ready-to-serve beverage container and is therefore required to be registered with BCMB, please contact [registrations@bcmb.ab.ca](mailto:registrations@bcmb.ab.ca). Products such as soup broth, etc. are not currently part of the Alberta Deposit System.

If you would like confirmation that your container is recyclable, please view the BCMB Approved Materials List. If the Approved Materials List indicates that you are required to submit an application, please fill out the appropriate Beverage Container Review form (below) and send it along with the corresponding images to [registrations@bcmb.ab.ca](mailto:registrations@bcmb.ab.ca). Once the BCMB receives the required documentation, your container will be reviewed for recyclability. Once the Beverage Container Review is completed, a letter will be sent advising how to proceed. The review process can take time as the Collection System Agent (CSA) may need to confirm recyclability. A sample of the container material will also be required.

- [Beverage Container Review Form – Non-Alcoholic Non-Cannabis](#)
- [Beverage Container Review Form – Alcoholic](#)
- [Beverage Container Review Form – Cannabis](#)

If you require assistance in registering your beverage containers, please reference the [BCMB's Portal User Guide](#).





## Labeling Information

Beverage containers are required to note the brand, flavour, size and material in English. UPC's (barcodes) are not required at this time. However, if you are registering a beverage container and the individual beverage container has a UPC it is required to be noted.

Beverage containers with the above requirements (brand, flavour, size, material, and UPC-if applicable) only on the removeable lid (cap) will be denied. Without the lid, all information including any confirmation that the container is a beverage is removed. In order to sell and/or distribute these beverage containers in Alberta, additional labeling needs to be added to the container itself to meet the requirements (i.e. etching or printing required information on the side of the container).

Return for Refund or Return for Refund Where Applicable notes are not required to be on beverage containers. However, negative connotations of recycling are not allowed, and a container will be denied in those cases.

In order to remain compliant with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), please ensure the labeling on your beverage containers follows the CFIA standards. The CFIA offers an interactive tool designed to assist [here](#).

## Non-Refillable Beverage Container Registration(s)

All non-refillable beverage containers are required to be registered through the BCMB Portal. First beverage container is free, each additional registration is \$10.00.

To register your non-refillable beverage container(s), you will need the following:

- Beverage Container Information:
  - Brand (in English characters)
  - Flavour (in English)
  - Size - in Metric
  - Material<sup>2</sup>
  - UPC (if applicable)
- Front and back images of the container with the label displaying the brand, flavor, size, material, and UPC. If there is no UPC, please continue to upload an image of the back of the container. If the beverage container is made of plastic, please upload an image of the container noting the recycling symbol and the resin (material) identifier (this is usually molded into the container on the bottom or side bottom)<sup>3</sup>.
- Sales start date – this is the date you plan to start selling and/or distributing the beverage container in Alberta.

Once submitted, the BCMB will approve all registrations that meet the above requirements within 10 business days from the date the registration was submitted. Upon approval, the registrant will receive an e-mail advising that the beverage container(s) have been approved.

<sup>2</sup>As per Section 16 of the BCRR, non-refillable containers are to be recycled by a method approved by the Beverage Container Management Board. Your beverage will need to be in an approved container prior to registration. Please see the appendix for a list of approved non-refillable beverage containers, label materials, closure materials and additional components. A list of approved containers and their codes can also be found in the BCMB Portal.

<sup>3</sup>As per Section 6.1 of the BCRR, beverage containers must be labelled in such a way that the type of beverage is easily identifiable (even when the container is empty) and it is clear the container can be returned for a refund of the deposit paid when purchased.



## Refillable Beverage Container Registration(s)

Manufacturers who wish to register a refillable container are required to have a method of collection for the refillable container. Manufacturers have the option of managing the beverage container on their own by acting as a Collection Service Provider (CSP) or contracting an independent third-party to act on their behalf. Upon arriving at a Depot, refillable beverage containers are prepared by the Depot to be collected by their CSP.

A CSP is defined as:

- a manufacturer of refillable containers that collects empty refillable Containers that contained a beverage manufactured by that manufacturer, or empty Containers that were refillable, but which are no longer refillable that contained a beverage manufactured by that manufacturer; or
- a person contracted by a manufacturer of refillable containers to collect empty refillable Containers that contained a beverage manufactured by that manufacturer or empty Containers that were refillable, but which are no longer refillable that contained a beverage manufactured by that manufacturer.

Prior to starting the registration process for a Refillable Beverage Container (Alcoholic, Cannabis and Non-Alcoholic Non-Cannabis), please review the Collection Service Provider (CSP) By-law on the BCMB website found on the About Us Tab under Governing Documents.

To start the Refillable Beverage Container registration process, please complete the Refillable Beverage Container Registration Application on the BCMB website found under the Selling/Distributing Beverages tab. Once completed this package will be submitted to the BCMB Registrations Team via email ([registrations@bcmb.ab.ca](mailto:registrations@bcmb.ab.ca)).

To view links, forms and further information please go to the BCMB website: [www.bcmb.ab.ca](http://www.bcmb.ab.ca), click on Selling/Distributing Beverages tab and click on the Refillable Beverage Container tab.



# Appendix


To ensure the recyclability of a container, the BCMB at any time may request that a Beverage Container Review Form be filled out and returned with corresponding images.

A sample of the container material will also be required for all Beverage Container Reviews.

The following Appendix refers only to Non-Refillable Beverage Containers.



## Approved Beverage Containers<sup>1</sup>

BEVERAGE CONTAINER CATEGORY	COLOUR	CONDITIONS
Aluminum	n/a	None
Glass	Any	None
Glass (silica or soda lime glass)	Any	Must Submit Application <sup>2</sup>
Bag-In-A-Box	n/a	None
Biodegradable Plastic	Any	Not Approved
Bi-Metal	n/a	None
Ceramics (including clay, porcelain)	Any	Not Approved
Crystal (lead and non-lead)	Any	Not Approved
Drink Pouches	n/a	None
Gable Top	n/a	None
HDPE 	Any	None
One-Way Keys	Any	None
Multiple Materials <sup>1</sup>	Any Combination	Must Submit Application <sup>2</sup>
Other Plastics <sup>1</sup> 	Any Combination	Must Submit Application <sup>2</sup>
PET 	Any	None
Polypropylene 	Any	None
Polystyrene 	Any	None
PVC 	Any	Not Approved
Tetra Brik	n/a	None
Other Material <sup>1</sup>		Must Submit Application <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Container must be comprised of 98% or higher, by weight, of the category material. Closure, label and any additional components must also be in compliance.

<sup>2</sup>A Beverage Container Review form is required to be filled out and returned to the BCMB Registration Team at [registrations@bcmb.ab.ca](mailto:registrations@bcmb.ab.ca) with corresponding images as per the form. If the BCMB requires a sample, we will advise.



## Approved Label Material

LABEL MATERIAL	CONDITIONS
Applied Ceramic	Must Submit Application <sup>2</sup>
Etched (no additional materials)	None
Glue Applied Paper	Depends on Container Material <sup>3</sup>
Glue Applied Plastic	Depends on Container Material <sup>3</sup>
Shrink-wrap	Must Submit Application <sup>2</sup>
Standard Digital Image on Container	None
Any Other	Must Submit Application <sup>2</sup>

**\*Note: Label cannot be removed as part of closure.**

## Approved Closure Material (any component)

CLOSURE MATERIAL	CONDITIONS
Aluminum	None
Bi-Metal	None
Ceramic	Must Submit Application <sup>2</sup>
Crystal (lead and non-lead)	Not Approved
Cork	None
Glass	None
HDPE	None
PET	None
Polystyrene	None
Polypropylene	None
Any Other	Must Submit Application <sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>A Beverage Container Review form is required to be filled out and returned to the BCMB Registration Team at [registrations@bcmb.ab.ca](mailto:registrations@bcmb.ab.ca) with corresponding images as per the form. If the BCMB requires a sample, we will advise.

<sup>3</sup>Certain container materials with certain labeling materials cannot be recycled due to the labeling material effecting the containers recyclability. If you are unsure whether your container meets compliance, please fill out a Beverage Container Review form and send to [registrations@bcmb.ab.ca](mailto:registrations@bcmb.ab.ca) with corresponding images. If the BCMB requires a sample, we will advise.



## Approved Additional Components (inserts or attachments)

ADDITIONAL COMPONENTS	CONDITIONS
Same as Container Material (100%)	None
Different than Container Material	Must Submit Application <sup>2</sup>
More than One Material	Must Submit Application <sup>2</sup>
Contains Crystal (lead and non-lead)	Not Approved

<sup>2</sup>A Beverage Container Review form is required to be filled out and returned to the BCMB Registration Team at [registrations@bcmb.ab.ca](mailto:registrations@bcmb.ab.ca) with corresponding images as per the form. If the BCMB requires a sample, we will advise.

## Not Approved Multi-Material Containers

CONTAINER MATERIAL	LABEL MATERIAL	CONDITIONS
Aluminum	Plastic labels affixed with adhesive	Not Approved



BEVERAGE CONTAINER MANAGEMENT BOARD

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**For further assistance:**

Beverage Container Management Board  
#100, 8616 - 51 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T6E 6E6  
Tel: 780-424-3193 or 1-888-424-7671 (toll-free)  
Email: [registrations@bcmb.ab.ca](mailto:registrations@bcmb.ab.ca)

[www.bcmb.ab.ca](http://www.bcmb.ab.ca)