

Attention: Manager/Owner of an Alberta Retail Location

**RE: Registration of Beverage Containers and advertising of refund deposit values, in accordance with the Beverage Container Recycling Regulation. Applicable to all Alberta Retailers that sell ready to serve and sealed beverage containers.**

To whom it may concern:

The Beverage Container Management Board (BCMB) is a Delegated Administrative Organization (DAO) - an arm's length organization that has delegated government authority under the Ministry of Environment and Protected Areas, responsible for regulating Alberta's beverage container recycling system. The BCMB leads the development of policy and programs that enable and ensure the recycling of beverage containers in Alberta.

The BCMB has enhanced its focus on retail compliance with a new retail inspection program. Audits of retail locations are conducted across Alberta by third-party auditors – One Stop Shoppers (OSS). The program has been introduced to ensure that: 1) all beverage containers being sold and/or distributed in Alberta are registered with the BCMB; and 2) beverage container deposits are advertised and applied correctly at the point of sale. For more information, please review the BCMB's [Manufacturer and Retailer By-law](#). Additionally, the [Advertising of Deposit Policy](#) outlines how retailers are recommended to advertise the beverage container deposit within their retail location.

Compliance by retailers is crucial to the integrity of the beverage container recycling system in Alberta and is a regulatory obligation under the [Beverage Container Recycling Regulation](#) (BCRR). Any manufacturer, distributor or retailer that imports or produces a sealed beverage for sale in Alberta, must register the container with the BCMB and work with a manufacturer agent to have that container collected through Alberta's depot system. This also requires regular reporting (sales volumes) and remitting (beverage container deposit and the [Container Recycling Fee](#)) to that agent to fund the recycling of that container and to protect Alberta's environment.

A retailer is defined in the BCRR as a person who sells beverage containers to consumers. Retailers can also be deemed a manufacturer if they:

- carry on the business of filling containers with a beverage, and
- import a beverage in a container into Alberta for the purpose of distribution or sale in Alberta.



An audit is considered non-compliant if unregistered beverage containers are found in the retail location and/or the retail location is found not clearly identifying the deposit amount for containers, separate from the price of the product, where beverage containers are being sold.

In the case of *Container Registration* non-compliance, the manufacturer will receive a communication 1 (education period) of the Container Registration Compliance Framework and would exit the Framework once compliant or move to Level 1 after 30 days.

If non-compliant after 30 days in communication 1, the manufacturer enters Level 1 of the Container Registration Compliance Framework. The manufacturer would exit the Framework once compliant or move to Level 2 after 30 days.

If non-compliant after 30 days at Level 1, the manufacturer enters Level 2 of the Container Registration Compliance Framework and is issued a \$400 non-compliance fee. The manufacturer would exit the Framework once compliant or move to Level 3 after 30 days.

If non-compliant after 30 days at Level 2, the manufacturer enters Level 3 of the Container Registration Compliance Framework and is issued a \$400 non-compliance fee. The manufacturer would exit the Framework once compliant or may be referred to the Complaints Director for further action after 15 days.

In the case of *Deposit Advertising* non-compliance, the retailer will receive communications from the BCMB advising of non-compliance, educating on the requirement to advertise the deposit to public and outlining how to become compliant. A non-compliant retailer can submit images to the BCMB to verify that they are clearly identifying the deposit amount for containers, separate from the price of the product within their retail location. To avoid action resulting from non-compliance, the BCMB encourages retailers and manufacturers to review the [container registration requirements](#) and the [deposit advertising policy and guidelines](#).

Manufacturers, distributors, and retailers can be penalized for selling and/or distributing non-system beverage containers. Failure to register beverage containers can result in fines up to \$500,000 for a corporation or up to \$50,000 for an individual as issued by Alberta Environment and Protected Areas.

As a retailer, below are things you can do to ensure compliance going forward:

- Clearly identify the amount of the beverage container deposit (\$0.10 for containers 1L and under and \$0.25 for containers over 1L) separate from the price of the product at the location where the beverage containers are located within your store. This includes all vending machines that dispense beverage containers;
- Ask manufacturers/distributors for Alberta Registration Numbers on all beverage containers prior to selling and/or distributing;
- Refuse to sell and/or distribute beverage containers without Alberta Registration Numbers;





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- Register your company and beverage containers with the BCMB if they have not already been registered;
- Remove unregistered beverage containers from store shelves until properly registered with the BCMB.

Please visit the BCMB website for more information on the process for [registering your company](#) and [beverage containers](#) with the BCMB.

For more information regarding BCMB Retail Compliance, please visit our website:

<https://www.bcmb.ab.ca/selling-distributing-beverages/retail-compliance/>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at [abertling@bcmb.ab.ca](mailto:abertling@bcmb.ab.ca) or 587-404-1143.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Amber Bertling  
Manager, Registrations  
BCMB

If you have questions or concerns in relation to the OSS inspection or inspector, please contact Justin Newman below:

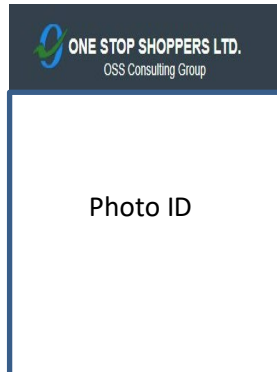
Justin Newman, Owner  
[justin@onestopshoppers.ca](mailto:justin@onestopshoppers.ca)  
[www.ossconsultinggroup.ca](http://www.ossconsultinggroup.ca)  
403-589-8533

Inspection Date: \_\_\_\_\_

OSS Inspector: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

To confirm the inspector is an employee of One Stop Shoppers, please verify their government issued photo ID.



***Please have the retail Owner/Manager or Employee present during the audit to fill out the section below:***

Owner/Manager or Employee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner or Manager Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner or Manager Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Head Office Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Head Office Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual providing the information above Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual providing the information above Signature: \_\_\_\_\_





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Frequently Asked Questions

<p>Who are the requirements outlined in this memorandum applicable to?</p>	<p>The information provided in this memorandum is applicable to any manufacturer, distributor or retailer that imports or produces a sealed beverage for sale in the Province of Alberta.</p>
<p>Who is the Beverage Container Management Board (BCMB)?</p>	<p>The Beverage Container Management Board (BCMB) is a Delegated Administrative Organization (DAO) - an arm's length organization that has delegated government authority under the Ministry of Environment and Protected Areas, responsible for regulating Alberta's beverage container recycling system. The BCMB leads the development of policy and programs that enable and ensures the recycling of beverage containers in Alberta.</p>
<p>What gives the BCMB the authority?</p>	<p>The BCMB is a management board established under Alberta's Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (EPEA) for the purpose of exercising the powers and carrying out the duties conferred or imposed on it pursuant to the EPEA, the Beverage Container Recycling Regulation (BCRR) and the by-laws in respect of regulated beverage containers.</p>
<p>What is required of retailers and manufacturers?</p>	<p>Compliance by retailers and manufacturers is crucial to the integrity of the beverage container recycling system in Alberta and is a regulatory obligation under the BCRR. Any manufacturer, distributor or retailer that imports or produces a sealed beverage for sale in Alberta, must register the container with the BCMB and work with a manufacturer agent to have that container collected through Alberta's depot system. This also requires regular reporting (sales volumes) and remitting (beverage container deposit and the Container Recycling Fee) to that agent to fund the recycling of that container and to protect Alberta's environment.</p> <p>A retailer is defined in the BCRR as a person who sells beverage containers to consumers. Retailers can also be deemed a manufacturer if they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• carry on the business of filling containers with a beverage, and</li> <li>• import a beverage in a container into Alberta for the purpose of distribution or sale in Alberta.</li> </ul> <p>Retailers must clearly identify the amount of the beverage container deposit (\$0.10 for containers 1L and under and \$0.25 for containers over 1L) separate from the price of the product at the location where the beverage containers are located within your store. This includes all vending machines that dispense beverage containers. For more information, please review the BCMB's <a href="#">Manufacturer and Retailer By-law</a>. Additionally, the <a href="#">Advertising of Deposit Policy</a> outlines (also attached) how retailers must advertise the beverage container deposit within their retail location.</p>
<p>What are the beverage container deposit rates in Alberta?</p>	<p>As set in the BCRR, the amount of the beverage container deposits is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$0.10 for containers 1L and under; and</li> <li>• \$0.25 for containers over 1L.</li> </ul> <p>Please see the attached the Advertising of Deposit Policy which how retailers must advertise the beverage container deposit within their retail location.</p>



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Who can I contact at the BCMB for more information?	For more information regarding registering your company and beverage containers with the BCMB, please contact the BCMB registrations team at <a href="mailto:registrations@bcmb.ab.ca">registrations@bcmb.ab.ca</a> or one of the staff listed <a href="#">here</a> .
Who do I speak to if I'm aware of non-compliant retailers/manufacturers in Alberta?	Please contact the BCMB registrations team at <a href="mailto:registrations@bcmb.ab.ca">registrations@bcmb.ab.ca</a> or one of the staff listed <a href="#">here</a> .
What is the Container Recycling Fee (CRF)?	<p>The container recycling fee (CRF) is the amount beverage manufacturers are required to pay to cover the net cost of recovering and processing a used, non-refillable beverage container. CRFs are administered by the Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation (ABCRC) and are used in their entirety to operate an effective and sustainable collection and recycling system for the benefit of all Albertans.</p> <p>Decisions by manufacturers to pass on the container recycling fee to retailers and by retailers to pass it to consumers are made independently. Some retailers choose to pass the fee on and show it on the receipt, while other retailers include it in the price of the product.</p> <p>The CRF amount applied to each beverage purchased in Alberta depends on the material the container is made from and the size of the container. CRFs are monitored on a regular basis and updated annually (usually coming into effect on February 1st each year). See the <a href="#">CRF Brochure</a> on ABCRC's website for more information.</p>
How do I for register my company and beverage containers with the BCMB?	<p>Please click the hyperlinks to be redirected to the BCMB website for more information regarding <a href="#">registering your company</a> and <a href="#">beverage containers</a> with the BCMB.</p> <p><b>Retailers:</b> Prior to registering your company and beverage containers, please contact your manufacturers/distributors and ask for the beverage containers' Alberta Registration Numbers. If the beverage containers are registered, you do not need to register them yourself. If the manufacturer/distributor does not have the beverage containers registered one of the following must occur prior to their sale:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. the manufacturer/distributor must register their company and/or beverage containers; or</li><li>2. you must register your company and the unregistered beverage containers prior to selling and/or distributing them in Alberta.</li></ol>