



Cheques totalling \$6.7 million will be mailed to “Blue Box” Program municipalities tomorrow

TORONTO (May 31, 2004)—Cheques totalling more than \$6.7 million will be on their way tomorrow (Tuesday, June 1) to 190 Ontario municipalities in the first phase of funding from industry to help pay for residential “Blue Box” recycling programs, Damian Bassett, CEO of Stewardship Ontario announced today.

The cheques are the first payment to municipalities under the provincial *Waste Diversion Act, 2002*. It obligates brand owners and first importers who use packaging or printed papers that are ultimately handled through Ontario municipal waste management programs to contribute to a fund equal to 50% of the net cost of municipal recycling programs.

The funds are distributed to municipalities according to calculations made by Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO) based on the efficiency of their “Blue Box” recycling program, the range of materials they collect and the tonnage each diverts from disposal. The formula is detailed in the “Blue Box Program Plan,” which was produced in 2003 by Stewardship Ontario in cooperation with Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO), and approved by the Minister of the Environment, Leona Dombrowsky, in December, 2003.

The plan calls for the obligated companies, called “stewards” under the plan, to contribute their 50% share of net costs beginning February 1, 2004.

This first payment to municipalities covers the period February 1 to April 30, 2004. A second set of cheques will be distributed in September and then quarterly thereafter.

Provisions have also been made to fund activities to increase material recycling rates and to reduce program costs including strengthening markets for recovered materials, public education and awareness and innovations to promote efficiency and effectiveness.

“The funding being provided by brand owner and first importer companies that comprise Stewardship Ontario will ensure that municipalities have the security of knowing their recycling programs are financially viable in the long term. At the same time, Stewardship Ontario, on behalf of its members, will work cooperatively with municipalities to help identify and drive down costs. The ultimate goal is to develop one of the most cost efficient waste diversion systems in the world,” Bassett said.

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He reported that more than 1,500 companies doing business in Ontario have registered as stewards with Stewardship Ontario and that work is continuing to reach out to the estimated 2,000 to 3,000 additional companies that are required to register to meet the requirements of the Act.

Glenda Gies, Executive Director of WDO, said: “This step underlines the successful launch of the first waste diversion program under the *Waste Diversion Act* and represents a breakthrough in our approach to waste management in Ontario. Companies that produce and distribute products in Ontario which subsequently become waste will be required to accept greater responsibility for management of these materials at the end of their useful life. The WDO already has programs under development for used oil material (used oil, filters and bottles) and for used tires and the Minister of the Environment is expected to designate additional waste streams in the months and years ahead.”

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List of municipalities and amounts of cheques attached.
Backgrounder attached.

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List of Municipalities Receiving Cheques from Stewardship Ontario

ADDINGTON HIGHLANDS	\$2,913	MADAWSKA VALLEY	\$5,824
ADMASTON/BROMLEY	\$1,513	MALAHIDE	\$6,091
ALBERTON	\$525	MARATHON	\$1,685
ALFRED & PLANTAGENET	\$6,136	MATTAWA	\$1,053
ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS	\$3,863	MCKELLAR	\$1,061
ALMAGUIN RECYCLING INITIATIVE	\$9,676	MCNAB-BRAESIDE	\$5,866
AMARANTH	\$2,430	MEAFORD	\$6,901
ARMOUR	\$3,531	MELANCTHON	\$1,453
ARNPRIOR	\$4,775	MERRICKVILLE-WOLFORD	\$1,419
ASHFIELD-COLBORNE-WAWANOSH	\$1,507	MINDEN HILLS	\$7,825
ATIKOKAN	\$2,797	MISSISSIPPI MILLS	\$10,516
AUGUSTA	\$7,034	MONO	\$7,951
AYLMER	\$4,212	MONTAGUE	\$3,828
BALDWIN	\$320	MORRIS-TURNBURY	\$1,898
BARRIE	\$85,497	MULMUR	\$2,956
BAYHAM	\$3,871	MUSKOKA	\$61,938
BECKWITH	\$5,326	NAIRN & HYMAN	\$290
BLIND RIVER	\$2,304	NEEBING	\$2,049
BLUEWATER RECYCLING ASSOCIATION	\$143,254	NEWBURY	\$789
BONNECHERE VALLEY	\$5,669	NEWMARKET	\$44,761
BRANT	\$16,895	NIAGARA	\$259,457
BRANTFORD	\$37,856	NORFOLK	\$46,981
BROCKVILLE	\$13,540	NORTH BAY	\$27,479
BRUCE AREA SOLID WASTE RECYCLING ASSOCIATION	\$41,619	NORTH DUNDAS	\$8,957
BRUDENEL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN	\$1,150	NORTH FRONTENAC	\$1,060
BURPEE & MILLS	\$111	NORTH GLENGARRY	\$9,982
CALLANDER	\$1,435	NORTH GRENVILLE	\$10,288
CARLETON PLACE	\$5,500	NORTH HURON	\$4,253
CARLING	\$2,493	NORTH STORMONT	\$5,114
CASEY	\$413	NORTHEASTERN MANITOULIN & ISLANDS	\$3,453
CASSELMAN	\$2,280	NORTHERN BRUCE PENINSULA	\$2,375
CENTRAL ELGIN	\$10,346	NORTHUMBERLAND	\$85,027
CENTRAL FRONTENAC	\$3,106	O'CONNOR	\$161
CENTRAL HURON	\$1,528	OLIVER PAIPOONGE	\$967
CENTRAL MANITOULIN	\$4,332	ORANGEVILLE	\$13,760
CHAPPLE	\$405	ORILLIA	\$20,774

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CHATHAM-KENT	\$55,844	OTTAWA VALLEY WASTE RECOVERY	\$36,507
CHATSWORTH	\$4,328	OTTAWA	\$708,519
CHIPPEWAS OF SARNIA	\$207	OWEN SOUND	\$10,670
CLARENCE-ROCKLAND	\$17,212	OXFORD	\$70,830
COCHRANE TEMISKAMING WASTE BOARD	\$11,383	PARRY SOUND	\$3,803
CORNWALL	\$25,479	PEEL	\$657,303
DRUMMOND-NORTH ELMSLEY	\$6,724	PERRY	\$3,756
DRYDEN	\$7,516	PERTH	\$4,766
DURHAM	\$325,519	PETERBOROUGH, CITY OF	\$63,052
DUTTON-DUNWICH	\$2,372	PETERBOROUGH, COUNTY OF	\$51,097
DYSART ET AL	\$8,786	PETROLIA	\$1,196
EAST FERRIS	\$630	PLYMPTON-WYOMING	\$8,008
EAST GARAFRAXA	\$2,161	POINT EDWARD	\$1,103
EAST LUTHER GRAND VALLEY	\$4,015	PRESCOTT	\$1,981
EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL	\$4,364	PRINCE	\$497
ELIZABETHTOWN-KITLEY	\$3,905	QUINTE WASTE SOLUTIONS	\$147,867
ELLIOT LAKE	\$5,126	RENFREW	\$6,041
EMO	\$1,326	RIDEAU LAKES	\$8,899
ENNISKILLEN	\$577	RUSSELL	\$9,464
ESPANOLA	\$3,154	SABLES-SPANISH RIVERS	\$196
ESSEX-WINDSOR SWA	\$168,626	SARNIA	\$24,392
FORT FRANCES	\$6,408	SAULT STE. MARIE	\$29,629
FRONT OF YONGE	\$1,990	SEGUIN	\$6,989
FRONTENAC ISLANDS	\$2,165	SHELBURNE	\$2,407
GANANOQUE	\$2,683	SHUNIAH	\$109
GEORGIAN BLUFFS	\$6,905	SIMCOE	\$164,764
GILLIES	\$163	SIOUX LOOKOUT	\$4,393
GORE BAY	\$139	SIOUX NARROWS	\$721
GREATER MADAWASKA	\$1,463	SMITHS FALLS	\$5,698
GREATER NAPANEE	\$9,525	SOUTH DUNDAS	\$4,137
GREATER SUDBURY	\$116,266	SOUTH FRONTENAC	\$10,340
GREY HIGHLANDS	\$4,723	SOUTH GLENGARRY	\$5,987
GUELPH	\$34,329	SOUTH STORMONT	\$5,276
HALDIMAND	\$20,120	SOUTHGATE	\$2,863
HALTON	\$278,791	SOUTHWOLD	\$1,848
HAMILTON	\$201,805	ST. CLAIR	\$11,468

List of Municipalities Receiving Cheques from Stewardship Ontario

HANOVER	\$4,192	ST. THOMAS	\$15,157
HASTINGS HIGHLANDS	\$1,127	STONE MILLS	\$7,168
HAWKESBURY JOINT RECYCLING	\$10,877	STRATFORD	\$20,237
HIGHLANDS EAST	\$4,891	TARBUTT & TARBUTT ADDITIONAL	\$1,434
HORTON	\$1,468	TAY VALLEY	\$2,343
HOWICK	\$1,701	THAMES CENTRE	\$9,805
HUDSON	\$295	THE ARCHIPELAGO	\$3,023
HURON EAST	\$1,561	THE BLUE MOUNTAINS	\$5,136
HURON SHORES	\$480	THE NATION	\$9,082
HURON-KINLOSS	\$2,733	THUNDER BAY	\$56,503
KAWARTHA LAKES	\$75,081	TIMMINS	\$22,150
KENORA	\$15,443	TORONTO	\$830,350
KERNS	\$110	TRI-NEIGHBOURS	\$2,086
KILLALOE, HAGARTY, AND RICHARDS	\$1,743	WATERLOO	\$248,542
KINGSTON	\$115,422	WELLINGTON	\$38,972
KIRKLAND LAKE	\$4,122	WEST ELGIN	\$2,954
LA VALLEE	\$705	WEST GREY	\$10,480
LANARK HIGHLANDS	\$4,628	WEST NIPISSING	\$7,891
LAURENTIAN HILLS	\$2,165	WEST PERTH	\$4,023
LEEDS AND THE THOUSAND ISLANDS	\$8,783	WESTPORT	\$2,105
LONDON	\$203,776	WHITESTONE	\$1,032
LOYALIST	\$1,539	WHITEWATER REGION	\$4,401
MACHIN	\$545	YORK	\$430,783

Backgrounder to:

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Waste Diversion Ontario (www.wdo.ca)

Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO) is a permanent, non-share non-government corporation created under the *Waste Diversion Act* on June 27, 2002. WDO was established to develop, implement and operate waste diversion programs for a wide range of materials that include Blue Box Waste, Used Tires, Used Oil Material, Household Special Waste, Electronic Waste, Organic Materials, Pharmaceuticals and Fluorescent Tubes. Waste diversion programs will be developed after materials are designated by the Minister of the Environment.

WDO has been authorized by the Act to work co-operatively with those industries that produce and distribute these products to establish programs to divert waste materials.

Stewardship Ontario (www.stewardshipontario.ca)

The WDO designated Stewardship Ontario as the industry funding organization for “Blue Box” wastes (glass, metal, paper, plastic and textiles collected in municipal recycling programs). All packaging and printed paper that falls within these categories are to be included in the fees calculation. Companies designated as stewards for “Blue Box” wastes can discharge their legal obligations under the act through membership in Stewardship Ontario. Currently, more than 1,560 companies (see www.stewardshipontario.ca/xls/Prereg_list.xls) have registered with Stewardship Ontario as stewards and have paid their fees. Fees vary based on the types, amounts and recyclability of packaging materials and printed papers used, i.e. packaging that is not recyclable or that has weaker markets has been designated a higher fee than packaging that has stronger markets.

Non-obligated Companies

Many companies that introduce packaging and printed papers into the Ontario marketplace fall under the “di minimus” rule. If they have sales under \$2 million annually and produce less than 15 tonnes of “Blue Box” wastes annually, they are exempt from registering and paying fees.

Blue Box Program Plan

A copy of the Blue Box Program Plan can be found at:

www.stewardshipontario.ca/pdf/PlanFeb28/BBPP_Feb28_Plan_Appendices.pdf

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