



**b<sup>g</sup>mb**

# STAKEHOLDER REPORT

June 2024

This report highlights the work of the BCMB for the period of April 24, 2024, to June 19, 2024

#### A. BCMB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The BCMB would like to thank all those who attended the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the BCMB on June 18, 2024. The Board and staff value the opportunity to connect with others who play a role in Alberta's beverage container recycling industry and thank them for their contributions over the year.

The Board said goodbye to two members and directors who completed their terms with the BCMB: Andrew Stephens, Board Chair, and Nick Kissel, Treasurer. Both individuals have played a key role over the last nine years and the BCMB can't thank them enough for the hard work, countless hours contributed, and knowledge provided. They will both be greatly missed.

To fill the vacancies created, the Board welcomed Loren Falkenberg into her new role as Board Chair. Loren served on the BCMB as Board Advisor for the past year to prepare for the transition to BCMB Board Chair. Loren officially assumed this role at the June 19, 2024, Board meeting and the Board looks forward to her leadership. Koren Radford has also joined the BCMB to succeed Nick Kissel as the nominee from Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis (AGLC). Koren attended her first meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup> and the Board is eager to work with her.

#### B. DIRECTOR REAPPOINTMENTS

At the June 19, 2024, meeting, the Board reappointed the following individuals for additional three-year terms and looks forward to continuing to work with each director:

- Karim Dossa, Gagan Johal and Thomas Dore, Depot sector, nominated by the Alberta Bottle Depot Association (ABDA);
- Rachel Morier, Manufacturer sector, nominated by the Alberta Beer Container Corporation (ABCC); and
- Trina Jones, Public sector, nominated by Alberta Municipalities (AB Munis).

#### C. HANDLING COMMISSION BY-LAW UPDATE

The Board approved an update to the Handling Commission By-law to identify the use of the Alberta Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the purpose of forecasting depot labour, building, equipment and vehicle and overhead costs in a Handling Commission Review and all annual adjustments. This change in indices is a result of the volatility of handling commissions experienced over the last several years. The BCMB worked with stakeholders and the data collection agent to identify the cause of this volatility and form a solution. The By-law can be found on the [BCMB website](#).

#### D. DEPOT RELOCATION: MORINVILLE DEPOT

The Board approved a request received from the Morinville Depot to relocate to a new location within the community. The new location satisfies BCMB requirements and therefore the request was granted.

## E. ALCOHOL CONTAINER SELF-REGISTRATION: CONTAINER REVIEWS

With the increased quantity of container registrations resulting from the transition of manufacturers registering new alcohol containers directly with the BCMB, the registrations team has seen an increase in containers requiring a beverage container review. A beverage container review is a process where the container in question is referred to the ABCRC for recyclability review with their material end processors. These reviews have included containers in suspected new container material streams (for example, a cardboard bottle with inner bladder), multi material container composition (for example, a plastic bottle body with unremovable aluminum top), and containers with design obscurities (wax coatings, bottle covered in seashells, glass coated in metal).

As the BCMB had no visual oversight to the alcohol container registration approvals previously, it was anticipated that the BCMB would see some unique containers. The registrations team will remain consistent by providing liquor agents the same education, information and options provided to all other beverage manufacturers and reminding them that they are responsible and accountable for these containers and materials over their full life cycle.

## F. STAKEHOLDER INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (SIMS) UPDATES

The Stakeholder Portal went live on April 10, 2024, and users were onboarded shortly after. Both ABCRC and ABDA have been accessing the portal and have only reported minor issues. A small bug was recently reported due to some system changes to the registration process. The team is working with the developer to ensure those bugs are solved as quickly as possible.

## G. THE ALBERTA DEPOT APP

The App is considered stable and operational.

## H. INDUSTRY OPERATIONS

- i. **Off-Site Collections:** The subject of off-site collections has been at the forefront of many conversations with depot operators. The current off-site collection policy (not to be confused with the Handling Commission policy with a similar name) has been reviewed and it was no longer reflective of the off-site collection practices of many depots, creating confusion and frustration due to some ambiguous language. The BCMB Compliance team are working to create a new updated policy that will better reflect what is happening on the ground and BCMB's place within those practices. This work will likely link with the Depot Siting Committee.
- ii. **Emergency Closure Due to Fire Plan:** During 2023, the industry witnessed and experienced severe disruption due to the scale of wildfires across the province. This year is predicted by some to be equally destructive due to the mild winter and low snow falls. The Compliance team has created an emergency response plan that includes communication with industry stakeholders, steps for

affected depots to take and what to tell the public in the event the BCMB receives closure related calls.

#### I. BCMB'S EVALUATION OF THE COLLECTION SERVICE AGENT (CSA)

The BCMB completed its biannual evaluation of the CSA and that report was reviewed and discussed in depth by the BCMB Board at the June Board meeting.

#### J. REFILLABLE WATER CONTAINERS

The BCMB registrations team continues to work with the Canadian Bottled Water Association (CBWA) members to complete the registration process and future reporting methods. An Operating Agreement is being developed to manage the reporting and end of life management requirements for these refillable containers while operating outside of the common collection system. The BCMB will work with the ABDA and the CBWA to ensure that education increases around the return to retail program for these containers.

#### K. INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE (ILC)

The ILC met in late May. Noteworthy conversations were around the BCMB's Service Agreement Committee and marketing and education roles within each stakeholder group. The ILC agreed to re-introduce a standing item into the ILC annual schedule to provide updates on marketing and education initiatives and to provide support or engagement with each other's initiatives where possible.

#### L. BCMB COMMUNICATIONS

The BCMB Board has developed a statement summarizing its position on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and the desire to support the government and stakeholders involved in this endeavor. The statement can be found on the [BCMB website](#).

#### M. SURVEYS

The biennial Survey of Albertans was successfully completed in March of 2024 by Ipsos Reid, and the relevant data has been included in the BCMB's 2023 Annual Report. The survey results can be found on the [BCMB website](#).

#### N. COLLECTION RATE DATA

The following pages contain collection rate data to January 31, 2024. The data shows a rolling 12-month collection rate of 84.2%, which is a 0.82% increase as compared to January 31, 2023. As a rolling 12-month total, container sales as of January 2024 have increased by 0.81% and collection volumes increased by 1.8% (as compared to January 2023).

# January 2024: ROLLING COLLECTION RATE SUMMARY



<b>Container Sales</b>	<b>Jan-23</b>	<b>Jan-24</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Aluminum Combined	1,238,734,396	1,239,594,656	860,260	0.07%
Plastic Combined	887,217,317	918,114,826	30,897,509	3.48%
Glass Combined	147,822,649	143,896,679	(3,925,970)	-2.66%
Gabletop	86,825,833	87,750,422	924,589	1.06%
Tetra-Brik	132,213,629	135,122,446	2,908,817	2.20%
Bag-in-a-Box	2,022,899	1,892,849	(130,050)	-6.43%
Drink Pouch	21,374,739	14,121,365	(7,253,374)	-33.93%
Bi Metal	3,536,472	2,885,251	(651,221)	-18.41%
<b>Subtotal- Non-Refillable</b>	<b>2,519,747,934</b>	<b>2,543,378,494</b>	<b>23,630,560</b>	<b>0.94%</b>
<b>Refillable Beer</b>	<b>39,233,244</b>	<b>36,213,756</b>	<b>(3,019,488)</b>	<b>-7.70%</b>
<b>Total Containers Sold</b>	<b>2,558,981,178</b>	<b>2,579,592,250</b>	<b>20,611,072</b>	<b>0.81%</b>
<b>Redeemed Volumes</b>				
	<b>Jan-23</b>	<b>Jan-24</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Aluminum Combined	1,083,738,148	1,094,297,852	10,559,704	0.97%
Plastic Combined	710,811,020	740,498,308	29,687,288	4.18%
Glass Combined	129,060,518	128,255,886	(804,632)	-0.62%
Gabletop	65,446,495	66,369,909	923,414	1.41%
Tetra-Brik	94,371,445	96,129,655	1,758,210	1.86%
Bag-in-a-Box	937,847	962,898	25,051	2.67%
Drink Pouch	9,406,556	8,186,353	(1,220,203)	-12.97%
Bi Metal	2,828,167	2,733,088	(95,079)	-3.36%
<b>Subtotal- Non-Refillable</b>	<b>2,096,600,196</b>	<b>2,137,433,949</b>	<b>40,833,753</b>	<b>1.95%</b>
<b>Refillable Beer</b>	<b>37,727,244</b>	<b>35,328,240</b>	<b>(2,399,004)</b>	<b>-6.36%</b>
<b>Total Containers Redeemed</b>	<b>2,134,327,440</b>	<b>2,172,762,189</b>	<b>38,434,749</b>	<b>1.80%</b>
<b>Collection Rates</b>				
	<b>Jan-23</b>	<b>Jan-24</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Aluminum Combined	87.5%	88.3%	0.79%	0.90%
Plastic Combined	80.1%	80.7%	0.54%	0.67%
Glass Combined	87.3%	89.1%	1.82%	2.09%
Gabletop	75.4%	75.6%	0.26%	0.34%
Tetra-Brik	71.4%	71.1%	-0.24%	-0.33%
Bag-in-a-Box	46.4%	50.9%	4.51%	9.73%
Drink Pouch	44.0%	58.0%	13.96%	31.73%
Bi Metal	80.0%	94.7%	14.75%	18.45%
<b>Subtotal- Non-Refillable</b>	<b>83.2%</b>	<b>84.0%</b>	<b>0.83%</b>	<b>1.00%</b>
<b>Refillable Beer</b>	<b>96.2%</b>	<b>97.6%</b>	<b>1.39%</b>	<b>1.45%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>83.4%</b>	<b>84.2%</b>	<b>0.82%</b>	<b>0.99%</b>

# January 2024: MONTHLY COLLECTION RATE SUMMARY



<b>Container Sales</b>	<b>Jan-23</b>	<b>Jan-24</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Aluminum Combined	83,553,004	80,282,717	(3,270,287)	-3.91%
Plastic Combined	67,935,122	65,885,062	(2,050,060)	-3.02%
Glass Combined	9,436,827	9,116,177	(320,650)	-3.40%
GableTop	6,935,124	11,299,166	4,364,042	62.93%
Tetra-Brik	11,677,313	7,221,324	(4,455,989)	-38.16%
Bag-in-a-Box	138,694	134,788	(3,906)	-2.82%
Drink Pouch	1,750,182	1,105,293	(644,889)	-36.85%
Bi Metal	246,875	308,956	62,081	25.15%
<b>Subtotal- Non-Refillable</b>	<b>181,673,141</b>	<b>175,353,483</b>	<b>(6,319,658)</b>	<b>-3.48%</b>
<b>Refillable Beer</b>	<b>2,969,629</b>	<b>2,812,260</b>	<b>(157,369)</b>	<b>-5.30%</b>
<b>Total Containers Sold</b>	<b>184,642,770</b>	<b>178,165,743</b>	<b>(6,477,027)</b>	<b>-3.64%</b>

<b>Redeemed Volumes</b>	<b>Jan-23</b>	<b>Jan-24</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Aluminum Combined	88,563,303	76,541,067	(12,022,236)	-14.39%
Plastic Combined	55,943,998	49,363,238	(6,580,760)	-9.69%
Glass Combined	11,293,663	9,789,733	(1,503,930)	-15.94%
Gable Top	5,962,379	5,110,268	(852,111)	-12.29%
Tetra-Brik	7,781,333	6,811,973	(969,360)	-8.30%
Bag-in-a-Box	86,860	71,663	(15,197)	-10.96%
Drink Pouch	742,867	446,934	(295,933)	-16.91%
Bi Metal	251,838	220,214	(31,624)	-12.81%
<b>Subtotal- Non-Refillable</b>	<b>170,626,241</b>	<b>148,355,090</b>	<b>(22,271,151)</b>	<b>-13.05%</b>
<b>Refillable Beer</b>	<b>3,056,784</b>	<b>2,487,804</b>	<b>(568,980)</b>	<b>-18.61%</b>
<b>Total Containers Redeemed</b>	<b>173,683,025</b>	<b>150,842,894</b>	<b>(22,840,131)</b>	<b>-13.15%</b>

<b>Collection Rates</b>	<b>Jan-23</b>	<b>Jan-24</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Aluminum Combined	106.0%	95.3%	-10.66%	-10.05%
Plastic Combined	82.3%	74.9%	-7.43%	-9.02%
Glass Combined	119.7%	107.4%	-12.29%	-10.27%
Gable Top	86.0%	45.2%	-40.75%	-47.39%
Tetra-Brik	66.6%	94.3%	27.70%	41.56%
Bag-in-a-Bag	62.6%	53.2%	-9.46%	-15.11%
Drink Pouch	42.4%	40.4%	-2.01%	-4.73%
Bi Metal	102.0%	71.3%	-30.73%	-30.13%
<b>Subtotal- Non-Refillable</b>	<b>93.9%</b>	<b>84.6%</b>	<b>-9.32%</b>	<b>-9.92%</b>
<b>Refillable Beer</b>	<b>102.9%</b>	<b>88.5%</b>	<b>-14.47%</b>	<b>-14.06%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>94.1%</b>	<b>84.7%</b>	<b>-9.40%</b>	<b>-9.99%</b>

This two page data summary is prepared by the BCMB for the purpose of monitoring the beverage container recycling system and reporting to the Board of the BCMB and the Government of Alberta. It is based on information provided to the BCMB by third parties which has not been independently verified. This data summary is being provided to third parties involved in the beverage container recycling system at the request of their membership organizations and is provided solely for informational purposes. It is not intended for any other use. Any use of this data summary by any third party, or any reliance or decisions made by a third party based upon this data summary are solely the responsibility of such third parties and the BCMB accepts no responsibility for any resulting loss or damage.