



Questions		Answers
General & Process Questions		
1.	Will the slides from the webinar be made available for participants?	Yes, the slides from the webinar are available here .
2.	What was the rationale provided with having single-use batteries on a different timeline than other MSHW materials?	The wind up timelines were set by the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks. The wind up of the battery program was set to align with the Ontario Electronic Stewardship (OES) wind up on June 30, 2020.
3.	Is a company legally required to transition over to an Industry Stewardship Plan (ISP) after wind up with Stewardship Ontario?	Stewardship Ontario cannot speak to the potential role of Industry Stewardship Plans (ISP) under the <i>Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016</i> (RRCEA) framework or what stewards will need to do related to transition to the new RRCEA framework. We suggest that stakeholders contact Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) for further information on potential registration requirements under the RRCEA.
4.	Please clarify. The Ministry will determine which of the two reimbursement options will be selected and is not a decision for each individual steward?	The Wind Up Plan submitted by Stewardship Ontario will include recommendations related to potential surplus funds which are consistent with Ministerial Direction and statutory and regulatory requirements. At this point, Stewardship Ontario is not considering the option of providing individual stewards with different alternatives related to the potential disbursement of surplus funds because it is important that the distribution treat all stewards in a consistent and fair manner. Your views on how surplus funds should be addressed in the wind up plan are welcome.
5.	After wind up of Stewardship Ontario's MHSW program, will there be an authority that will continue to collect "EHC" type fees?	Stakeholders should contact RPRA for further information regarding any potential requirements under the RRCEA. That is not a matter on which Stewardship Ontario can advise as part of these consultations.



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6.	Once the MHSW Wind Up Plan is completed in 2020, which new organization will be responsible for managing stewardship for batteries?	Stewardship Ontario cannot speak to new roles under the RRCEA framework or what stewards will need to do related to the transition to the new RRCEA framework. This a matter which is beyond the scope of these consultations.
7.	How will Stewardship Ontario ensure service provider compliance and program integrity during wind-up?	Stewardship Ontario will continue to monitor all submissions and work directly with service providers to ensure the integrity of the program throughout the wind up period.
8.	How will meetings with Stewardship Ontario be conducted and how will conflict of interest be addressed in that respect? Are there any constraints on Stewardship Ontario Staff/Board other than windup team for meetings?	One on one consultations will be held between stakeholders and the MHSW Program Wind Up team which consists of the Project Manager, independent consultants engaged as part of the MHSW Program Wind Up team and a representative from RPRA. The MHSW Wind Up project team reports directly to the MHSW Executive Committee which has been established to oversee the development and implementation of the MHSW Wind Up Plan.
9.	The battery industry asked Stewardship Ontario some time ago about removing incentives paid to transporters and processors. Can we eliminate that as of Jan. 1, 2020 as part of this transition? We see no reason to keep paying incentives. This policy should be changed as we wind-down to align itself with other provinces and European programs.	As per the direction in the Minister’s wind up letter, Stewardship must maintain the performance of the current program. As such, we are not proposing any changes to current service provider incentive rates during the wind up period to avoid any risk of degrading the collection and processing performance.
10.	Can historical data on collection be shared with stewards to assist in planning for post wind up?	Stewardship Ontario will continue to provide the same data to stewards in the same format and within the same timeframes as it always has during this wind up period. Stewards can access current MHSW performance reports via the WeRecycle portal by selecting the “Special Reports” tab. Past Performance to Budget reports are also available upon request.



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11.	What is the financial arrangement between RPRA and Stewardship Ontario? How much does Stewardship Ontario transfer to RPRA for its current role of oversight?	RPRA invoices Stewardship Ontario in accordance with the <i>Waste Diversion Transition Act</i> (WDTA). This amount of \$0.2M for 2018 was included on slide 18 of the webinar presentation. Prior years' amounts are disclosed in Stewardship Ontario's Annual Reports .
12.	Pressurized containers will be the only category entirely under Stewardship Ontario management in Q3 and Q4 of 2020. Does this mean that stewards of pressurized containers will carry almost all the financial burden of consultants and Stewardship Ontario independent management? Is there any assessment of the impact for these stewards if surplus funds option 2 is not followed?	The Wind Up Plan will include more detail on MHSW financing throughout the wind up period. As noted during the webinar, Stewardship Ontario is proposing that Wind Up Costs related to the program be financed from general MHSW reserves rather than incorporated into steward invoicing during the wind period. With respect to the allocation of MHSW overhead costs during the wind up period, Stewardship Ontario has not fully developed a financial proposal but is reviewing the issue, including the impact of differing termination dates for different program materials but will do so in a manner that ensures that stewards are not unfairly burdened with program cost shifts as a result of the program's termination.
13.	Will new ISPs have access to the historical information transferred from Stewardship Ontario to the Authority?	Stewardship Ontario will transfer all program data to RPRA as part of the wind up process. Please contact RPRA to ascertain what information they will make available to new market entrants. Stewardship Ontario will only retain such MHSW data as necessary to comply with its legal and tax obligations; detailed steward data will not be transferred to any of the ISPs. Note that Stewardship Ontario does share aggregate steward supply data with existing ISPs for the purposes of determining the appropriate share of waste material credits to purchase from ISPs in relation to related Stewardship Ontario stewards. It proposes to continue with this arrangement throughout the wind up period.



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14.	If a material group is currently designated but for which there is no ISP, is there any opportunity at this stage to move into one?	<p>Under the <i>Waste Diversion Transition Act</i>, RPRA is not considering the creation of new ISPs for materials that are currently not managed under ISPs (i.e. pressurized containers or single-use dry cell batteries) so stewards in those waste categories do not have the option of moving into an ISP. However, if you are a steward of any of the following materials, you could consider joining these approved ISPs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Product Care Association (PCA) for paints & coatings, pesticides, solvents and fertilizers; • Automotive Materials Stewardship (AMS) for oil filters, oil containers, antifreeze and antifreeze containers.
Obligated Materials		
15.	Does this wind up program apply to propane containers?	Yes. Propane Containers are a material under the Pressurized Container materials category and are on the list of designated materials for Stewardship Ontario’s MHSW Program and so are subject to the Wind Up Plan.
16.	Can you please clarify what paint credits are?	Because Product Care Association (PCA) fully manages the supply chain for waste paint materials, Stewardship Ontario must purchase tonnes collected and managed by PCA to satisfy the obligation of our remaining paints and coatings stewards. These tonnes are characterized in our agreements as ‘credits’.
17.	Currently Solvents do not fall under Automotive Materials Stewardship. Will they in the future?	Solvents are currently part of the PCA ISP for Pesticides, Solvents and Fertilizers (PSF). With respect to future arrangements under the RRCEA, we recommend that if you are a steward of this material you contact PCA or AMS for more information.
18.	Does the surplus apply to the cancelled MHSW Phase III program stewards?	Costs related to orphaned or phase II - III MHSW materials were financed by the Province of Ontario. The HST refund related to Input Tax Credits (ITC) for these materials has been paid back to the Province. There are no remaining surplus funds for these materials at Stewardship Ontario.



Questions		Answers
Financials/Reserve/Surplus		
19.	As I understand it there is \$53K in MHSW reserves, a \$4.2M Stewardship Ontario surplus and \$29.4M in tax credits. How much of that total belongs to battery stewards and how will it be paid out? It appears that there is approximately \$14.5M in total due back to battery stewards? Can you please confirm this?	The amount of the MHSW reserve broken down by material category is provided on slide 19 of the webinar presentation . As outlined on this slide, the total MHSW reserves allocated to single use battery category as of December 2018 is estimated at \$7,296,000. Any potential disbursement of surplus funds proposed in the Wind Up Plan will need to be consistent with WDTA statutory and regulatory requirements and related Ministerial Direction.
20.	How are contributions to general reserves decided? Can the breakdown of the general reserve by MHSW product category contribution be provided?	In the event that the MHSW program has unallocated reserves left after finalizing all program financial obligations, Stewardship Ontario will implement a methodology for allocation of these funds to various material categories which is consistent with the principals of the WDTA and related regulations.
21.	Can you explain what happens to the surplus for programs under an ISP?	<p>Any potential disbursement of surplus funds proposed in the Wind Up Plan will need to be consistent with WDTA statutory and regulatory requirements and related Ministerial Direction. If the Wind Up Plan includes a recommendation to disburse surplus funds to stewards, as per current Ministerial direction, it will be in proportion to stewards' contributions over the course of the program which would include both former and current Stewardship Ontario stewards.</p> <p>At this point we are seeking feedback on the general financial options and approach to program surpluses. If stakeholders have specific views on the details of the potential allocation methodologies and surplus funds we welcome your input. Please note that Stewardship Ontario's recommendations needs to be consistent with statutory and regulatory requirements including ministerial direction.</p>



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22.	Process-wise, it is much simpler for my corporation not to make payments for a couple of quarters than it is for it to receive a one-time credit.	Thank you for your input. At this point we are seeking feedback on the general financial options and approach to program surpluses; the Wind Up Plan will include recommendations consistent with Ministerial direction and statutory requirements.
23.	Will the previous members of Stewardship Ontario that transferred to AMS still be eligible for the reserved surplus?	Any potential disbursement of surplus funds proposed in the Wind Up Plan will need to be consistent with WDTA statutory and regulatory requirements and related Ministerial Direction. If the Wind Up Plan includes a recommendation to disburse surplus funds to stewards, as per current Ministerial direction, it will be in proportion to stewards' contributions including those stewards that were previous members of the Stewardship Ontario MHSW program but have since transitioned to an ISP.
24.	How will the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) decision impact stewards that are now members of an ISP?	<p>The Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA) refund related to Input Tax Credits (ITC) since the program's inception in 2008. Therefore, the HST refund for historic years relates to materials that were previously managed by Stewardship Ontario but are now managed by ISPs. This refund is now included in the reserves and itemized by material category as of the end of 2018 on slide 19 of the webinar presentation.</p> <p>Any potential disbursement of surplus funds proposed in the Wind Up Plan will need to be consistent with WDTA statutory and regulatory requirements and related Ministerial Direction. If the Wind Up Plan includes a recommendation to disburse surplus funds to stewards, as per current Ministerial direction, it will be in proportion to those stewards' contributions and as per Ministerial direction would include both current and former MHSW stewards.</p>
25.	Are the financials shown for oil filters including the costs/surplus, only for existing Stewardship Ontario stewards or does it include all stewards including those that are now in the ISP program?	The reserves are the result of the operation of the program since its inception. That includes both existing Stewardship Ontario stewards and those stewards that are now members of an ISP.



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26.	Would a steward who is now part of an ISP be able to seek clarification from Stewardship Ontario on how much their representative surplus might represent?	Any potential disbursement of surplus funds proposed in the Wind Up Plan will need to be consistent with WDTA statutory and regulatory requirements and related Ministerial Direction. If the Wind Up Plan includes a recommendation to disburse surplus funds to stewards, as per current Ministerial direction, it will be in proportion to those stewards' contributions and as per Ministerial direction would include both current and former MHSW stewards.
27.	As a first importer, it would be easier to manage the surplus owing by not being charged for a period of time. This would remove the administration required to properly reimburse our customers whom we have collected from. But how would we reconcile at the end so that we can be certain that we have received or were credited for the surplus owed to us?	Thank you for that input. If Stewardship Ontario runs the program at no cost to stewards for a period of time and potential surplus funds are not fully expended, Stewardship Ontario would propose a methodology for potential disbursement of those remaining surplus funds to stewards in proportion to their contributions (as per current Ministerial direction). At this point we are seeking feedback on the general financial options and approach to program surpluses. Recommendations will be consistent with Ministerial direction. Please provide your feedback by Thursday May 1, 2019. The Wind Up Plan will include a consultation report outlining feedback and how it was considered in the Plan's development.
28.	Since ISP programs have already transitioned in terms of operations/supply chain, there is much less effort required to wind up those products from the Stewardship Ontario point of view. Therefore, would it be equitable to the ISP product stewards to apply all MHSW windup costs to the general reserve fund?	Stewardship Ontario is proposing that general wind up costs be financed by drawing down from general MHSW reserves. These reserves were created partially to address potential contingencies including the potential termination of the program which Stewardship Ontario has now been instructed to plan for and implement. Most of the costs associated with developing and implementing the MHSW wind up plan are not material specific. In the event that the MHSW program has unallocated reserves left after finalizing all program financial obligations, Stewardship Ontario will implement a methodology for allocation of these funds to various material categories which is consistent with the principals of the WDTA and related regulations.



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29.	Procedurally, for my company, it is the opposite of the prior comment. It is difficult for us to change systems to not report and remit. We would rather receive a credit. Good luck coming up with a solution that works for all.	If the Plan includes a recommendation to run the program for a period of time at no costs to stewards, those stewards would still need to file a report and remit their data but it will result in a zero dollar invoice for the reporting period. Please provide your feedback to Stewardship Ontario on the general financial options and approach to program surpluses by May 1.
30.	When do you anticipate sharing the methodology on how the reserve funds will be allocated?	Any potential disbursement of surplus funds proposed in the Wind Up Plan will need to be consistent with WDTA statutory and regulatory requirements and related Ministerial Direction. If the Wind Up Plan includes a recommendation to disburse surplus funds to stewards, as per current Ministerial direction, it will be in proportion to those stewards' contributions and the plan will include more detail on the related methodology. At this point we are seeking stakeholder input on the general approach to program surpluses which proposes returning the surplus to the steward. Please provide your feedback to Stewardship Ontario by May 1, 2019.