

News Release

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BC and Quebec Top Canadian Governments in Actions to Make Producers 100% Responsible for Post-consumer Products and Packaging Waste

EPR Canada releases results of second Report Card on implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility policies and programs

TORONTO (September 17, 2013) – EPR Canada, a not-for-profit organization that monitors the rate at which Canada’s federal, provincial and territorial governments are adopting legislative measures to make producers responsible for managing their post-consumer products and packaging at end of life, announced today that the Provinces of Quebec and British Columbia stand at the head of the class for 2012.

EPR Canada released the score that each government earned in its second annual Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Report Card. It reflects the progress each jurisdiction made in establishing EPR policies and programs in 2012.

“This year we have two jurisdictions that achieved the highest standard of excellence, each earning a B+. The Province of British Columbia and the Province of Quebec continue to show progress in their commitment to implement EPR programs and they are setting the bar high for other governments in Canada,” said EPR Canada co-founder, Duncan Bury. Like other EPR Canada members, Bury has been a central figure in developing EPR programs and policy drivers since EPR was introduced to Canada in the 1990s.

The 2012 EPR grades for each jurisdiction are:

	2012 Grade*	2011 Grade
British Columbia	B+	A-
Alberta	D	C
Saskatchewan	D	C-
Manitoba	B	B-
Ontario	C+	C+
Quebec	B+	B-
New Brunswick	C	C-
Nova Scotia	C	B-
Prince Edward Island	C+	C+
Newfoundland and Labrador	C-	C-
Federal Government	F	F
Yukon	Not scored	Not scored
Northwest Territories	Not scored	Not scored
Nunavut	Not scored	Not scored

*EPR Canada re-weighted scores in 2012 to reflect a logical progression in the adoption of EPR policies, programs and practices. The re-weighting may have resulted in the allocation of a lower overall grade than achieved in 2011.

Bury and fellow EPR Canada member, Jo-Anne St. Godard, presented certificates of recognition to Meegan Armstrong representing the B.C. Ministry of Environment and Marie Dussault representing the Quebec Ministry of Sustainable Development, Environment, Wildlife and Parks at the Conference on Canadian Stewardship taking place in Toronto September 17 and 18.

All of the provinces and two of the territories submitted responses to the 2012 EPR survey questionnaire. The federal government and Nunavut did not submit responses to the survey. EPR Canada reviewed information posted on jurisdictional websites to complete basic assessments and to determine the scores that were allocated. The only jurisdiction to receive a failing grade was the federal government.

Due to the unique challenges faced by the territories, EPR Canada has chosen not to allocate a score to the Yukon and the Northwest Territories though both submitted completed questionnaires. Both, however, continue to show progress toward putting EPR programs in place.

EPR Canada assessed and graded each jurisdiction's submission based on their response to a set of questions that reflect best practices for the development and implementation of EPR policies and programs under three categories:

- **Commitment** – indicators that each government, as a member of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) is following through on its commitment to adopt the principles of extended producers responsibility in compliance with the CCME Canada-wide Action Plan on EPR, and is developing EPR policies and programs
- **Implementation** – examples of how each government is implementing policies and practices to support producer performance
- **Accountability** – indicators that each government has mechanisms in place to measure and report on producer performance

For the 2012 survey questionnaire, EPR Canada introduced a progressive weighting of the scores assigned to each category to acknowledge the important evolution of EPR in Canada from stewardship to partial EPR and then full EPR. Stewardship programs involve government roles in designing, operating and paying for programs while producers pay none or part of the costs. Full EPR involves having producers design, operate and finance end-of-life product and packaging programs.

Over the remaining three years of the report card, commitment will earn fewer points and implementation and accountability will earn more as governments make progress in the development of EPR programs.

The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) defines extended producer responsibility as a policy approach in which a producer's responsibility, physical and/or financial, for a product is extended to the post-consumer stage of a product's life cycle, shifting it away from municipalities and regional waste authorities. It also encourages producers to incorporate environmental considerations in the design of their products.

The 2012 Report Card is the second of five annual ratings that EPR Canada plans to produce and publish. Additional information about EPR Canada can be found on its website, www.eprcanada.ca

-30-

[Communiquez avec Duncan Bury pour obtenir le communiqué en français.](#)

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