

December 10, 2018

Dear Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group (APRG) Members and Provincial Stakeholders;

I'm writing this letter on behalf of the APRG Advisory Committee. We are continuing our efforts to bring forward recommendations for the management of agricultural plastics. In November Minister Shannon Phillips, Environment and Parks and Minister Oneil Carlier, Agriculture and Forestry announced funding for a province-wide agricultural plastics recycling pilot project. We have now submitted the application with details on the pilot program and we hope to have the government's formal approval within the next two months. As it stands now, we will look to build this as a three-year program for grain bags and twine with waste characterization and market studies to ensure we have accurate data about what materials are being generated and look for responsible management options for all agricultural plastics. Other details on the program will need to be finalized and can be shared once we have government approval.

At our meeting on December 6, the APRG Advisory Committee, made up of representatives from the organizations listed on page two, approved our Terms of Reference and nominated an executive committee for the next year. The APRG will act in an advisory role with the mandate to assist in the development of recommendations to manage agricultural plastics including promoting ag plastics recycling actions and programs that are sustainable and implementing the terms set out in the pilot program business plan. Alberta Beef has been elected as the program administrator to receive the funding from the government and the committee will determine the pilot operations and details.

Executive:

Al Kemmere, RMA, Chair
Tammy Schwass, APRA, Secretary
Christina Seidel, RCA, Executive
Assar Grinde, AB Beef, Executive
Neil Gorda, AB Barley, Executive

We would like to thank all the groups and individuals that have contributed and collaborated to support a provincial solution to manage agricultural plastics. We will continue to keep everyone informed with updates and news as we receive them and please continue share updates with your members. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach me or your committee representatives.

We wish you all a safe and happy holiday season,

Sincerely,

Al Kemmere, Chair
APRG Advisory Committee
akemmere@rmalberta.com

APRG Member Organizations:

Organization	Sector/Representation
Agricultural Service Board	Board Representation
Association of AB Agricultural Fieldmen	Ag Fieldmen
Alberta Agriculture & Forestry	Government (ex officio)
Alberta Barley	Barley Producers
Alberta Beef Producers	Livestock
Alberta Cattle Feeders Association	Livestock
Alberta CARE	Recycling and Waste Management
Alberta Environment & Parks	Government (ex officio)
Alberta Federation of Agriculture	Producers
Alberta Milk Producers	Dairy Producers
Alberta Plastics Recycling Association	Plastics Recycling
Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA)	Urban Municipalities
Committed Ag Supply	Retailer
Crop Sector Working Group	Crop Producers
Merlin Plastics	Recycler
Olds College	Academia
Peavey Mart	Retailer
Recycling Council of Alberta	Recycling and Resource Conservation
RPC BPI Agriculture	Material Manufacturer
Rural Municipalities Association (RMA)	Municipalities
TAMA Canada	Retailer