



Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Memo No.  
2024-M-107

## Memorandum to Council

**Subject:** Curbside Recycling Decision

**Agenda Date:** June 13, 2024

**Attachments:**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami hereby approves the recommendation in Memo 2024-M-107 to opt out of the Curbside Recycling Program.

### **INFORMATION**

This report seeks to inform Mayor and Council about the need to make a timely decision regarding the Municipality of Temagami's participation in the curbside recycling program. Circular Materials has requested our confirmation on whether we will opt out of the Residential & Facility (R&F) curbside recycling program. Based on previous Council discussions, it is crucial to formally decide to facilitate proper planning and communication with Circular Materials.

On June 3, 2024, Circular Materials contacted us to confirm our intention regarding the curbside recycling program. They are in the process of awarding third-party contracts for our catchment areas and require our decision to proceed.

#### **Assumptions:**

1. **Contractor Consistency:** Regardless of our decision, GFL will be the contractor for both our current curbside program and any new arrangements under Circular Materials.
2. **Service Continuity:** Any changes or transitions will aim to maintain service continuity for residents.

#### **Unknowns:**

1. **Depot Service Details:** Awaiting responses to questions regarding depot service specifics from Circular Materials.
2. **Financial Compensation:** Exact financial implications and compensations for opting in or out.

### **Options for Curbside Recycling**

#### **Opting In**

##### **Pros:**

- Continued direct control over service quality and standards.
- Potential to tailor services to specific community needs.

##### **Cons:**

- Financial responsibility and operational management remain with the municipality.
- Requires significant administrative oversight and coordination.

##### **Financial Implications:**

- Continued operational costs including labor, equipment, and management.

- Potential funding from Circular Materials based on 2020 Datacall costs (pending clarification).

**Risks:**

- Increased financial burden on municipal budget.
- Potential for service disruptions during the transition phase.

**Opting Out**

**Pros:**

- Reduction in administrative and operational burdens.
- Circular Materials handles contract management and operational logistics.
- Potential cost savings for the municipality.

**Cons:**

- Less direct control over service quality.
- Reliance on Circular Materials for maintaining service standards.

**Financial Implications:**

- Savings on operational and administrative costs.
- Possible need for financial planning for any ineligible source materials.

**Risks:**

- Service quality may not meet current standards (although the legislation states that the level of service must remain the same)
- Transition period may lead to temporary service disruptions.

**Recommendations:**

Based on the analysis, it is recommended that the Municipality of Temagami opts out of the curbside recycling program managed by Circular Materials. This decision aligns with previous Council discussions and provides a strategic advantage in reducing administrative burdens and potential costs.

**Next Steps:**

1. Formally notify Circular Materials of our decision to opt out of the curbside program.
2. Continue discussions and planning for the depot service options.
3. Explore fair methods to collect recycling costs associated with ineligible sources, such as implementing user fees or collaborating with local businesses for shared costs.

**Future Considerations for Depot Services:**

The decision regarding the depot services will be addressed separately at a later date. We are currently awaiting additional information from Circular Materials to make an informed decision. This will allow us to thoroughly evaluate all options and ensure the best outcomes for our community.

**Conclusion:**

Making a timely decision regarding our participation in the curbside recycling program is critical. Opting out appears to offer significant benefits in terms of cost savings and reduced administrative load. We urge Council to approve this recommendation and proceed with the necessary communications to Circular Materials. The depot service decision will be made separately after receiving further information.

**Respectfully Submitted**  
**Deb Larochelle**