



SK Recycles

Phase 3 *Draft* Depot Eligibility
Criteria & Collection Standards,
Policies, and Procedures

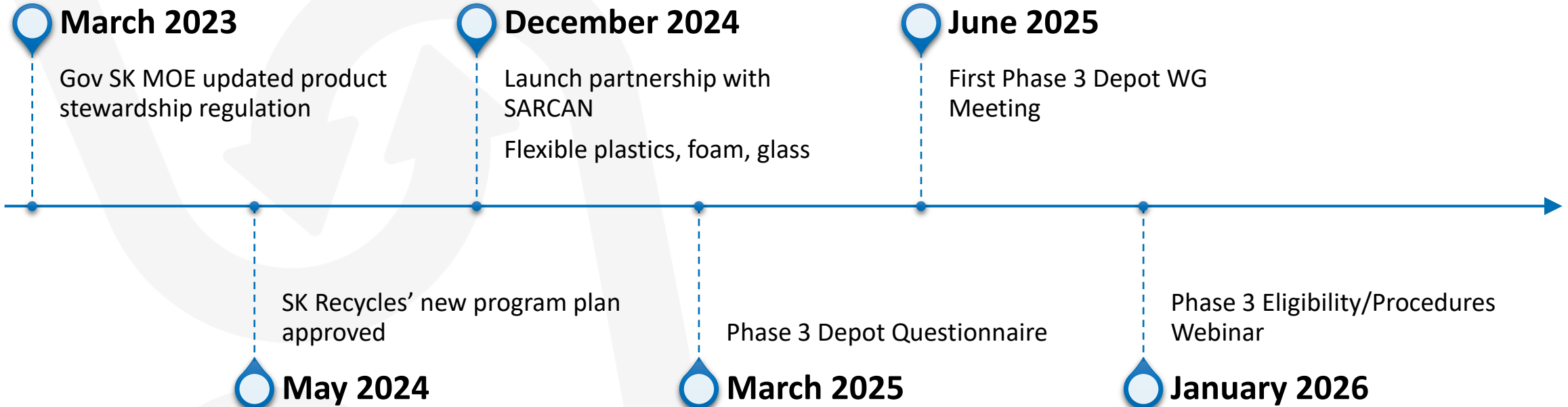
Jan. 13, 2026

Agenda



- Recap
- Program Amendment
- Intent for Transition
- Approach to Draft Development
- Analysis & Key Findings
- Proposed Depot Eligibility Criteria
- Proposed Depot Collection Standards, Policies & Procedures
- Engagement Activities
- Q & A
- Next Steps

Recap





Phase 3 Program Amendment

Phase 3 Program Amendment



- The Program Plan includes a commitment to conduct engagement on two program elements for Phase 3.
- Once feedback is incorporated, they will be submitted as amendments to the Program Plan to the SK Ministry of Environment by March 1, 2026 for review and approval.

Submission Number	Program Plan Component	Program Plan Reference	Submission Timeline
1	Community Curbside and Multi-Family Collection Eligibility Criteria / Phase 2 Efficiency Criteria	Section 4.4.6 and 4.4.7	Launch of Transition Phase 1 Dec. 1, 2024
2	Depot Collection Eligibility Criteria and Collection Standards, Policies and Procedures for Depot Collection	Section 4.4.9	Launch of Transition Phase 2 Extended: Mar. 1, 2026
3	Performance Targets	Section 5.3.4	Launch of Transition Phase 3 + 12 months Feb. 1, 2028



Phase 3 Depot Intent for Transition

Phase 3 Depot - Principles

- Given the significant number of small, rural and remote communities identified for Phase 3, SK Recycles aims to develop and implement an approach to program delivery that:
 - Fosters operational efficiencies
 - Reduces service duplication
 - Drives environmental performance improvement
 - Ensures high quality of collected material
 - Provides a pathway and incentives for operational enhancements at depot sites across the province

Eligibility Criteria + Collection Standards, Policies & Procedures



The intent of the Phase 3 Depot Eligibility Criteria is to outline the criteria that defines municipalities' eligibility to participate in Phase 3 of the transition and how SK Recycles determines eligible depots within these municipalities.



The intent of the Phase 3 Depot Collection Standards, Policies and Procedures is to outline at a high level the primary aspects required of eligible depot collectors participating in Phase 3 of the SK Recycles transition to full EPR.



Once approved by the SK Ministry of Environment, the intent is for these procedures to be further defined and codified in a depot collection agreement that will be offered to eligible depot collectors that wish to participate in Phase 3 of the transition, which is scheduled to launch February 1, 2027.

Eligibility



Depot collector in
MMSW program

Continue as depot
collector SK Recycles?



Municipality not
currently in MMSW
program

Join SK Recycles
program as depot



Standards, Policies, Procedures



Operational
Efficiencies

Environmental
Performance

High Quality
Material

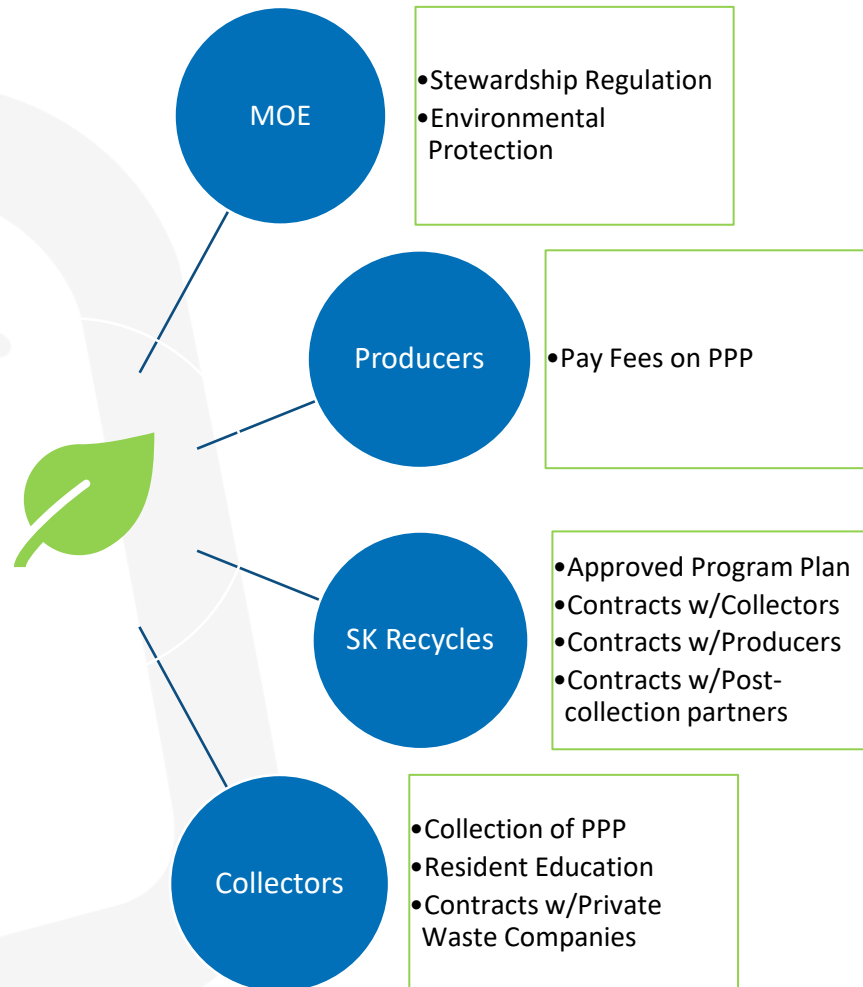


Approach to Draft Phase 3 Eligibility Criteria & Collection Procedures

Major Stakeholders



Product
Stewardship



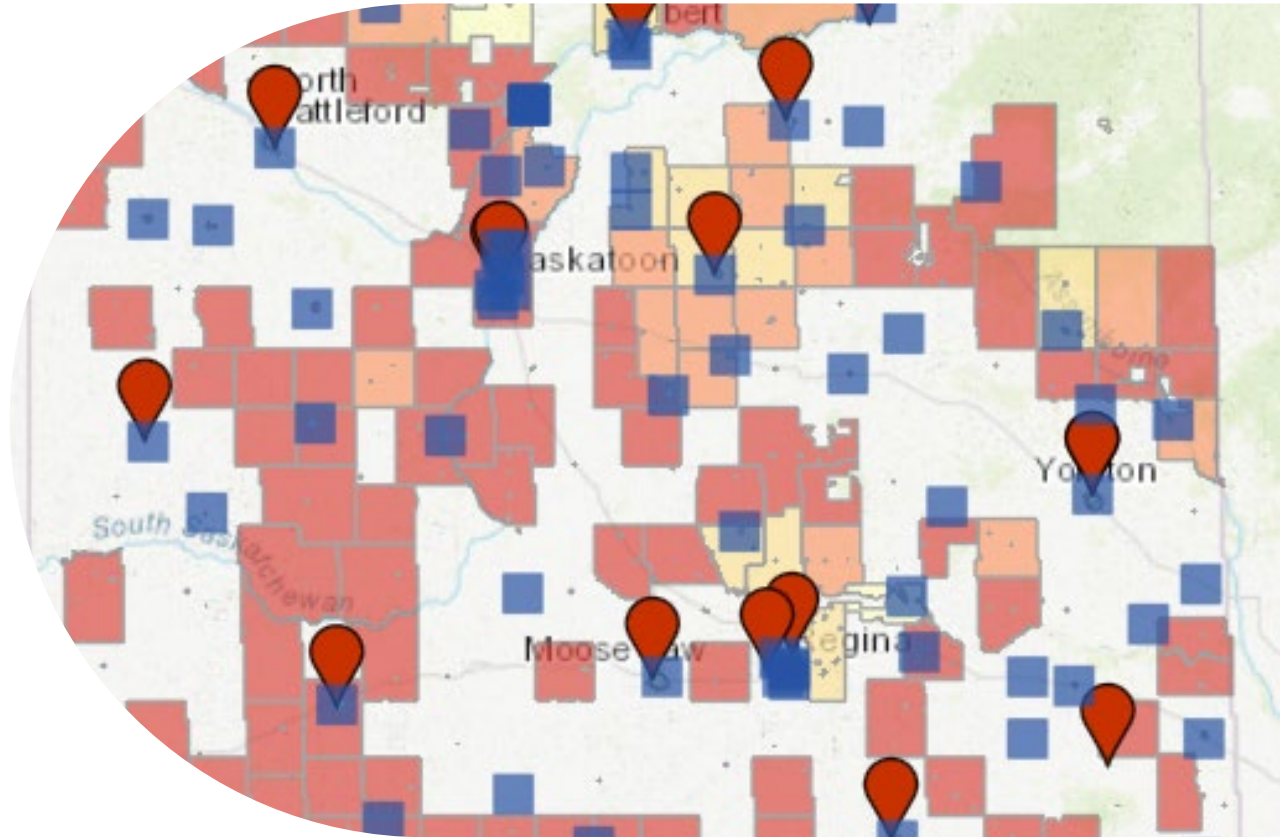
Phase 3 Working Group

- Meetings held in 2025 as two-way exchange of information and to receive feedback from collectors on depot operations.
- Exchange of ideas for transition eligibility and operating procedures.
- SUMA, SARM, ARWMAS are part of the working group along with individual municipalities at town, village and RM levels.

The Challenge



- Current reverse supply chain is highly variable:
 - Service levels (weekly, on-call, etc.)
 - Inconsistent routing
 - Population densities
 - Performance (annual tonnage PPP)



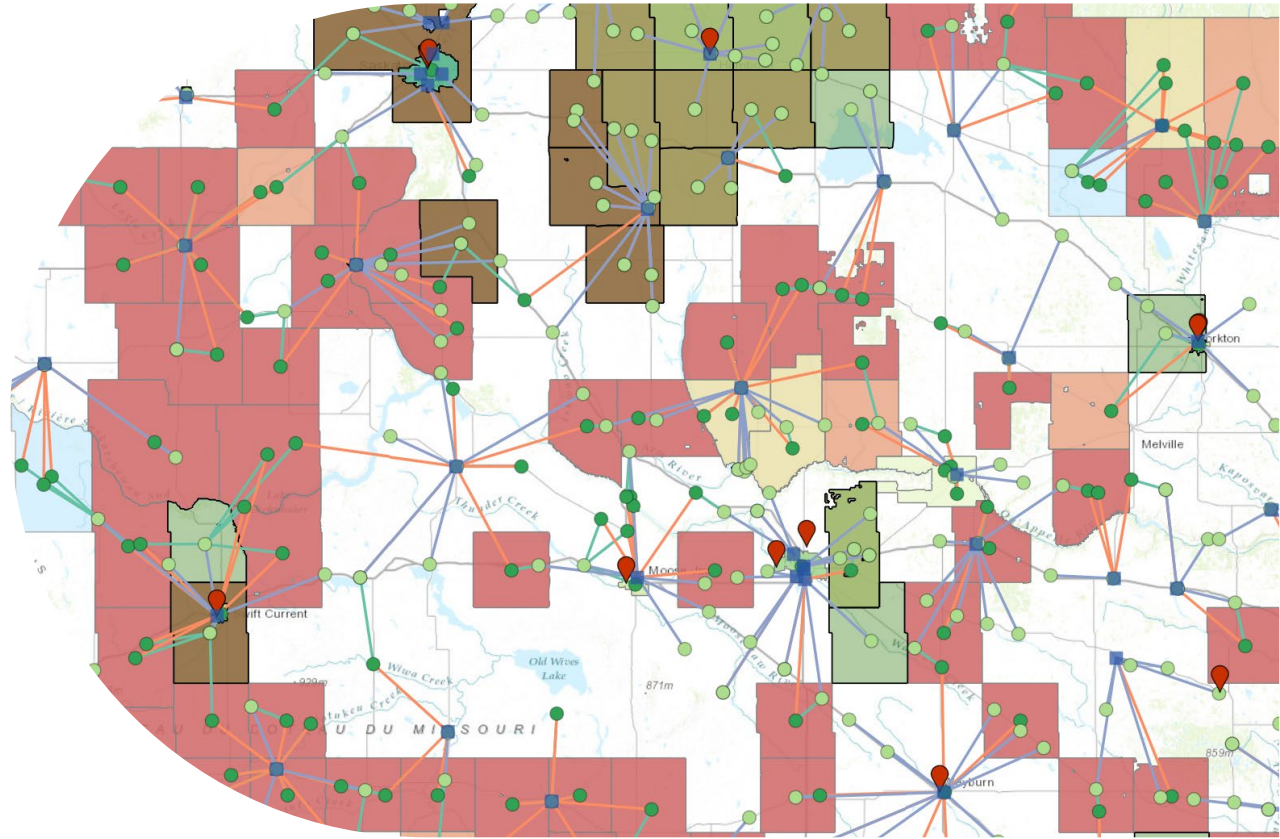
System Complexity & Scale

1. We are scaling from individual municipalities' focus on PPP programs to the entire province.
2. When there is low integration, or high variability, applying scale increases the stresses or impacts of that variability on the whole system.
3. This often results in inefficiency, ineffectiveness or waste (return trips burning fuel, etc.).
4. Costs go up, but results flatline or go down.

The Opportunity

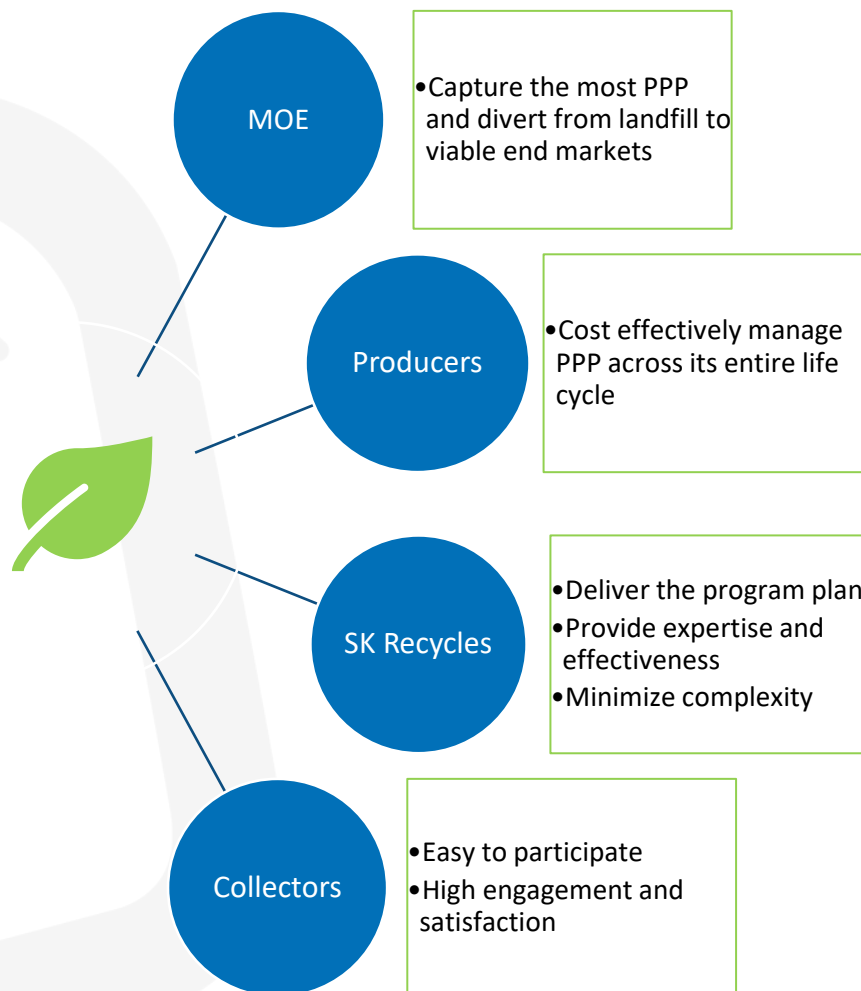


- How best to bring greater integration across the reverse supply chain so that it can:
 - Be effective in capturing the most PPP (MOE) most efficiently (Producers)
 - Minimize complexity and be easy to understand (Collectors/residents)
 - Be manageable and adaptable over time (SK Recycles)



Major Stakeholder Outcomes

Product
Stewardship



Aligning The Reverse Supply Chain



Variable
populations/tonnes



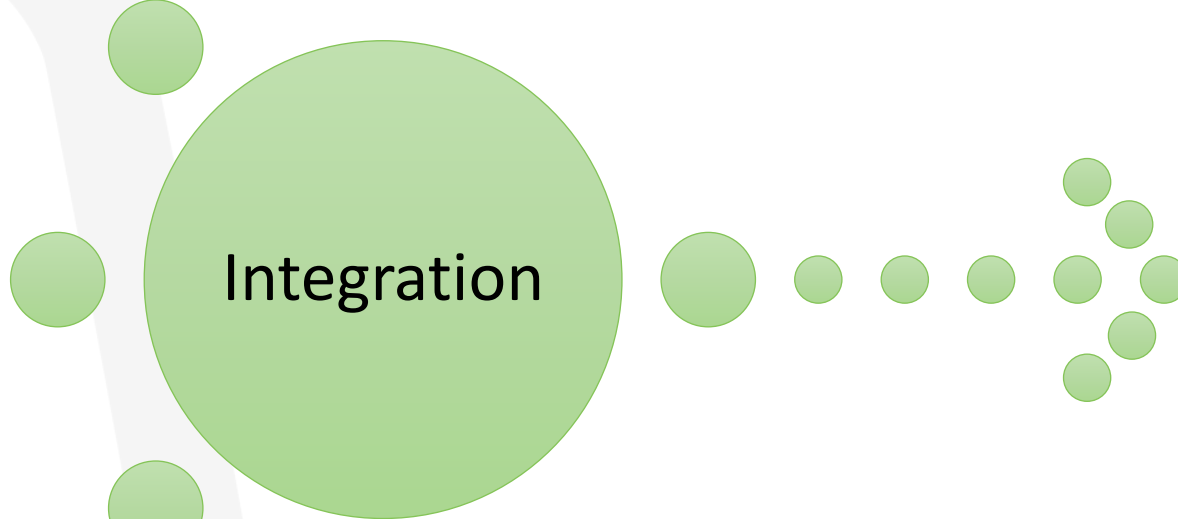
Variable locations



Variable routing



Integration



Exclusions

- Does not apply to Indigenous/First Nations communities which are on a separate development approach/timeline.
- Analysis only includes incorporated municipalities via 2021 census data for Saskatchewan.



Current Reverse Supply Chain Analysis

SK Municipality & Depot Data



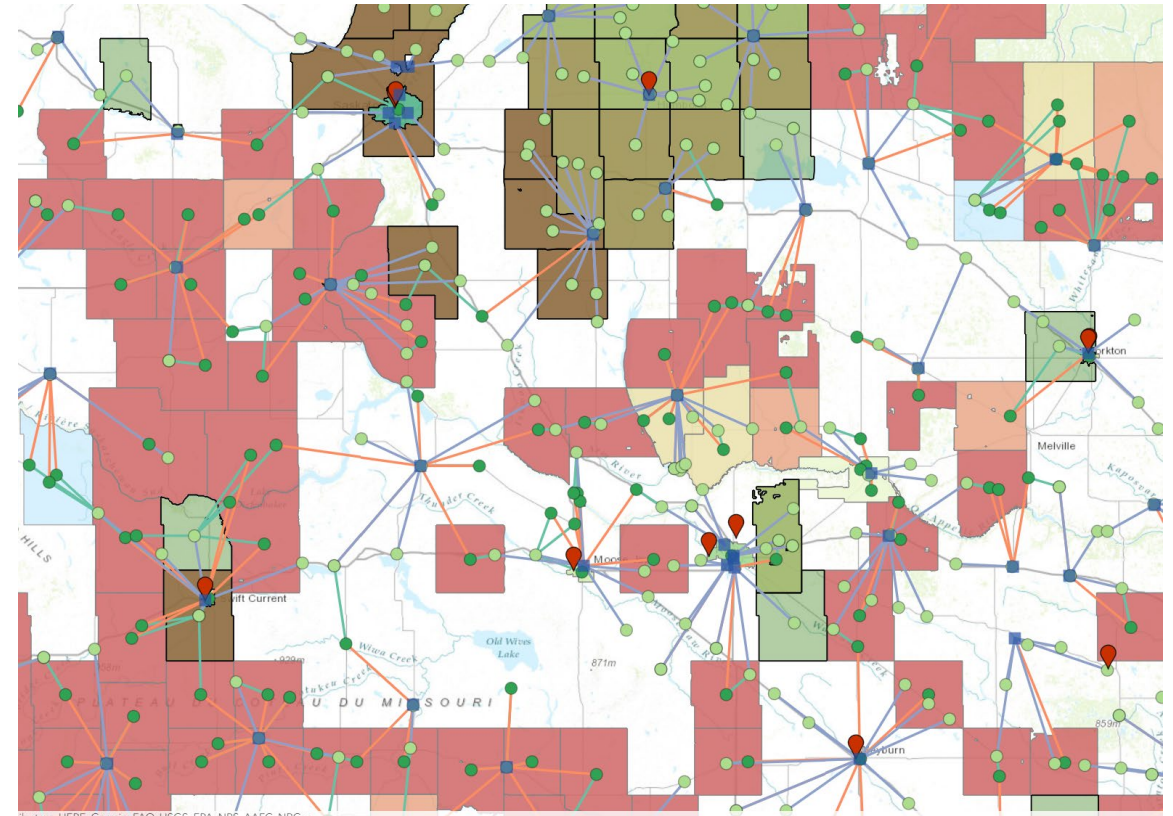
- Data set includes
 - 778 data points
 - broad provincial coverage
- Includes both SK Recycles (program) and non-SK Recycles (non-program) municipalities.

Municipalities	
Depot (Phase 3)	261
Curbside (Phase 1 & 2)	239
Non-program	278
Grand Total	778

Understanding Proximity of PPP Consolidation

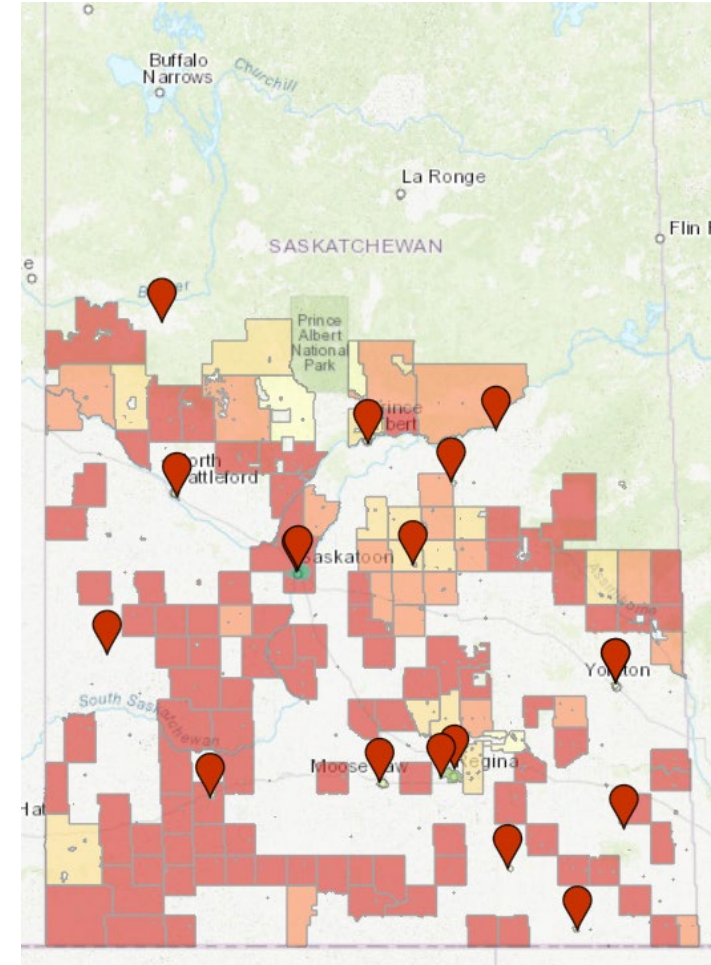


- Municipalities with a minimum population of **4,500** have been identified as potential processing points.
- Service areas were defined using a radius originating from the center of 17 major cities, ensuring cost-effective and sustainable logistics.



Understanding Tonnage Density

- We analyzed the data with the objective of establishing a population threshold to prioritize service delivery in more densely populated areas.
- This analysis identified a benchmark of **5 tonnes** which corresponds to an estimated population of approximately **250 residents**.



Key Findings



63% of Phase 3 depots meet the 250-resident population threshold.

Coverage is evenly distributed between RWAs and Non-RWA depots (**66%** and **61%** respectively).

Among Non-Program municipalities, **53%** meet the population criteria for eligibility.



Draft Eligibility Criteria Phase 3 Depot

Analysis Results – Overall Understanding



- Our analysis showed the large number of small, rural and remote communities identified for inclusion in Phase 3, with expected low collection volumes and expected high cost to service many depots.
- Phase 3 Depot Eligibility Criteria is focused on contracting depots in more densely populated areas to ensure efficient and environmentally conscious (GHG) depot collection accessibility.

Phase 3 Depot Eligibility Criteria



Municipalities will be eligible for Depot Collection Service in Phase 3 of the transition, provided each of the following criteria are met:

1. The incorporated municipality has a population of 250 people or more.
2. The municipality is located within 150 km of an incorporated City, Town or Village with a population of 4,500 or more.

City of Estevan	City of Regina
City of Humboldt	City of Saskatoon
City of Martensville	City of Swift Current
City of Meadow Lake	City of Warman
City of Melfort	City of Weyburn
City of Moose Jaw	City of Yorkton
City of North Battleford	Town of Kindersley
City of Prince Albert	Town of Nipawin
Village of Kennedy*	

Additional Eligibility Details

Depot Collection Service means the municipality is eligible for one permanent depot location that meets one of the defined depot classes (defined in Phase 3 Depot Collection Procedures) including required attributes, collection procedures and standards.

SK Recycles reserves the right to assess and approve any additional depots in the eligible municipality on an ongoing basis.

A depot location can be operated by a municipality, Regional Waste Authority (RWA) or private company.

SK Recycles also reserves the right to expand its depot collection network beyond the eligibility criteria to meet the program's recovery targets or to contribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of the collection system.



Draft Phase 3 Depot Collection Standards, Policies and Procedures

Proposed Collection Procedures

- SK Recycles is proposing a transition to a \$/tonne payment model.
- SK Recycles is proposing a depot collection agreement structure that includes three “classes” of depots.
- SK Recycles is proposing an additional depot category called Supplemental Depots that mandates a specific class requirement.
- Additionally, the Depot Collection Standards, Policies and Procedures outlines SK Recycles responsibility for depot material transportation and right to select material collection containers for depot locations.

Depot Operation Classes

- Each depot class includes a list of attributes and required depot collection procedures/standards.
- The collection incentive (payment) rate (\$/tonne) provided to depots in each class will reflect the attributes, procedures and standards associated with that class.

Class 1 - Unsupervised

- Depot locations are unsupervised and permit 24-hour access to the public.
- One or more bins are located together in the municipality to provide depot service .
- Single-stream collection of packaging and paper – the following materials are all accepted for collection and collected comingled:
 - Paper
 - Paper packaging
 - Cardboard
 - Plastic containers
 - Metal containers
 - Cartons and paper cups

Class 1 – Cont'd

- Glass bottles and jars, flexible plastics and foam packaging are not accepted for collection.
- Prominent signage at the depot's entrance and/or on bins clearly illustrate the materials accepted for collection.
- A garbage collection program is in place that provides garbage collection service to residents of the municipality, whether curbside or landfill/transfer site collection.
- An assumed percentage of collected material will be deemed as from industrial, commercial and institutional (ICI) sources and SK Recycles' cost to manage that amount of material will be deducted from the depot collector's collection incentives provided by SK Recycles, unless compelling evidence can be provided to justify a reduced percentage.

Class 1 – Contamination Management

- SK Recycles will monitor depot contamination rates to ensure high-quality material is collected.
- The depot agreement will set contamination thresholds, and depots exceeding these limits may be removed from the program.

Class 2 – Partial Staffing

- Depot locations include staff that are present during operating hours but are not interacting with most residents dropping off recycling or providing guidance on recycling rules.
- Established operating hours are posted and enforced.
- The depot site is fenced or otherwise secured against public access during non-operating hours.
- Single-stream collection of packaging and paper – the following materials are all accepted for collection and collected comingled:
 - Paper
 - Paper packaging
 - Cardboard
 - Plastic containers
 - Metal containers
 - Cartons and paper cups

Class 2 – Cont'd

- Glass bottles and jars, flexible plastics and foam packaging are permitted (but not required) to be accepted for collection, each of which will be associated with an additional collection incentive (\$/tonne) rate and must be collected as segregated material categories.
- Prominent signage at the depot's entrance and/or on bins clearly illustrate the materials accepted for collection.
- A garbage collection program is in place that provides garbage collection service to residents of the municipality, whether curbside or landfill/transfer site collection.
- An assumed percentage of collected material will be deemed as from industrial, commercial and institutional (ICI) sources and SK Recycles' cost to manage that amount of material will be deducted from the depot collector's collection incentives provided by SK Recycles, unless compelling evidence can be provided to justify a reduced percentage.

Class 2 – Contamination Management

- SK Recycles will monitor depot contamination rates to ensure high-quality material is collected.
- The depot agreement will set contamination thresholds, and depots exceeding these limits may be removed from the program.

Class 3 – Fully Staffed

- Depot locations include staff that are present during operating hours and actively monitor and assist residents dropping off recycling.
- Established operating hours are posted and enforced.
- The depot site is fenced or otherwise secured against public access during non-operating hours.
- Single-stream collection of packaging and paper – the following materials are all accepted for collection and collected comingled:
 - Paper
 - Paper packaging
 - Cardboard
 - Plastic containers
 - Metal containers
 - Cartons and paper cups

Class 3 – Cont'd

- Glass bottles and jars, flexible plastics and foam packaging must be accepted for collection, each of which will be associated with an additional collection incentive (\$/tonne) rate and must be collected as segregated material categories.
- Prominent signage at a minimum of two locations, including the depot's entrance and on bins, clearly illustrate the materials accepted for collection.
- A garbage collection program is in place that provides garbage collection service to residents of the municipality, whether curbside or landfill/transfer site collection.
- An assumed percentage of collected material will be deemed as from industrial, commercial and institutional (ICI) sources and SK Recycles' cost to manage that amount of material will be deducted from the depot collector's collection incentives provided by SK Recycles, unless compelling evidence can be provided to justify a reduced percentage.

Class 3 – Contamination Management

- SK Recycles will monitor depot contamination rates to ensure high-quality material is collected.
- The depot agreement will set contamination thresholds, and depots exceeding these limits may be removed from the program.

Supplemental Depots

- Supplemental depots are defined as depot locations that provide an additional level of capacity and convenience for residents in a municipality that has curbside and/or multi-family collection service in place as the primary method of household recycling.
- All supplemental depots will be required to meet Class 3 depot procedures.

SK Recycles Depots

- If a municipality is eligible for depot collection (per the Phase 3 Depot Eligibility Criteria outlined) and SK Recycles establishes a higher class depot with a municipality, RWA or private company in or nearby that municipality, the municipality's depot may not be warranted in that municipality depending on location and current resident accessibility to household paper and packaging recycling.
- SK Recycles reserves the right to not contract a Class 1 depot to service an eligible municipality serviced by a Class 2 or 3 depot and reserves the right to not contract a Class 2 depot if an eligible municipality is serviced by a Class 3 depot.

Logistics & Collection Containers

- SK Recycles will be responsible for the pickup of collected depot material including the scheduling and payment of the transportation with a contracted logistics partner.
- SK Recycles reserves the right to select the material collection container types at each depot for optimal material transportation efficiency.
- Depot material transportation and material collection container guidelines will be included in depot collection agreements.

Engagement



Phase 3 Depot Engagement

- Feedback period ends February 13, 2026.
- SK Recycles will be contacting existing collectors that are not captured by the proposed criteria to learn more about potential solutions.
- SK Recycles will be contacting RWAs that have depot-based members that are not captured by the proposed criteria to learn more about potential solutions.

Q & A



Questions to Consider...

- Do these criteria and procedures make sense for Phase 3 depots?
- Do you see any benefits for collectors or the program with this approach?
- Do you see any challenges for collectors or the program with this approach?
- Has SK Recycles missed anything important from your perspective?

Next Steps

- A copy of the draft Depot Collection Eligibility Criteria and Collection Standards, Policies and Procedures for Depot Collection will be made available following today's presentation.
- Feedback is welcome via email to kgoyer@skrecycles.ca
- **Feedback is due no later than February 13, 2026.**
- SK Recycles will incorporate feedback from stakeholder engagement and prepare a formal submission to the MOE by **March 1, 2026.**

