



March 17, 2026

RE: Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box

The Council of the Municipality of Bluewater passed the following resolution at their March 16, 2026 regular meeting:

MOVED: Councillor Harris **SECONDED:** Councillor Hessel

WHEREAS under Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box producers are fully accountable and financially responsible for their products and packaging once they reach their end of life and are disposed of, for 'eligible' sources only; and

WHEREAS 'ineligible' sources, which producers are not responsible for, include industrial, commercial, and institutional locations (IC & I) such as businesses, places of worship, daycares, campgrounds, public-facing and internal areas of municipal-owned buildings, and not-for-profit organizations, such as shelters and food banks; and

WHEREAS failure to include 'ineligible sources under the Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box program is in essence a provincial tax on ineligible sources; and

WHEREAS should a municipality continue to provide services to the 'ineligible sources, the municipality will be required to oversee the collection, transportation, processing of the recycling; and

WHEREAS changes may result in many small businesses and not-for-profit organizations losing access to comparable recycling services and force them to seek providers at a much higher cost than the previous services rendered through the Blue Box collection system; and

WHEREAS the rising costs of collection of recycling for industrial, commercial and institutional recycling may lead to the abandonment of recycling entirely, increasing environmental damage; and

WHEREAS landfilling needs throughout the Province of Ontario are already at capacity in many communities; and

WHEREAS The Municipality of Bluewater has approximately 150 or more "non-eligible" sources that will not be provided service from the Producer Responsibility Organization;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipality of Bluewater Council hereby request that the province amend Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box so that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recycling products from small businesses and not-for-profit organizations within the industrial, commercial and institutional sectors; and

FURTHER THAT Council hereby request the support of all Ontario Municipalities; and

FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks; the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; and the Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs and the local MPP for Huron-Bruce.

CARRIED.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alexander". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chandra Alexander
Acting CAO
Manager of Corporate Services/Clerk