

## Worse than Paper Cuts

### *Small Business Perspectives on the Newfoundland and Labrador Recycling Program*

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The provincial government is considering the implementation of a new program for recycling the printed paper and packaging that businesses use or sell. Our research shows that the majority of SMEs have little control of the type, size, or weight of their packaging and cannot afford to pay more for recycling. Affordability issues are front and centre when it comes to waste diversion in Newfoundland and Labrador, and increasing fees on small business is likely to exacerbate the problem.

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### Introduction

In recent years, governments across Canada have been implementing recycling programs based on a concept known as extended producer responsibility (EPR). The EPR model for waste diversion is derived from the polluter-pay-principle. Essentially, this means the first importer or manufacturer is responsible for the cost of recycling products and/or their packaging at the end of their lifecycles. The purpose of EPR is to incentivize businesses to become more environmentally friendly. In Newfoundland and Labrador, EPR programs have been introduced for paint, and electronics. Currently, the provincial government is considering the implementation of a program for printed paper and packaging.

A printed paper and packaging program is not a new idea, having been adopted to varying degrees in Ontario, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan. Experience in these jurisdictions has shown the program creates a high cost to small businesses with little evidence of ensuring waste is being diverted. With Newfoundland and Labrador facing an unparalleled fiscal crisis and Budget 2016 increasing taxes and fees, small businesses are finding it more difficult to operate. Business owners are already being forced to make tough decisions that affect their firms.

Small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are currently operating in a challenging environment and have serious concerns about what their future holds. They must make decisions that are sustainable in the long-term, as does the Government of Newfoundland and

Labrador if it wants the province to flourish. Government needs to adopt balanced, reasonable and sustainable approaches as a way forward. Unfortunately, a printed paper and packaging program is not a solution to waste diversion in the province. This report will outline member views and provide recommendations concerning a printed paper and packaging program.

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## Methodology

CFIB represents over 2,000 small- and medium-sized businesses in Newfoundland and Labrador from all sectors of the economy. Policy positions are taken at the direction of our membership through surveys and discussions with members. This submission was completed using data gathered from our membership as well as primary sources.

CFIB surveyed its Newfoundland and Labrador members to measure awareness about the potential new recycling program, possible impacts and to understand better the ways small businesses currently recycle. The Recycling Survey was distributed to Newfoundland and Labrador members by password protected e-mail. The survey period was from April 18 to May 3, 2016 and a total of 160 owners of small- and medium-sized businesses participated. A copy of the survey is available in Appendix A. The survey also gathered approximately 50 comments which are presented in Appendix B.

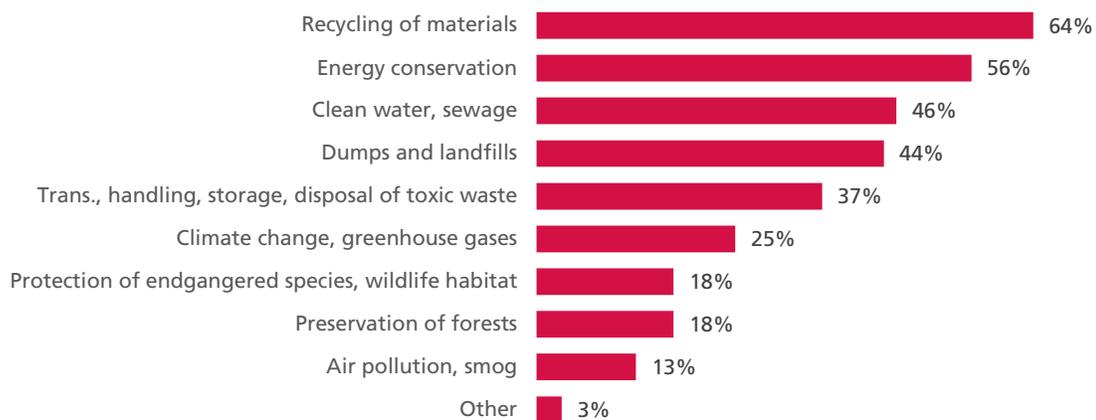
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## Small Business Views on Printed Paper and Packaging

As it concerns environmental issues, Figure 1 shows business owners in Newfoundland and Labrador state the most important environmental issues for them are recycling of materials (64 per cent), energy conservation (56 per cent), sewage and clean water (46 per cent), and dumps and landfills (44 per cent).

Figure 1:

**Which of the following environmental issues are the most important to your business?**



Source: CFIB, 2016 National Environment Survey, July-August 2016, 63 responses for Newfoundland and Labrador.

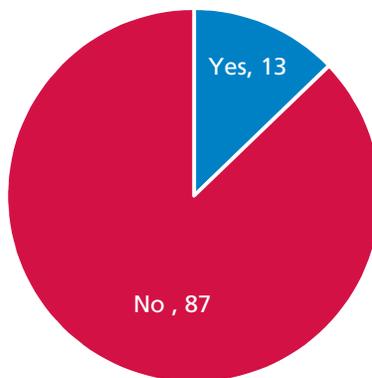
In Budget 2016, the provincial government raised multiple taxes and fees, such as reinstating the Retail Sales Tax on insurance premiums to 15 per cent, increasing the Harmonized Sales Tax from 13 to 15 per cent, and increasing personal income taxes for all tax brackets. These additional provincial taxes, coupled with increases in municipal taxes, have presented challenges in operating a business. SMEs do not need another cost of doing business in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Work has been underway within the government on a new recycling program for printed paper and packaging, which would include new fees for some materials. During a hearing of the Public Accounts Committee on July 29, 2014, the Chief Executive Officer of the Multi-Materials Stewardship Board stated (verbatim): “The next big wave in EPR is anticipated that it will be PPP, which is printed paper and packaging [sic]. We are beginning to see the first movement on printed paper and packaging at the EPR level in Western and Central Canada at this stage of the game. That is where the next move will be on EPR, subject to government approval, of course.”

However, two years later, survey results show 87 per cent of respondents are unaware the government has been considering the implementation of a new recycling program (see Figure 1). The government has yet to consult small businesses in the province to truly understand the effects any such program will have on them.

Figure 2:

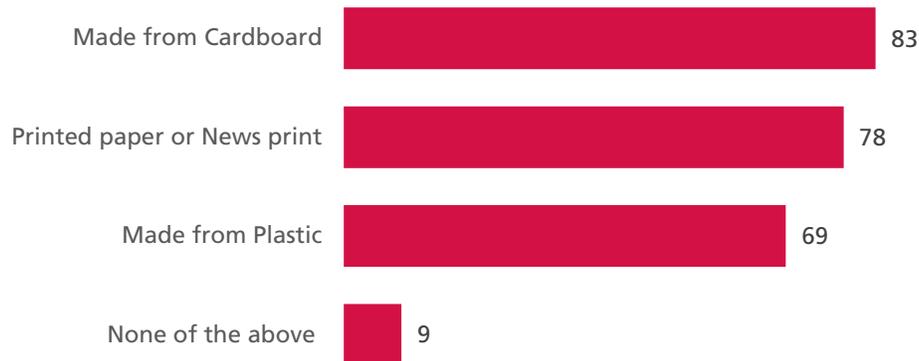
**Prior to this survey, were you aware that the provincial government is considering implementing a new recycling program? (%)**



Source: CFIB, Newfoundland and Labrador Recycling Survey, April-May 2016.

As Figure 3 shows, 83 per cent of small business owners sell or use products made from cardboard, 78 per cent use printed paper or newsprint, and 69 per cent use products made from plastic. Because cardboard, printed paper or news print, and plastic are used predominantly by businesses, a recycling program for printed paper and packaging can quickly become a large expense for SMEs. In addition, a program that requires SMES to weigh, record and pay to recycle these materials will be financially and administratively burdensome, as discussed in greater depth below.

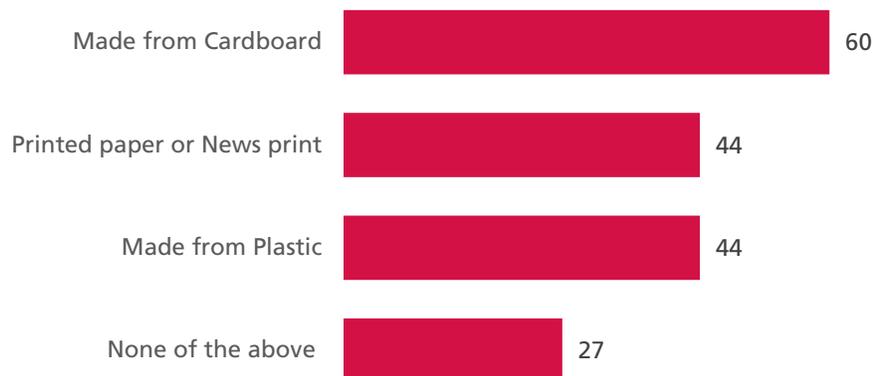
Figure 3:

**Does your business sell or use any of the following products? (%)**

Source: CFIB, Newfoundland and Labrador Recycling Survey, April-May 2016.

Unfortunately, businesses currently do not recycle all of the recyclable materials they use or sell. While 63 per cent of respondents recycle cardboard, 45 per cent recycle printed paper or news print and 44 per cent recycle plastic materials (see Figure 4). The fact that 27 per cent of respondents do not recycle printed paper and packaging should not be surprising because the Provincial Waste Management Strategy has been unevenly implemented throughout the province. Some parts of the province have recycling programs available to small business owners, but other areas do not.

Figure 4:

**Does your business currently recycle any of the following products? (%)**

Source: CFIB, Newfoundland and Labrador Recycling Survey, April-May 2016

Forty-four per cent of survey respondents agreed that public recycling programs are available to them, while 35 per cent disagreed and 21 per cent did not know. Cost is also a concern for some businesses as 38 per cent agreed it is too costly for the business to recycle, 42 per cent disagreed, and 20 per cent did not know. In addition, small business owners, for the most part, find it easy to train employees on how to recycle and it is easy to separate recyclable materials in their businesses (see Figure 5).

Figure 5:

### Do you agree or disagree with the following statements about recycling in your business? (%)



Source: CFIB, Newfoundland and Labrador Recycling Survey, April-May 2016.

In many regions of the province, waste disposed in regional landfills, which includes recyclable materials, is charged a fee (see Table 1). For the vast majority of business owners, they also pay a private contractor for waste collection and disposal. Many members question the regional fee disparity despite there being a Provincial Waste Management Strategy in place. For example, central Newfoundland business owners pay nearly twice as much per tonne as eastern Newfoundland business owners for disposal of residential and commercial waste. Regardless, business owners (except many in western Newfoundland) are paying to have waste, including recyclable materials, collected and disposed at a landfill. To implement a printed paper and packaging program is to effectively double-tax businesses and consumers in Newfoundland and Labrador, particularly if they recycle those materials already.

Table 1:

#### 2017 Fees for Selected Landfill Facilities

	Eastern Waste Management	Central Newfoundland Waste Management*	Western Regional Waste Management	Labrador West Regional Landfill
<b>Residential/Commercial Waste</b>	\$67.60/tonne	\$136/tonne	\$59/tonne (Wild Cove and St. George's)	\$95/tonne
<b>Recyclables</b>	\$20/tonne	\$30/tonne	\$59/tonne (Wild Cove and St. George's)	\$95/tonne
<b>Per Household</b>	\$180	\$79	Not applicable	Not applicable

Source: Fee schedules published on websites for the regional boards and the 2016 Municipal Fee schedule for the Town of Labrador City.

\*There is a non-compliance fee of \$70/tonne applied for unsorted waste and/or non-permitted black bag.

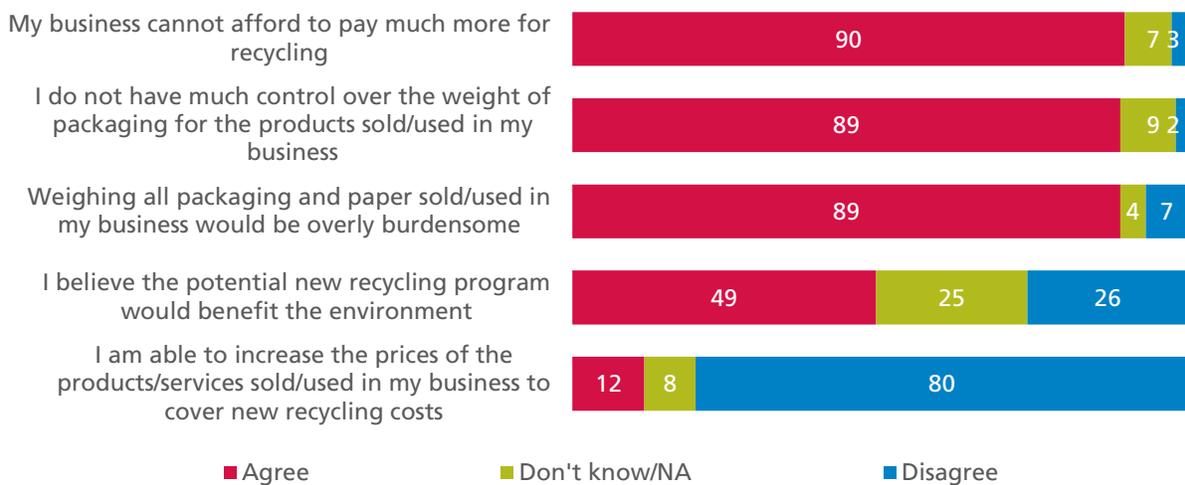
Accessibility and affordability are important considerations in the development of a recycling program. It is essential that all areas of our province have access to affordable recycling before any additional responsibility for recycling is placed on the business community. The Provincial

Waste Management Strategy from 2007 is yet to be fully implemented throughout the province and there is a high level of uncertainty how existing programs, let alone new programs, would be rolled out and how they will impact the small business community.

Although business owners disagreed that it is currently too costly to recycle (as noted above), 90 per cent of respondents agree they cannot afford to pay much more for recycling, 89 per cent agree they do not have much control over their packaging, and only 12 per cent agree they are able to increase their prices to cover these new recycling costs (see Figure 6). The EPR program attempts to incentivize businesses to change the packaging of their products, but considering how little control they have over their packaging, it seems highly unlikely this program will achieve this objective.

Figure 6:

**Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**



Source: CFIB, Newfoundland and Labrador Recycling Survey, April-May 2016.

While CFIB members understand the need of certain regulations and reporting mechanisms, they have serious concerns about the additional regulatory burden of measuring the weight of packaging materials, completing the associated paperwork, and remitting and reconciling appropriate fees. About nine of ten members in Newfoundland and Labrador agree that weighing all packaging in their business would be overly burdensome (see Figure 6). Experience in other jurisdictions has shown red tape is a concern with a recycling program on printed paper and packaging. Many jurisdictions have tried to address this issue by adopting de minimus exemptions based on total packaging weight and total revenue, though the regulatory burden still exists. Notwithstanding, 49 per cent agree the potential new recycling program would benefit the environment, while 26 per cent disagree and 25 per cent don't know (see Figure 6 above).

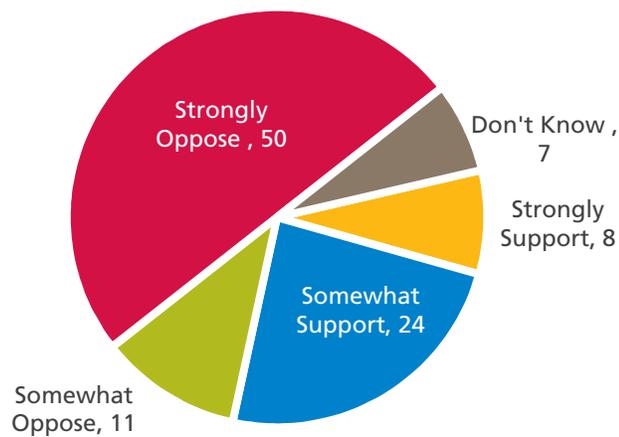
This new recycling program would only be more red tape, a very thick red tape. At the end of the chain, there would probably be no less paper and plastic recycled than what already is now.  
-Retail, Northeast Avalon

However, evidence suggests there has been no demonstrated environmental benefit of a printed paper and packaging program. In 2010, the Auditor General of Ontario noted the Ministry of the Environment did not adequately evaluate its program and therefore concluded the Ministry had no quantitative data to support the environmental benefit of printed paper and packaging in the province. It was recommended the Ministry “increase the scope of its inspections to include ... whether there has been any increase in the amount of waste diverted”.<sup>1</sup>

As Figure 7 shows, CFIB members are largely opposed to the introduction of a recycling program for printed paper and packaging. In fact, half of survey respondents are strongly opposed, whereas 24 per cent are somewhat supportive and only eight per cent strongly support the initiative. There is additional information presented in Appendix C.

Figure 7:

**To what extent do you support or oppose the implementation of a new recycling program for printed paper and packaging? (%)**



Source: CFIB, Newfoundland and Labrador Recycling Survey, April-May 2016.

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<sup>1</sup> 2010 Annual Report of the Office of the Auditor General of Ontario, Chapter 3, Section 3.09, Non-hazardous Waste Disposal and Diversion, pg 227.

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## Conclusion

A printed paper and packaging program is likely to increase both the financial and administrative burden on SMEs, while doing little to ensure that waste is being diverted. Business owners are confident it is possible to improve waste diversion in Newfoundland and Labrador with a program that is both financially and environmentally sustainable. Unfortunately, the EPR model for printed paper and packaging does neither. The more likely result is it will simply generate revenue with no demonstrated environmental benefit. The demonstrated effect of printed paper and packaging on SMEs is clear, it increases both the financial and administrative burden of recycling.

Small business owners are confident that it is possible to grow the economy and protect the environment at the same time. The government must clearly define the problem it wishes to solve and ensure any policies or programs demonstrably, not only theoretically, address the problem. The objective of EPR, however noble, must be demonstrated to work within a similar jurisdiction. Newfoundland and Labrador has a small population spread over a large land mass, and, as a result, the government must choose policies which are practical for this situation.

For business owners this is a direct hit to their bottom line. If a program is introduced in Newfoundland and Labrador, small business owners will face another increase in the cost of doing business in the province. At a time when small business owners need to focus on growing and diversifying their businesses and the economy, now is simply not the time to implement a program on printed paper and packaging.

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## Recommendation

- ▶ Indefinitely suspend work on the development of a printed paper and packaging program.

### OUR MEMBERS' EXPERIENCES ACROSS CANADA

Printed paper and packaging programs have existed for years in Ontario and have been more recently implemented in British Columbia.

A CFIB member, who owns a business in the magazines and catalogue materials industry in Ontario, encountered a fee increase of 120 per cent in both 2012 and 2013.

A CFIB member in British Columbia has had an equally concerning experience. A pizza outlet was put out of business as it was unable to comply with the financial cost of the cardboard boxes used to package the product.

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## Appendix A – Survey Results

# RESULTS: NL Recycling Survey

Survey method: Web  
 Survey period: April 18 – May 3, 2016  
 Tabulation date: May 5, 2016  
 Total responses: 160

% Response

**1. Does your business sell or use any of the following products?** (Select as many as apply)

- 82.5 Products with packaging made from cardboard
- 69.4 Products with packaging made from plastic
- 78.1 Printed paper (e.g. office paper, magazines) or news print
- 9.4 None of the above

**2. Does your business currently recycle any of the following?** (Select as many as apply)

- 60.3 Yes, cardboard
- 44.2 Yes, plastic
- 44.2 Yes, printed paper (e.g. office paper, magazines) or news print
- 26.9 None of the above

**3. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements about recycling in your business?** (Select one for each line)

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/Not applicable
I need more information about how to recycle in my business	45.5	42.7	11.9
It is easy to separate recyclable materials in my business	60.4	34.0	5.6
It is easy to train employees on how to recycle	64.1	26.8	9.2
It is difficult to explain to customers how to separate recyclable materials in my business	24.6	26.1	49.3
There are public (i.e. regional/municipal) recycling programs available to my business	44.4	34.7	20.8
It is too costly for my business to recycle	37.9	42.1	20.0

The provincial government is considering implementing a new recycling program for packaging (e.g. cardboard, plastic) and printed paper/newsprint. It would impose an additional recycling fee onto businesses that sell or use goods with packaging and printed paper/newsprint.

**4. Prior to this survey, were you aware that the provincial government is considering implementing a new recycling program?** (Select one answer only)

- 12.8 Yes
- 87.2 No

The provincial government may model the new recycling program after existing programs in Ontario and British Columbia (BC). In these provinces, businesses are required to weigh, measure and record all packaging and printed paper they sell or use and pay a fee accordingly.

**5. To what extent do you support or oppose the implementation of such a new recycling program?** (Select one answer only)

- 8.1 Strongly support
- 23.6 Somewhat support
- 10.8 Somewhat oppose
- 50.0 Strongly oppose
- 7.4 Don't know

It is possible the provincial government would exempt certain businesses from the potential new recycling program. Based on the recycling programs in Ontario and BC, the exemption criteria could be based on business revenue and the weight of packaging and printed paper sold or used.

**6. Which of the following businesses should be exempt from the potential new recycling program?** (Select one answer only)

- 14.4 Businesses with revenues under a certain threshold
- 10.3 Businesses selling/using packaging and printed paper weighing under a certain threshold
- 21.9 Businesses with revenues under a certain threshold and selling/using packaging and printed paper weighing under a certain threshold
- 23.3 There should be no exemption
- 30.1 Don't know

**7. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

(Select one for each line)

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/Not applicable
Weighing all packaging and paper sold/used in my business would be overly burdensome	89.0	6.9	4.1
My business cannot afford to pay much more for recycling	89.7	2.8	7.6
I do not have much control over the weight of packaging for the products sold/used in my business	89.0	2.1	9.0
I am able to increase the prices of the products/services sold/used in my business to cover new recycling costs	11.7	80.0	8.3
I believe the potential new recycling program would benefit the environment	49.3	26.1	24.6

**Question 8. As CFIB continues to represent your interests with the provincial government on the potential new recycling program, are there any other messages you would like us to deliver to the Premier?**

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## Appendix B – Member Comments

## Comments:

Id	Comments:	Sectors
920652	It's time for government to smarten up & stop wasting our tax dollars. I would bite to say that government waste at least 50% of our tax dollars. I think it's time for normal everyday people to run & change politics. It's time to elect local normal everyday people & NOT business or overly educated people. They haven't done much right in 67 years, I wouldn't expect it to change anytime soon. I think the poor person would take care of their own. For sure a poor person is much better with a budget.	Construction
457099	We do enough work for the government now collecting their taxes and paying taxes on top of taxes and we get nothing in return for it only a fine if we are a day late. Leave the government out of it and privatize it. They will still get their bit of taxes out of it and it will be more efficient.	Manufacturing
1202727	Start requiring the biggest polluters and corporations to reduce their impact on the environment immediately, like the oil and gas companies, and manufacturing. Leave small businesses alone they are struggling enough already.	Retail
1107364	My business has taken the responsibly of recycling as must as possible. We use recyclable paper bags for customer, have 3 compost bins & compost everything from plant material to cardboard boxes, recycle all plastic bottles, and we reuse & repurpose any items we can. I believe that every business has the responsibly to recycle & train their employees & customers to recycle as well.	Retail
1151598	Not fond of the additional charge but love the general idea. There has to be drop locations in communities so that more recycling can be done. In our community there is a location that only accepts beverage containers, we do drop off and recycle faithfully.	Retail
1156829	Enough is enough with the taxes!!!! I already recycle all my cardboard and plastic and I don't need to give you (the government) more money to do it!!!!	Retail
600118	Find ways to make it easy for businesses to recycle.	Professional Services
1018618	Recycling is a must.	Hospitality

Q8: As CFIB continues to represent your interests with the provincial government on the potential new recycling program, are there any other messages you would like us to deliver to the Premier?

Id	Question 8	Sector
920652	I do strongly agree with recycling but it has to be fair across the board. Residents on the Avalon do NOT pay to drop of garbage at the local land fill. In central Newfoundland residents ARE charged to drop of garbage at the local land fill. Why? I don't think anyone residential or commercial should have to pay for recycling. The government or someone is making money on container recycling. Put all recycling in the same basket & the money that is made from container recycling use it to fund paper & cardboard recycling.	Construction
893672	If they are implementing this levy the government should ensure that it is indeed being recycled by companies claiming to do so. Can we claim this as an expense?????	Construction
1138321	Pick up options and delivery option have to be more accessible in rural areas. Burning paper in the garden still makes more sense than recycling in rural areas. The carbon foot print is a lot smaller than transporting it for more than 100km and then burning it on a big scale. I am not convinced that ANY of the recycled stuff actually makes it to a recycling factory. If it does, does it really save the environment when everything has to be transported off the island? Love the idea of recycling, but not convinced that it makes any sense in Newfoundland without recycling material reused in Newfoundland.	Construction
457099	I agree strongly with recycling of every kind of material. What I don't agree with is having to pay the government to do it and weigh it and measure it. Why would they want us to weigh and measure it unless they are going to be like a courier/transport company and charge you for that? In that case they should be considered a company and pay taxes like everyone else. What would make more sense is to have centrally located drop off depots where people can bring their recyclables without charge and no requirements to weigh and measure anything. Make it mandatory for businesses and the private sector to bring all recyclables to these depots. Is the government truly interested in recycling or is it another way to waste the time of business owners and take more money from them without calling it a tax? Recycling depots now pay you to bring in plastics and bottles so maybe this should be privatized as well and leave government out of it.	Manufacturing
694142	This new recycling program would only be more red tape, a very thick red tape. At the end of the chain, they would probably be no less paper and plastic recycled than what already is now. Instead, improve on the residential recycling programs already in place; that would have a positive impact on the environment. For example, make it possible to recycle glass jars (pickles, jams, peanut butter, etc).	Retail
900475	The City of St. Johns should offer free recycling pick-ups to businesses, the same as the offer to residential areas.	Retail
635054	Governments are usually inefficient at everything. What makes this government think this is a good idea at this time of additional expense and lower revenues.	Retail
451395	My business can't handle any extra fees.	Retail
1196484	I believe that implementing a recycling program to businesses is a great idea,	Retail

Q8: As CFIB continues to represent your interests with the provincial government on the potential new recycling program, are there any other messages you would like us to deliver to the Premier?

	however if there is a cost involved I will not pay. I will continue to do what I was already doing, sort and return the materials to the depot myself.	
1151598	Recycling programs should be mandatory and available for everyone not just Businesses. It should be a volunteer effort by everyone in the province and other provinces to help protect the earth and make it more sustainable for the younger generations. It should not be another reason to charge Businesses another fee which is going to add to the financial stain that already exists.	Retail
878166	Between payroll taxes, HST remittance, corporation paperwork, municipal water meter readings and remittances and payroll survey's I work part time for the government with no pay from them, it's ridiculous for government to further burden small business with one more thing to do for them.	Retail
1156829	Another tax!!!! I already recycle my cardboard and plastics at the central waste facility, I can't afford to pay extra to a government who can't govern, you can't blame everything on the PC's...you knew back in November what kind of state the books were in so why didn't you act back then????.. I load up my truck every few weeks and drive to the depo to drop off my recyclables...don't impose another tax on small business. Is that all your government knows how to do?? Get some young forward thinking individuals in your government that can think outside the tax box!!!!	Retail
925355	We already do a good job with recycling and do not need any additional fees over and above the fees we pay now to properly recycle. Do not implement this.	Retail
1081943	A lot of small business in NL can't afford any more expense, the government should give us extra money to recycle.	Retail
1093138	Recycling is ok if in large centers where you are close to a recycling depot as there is none in our area. the nearest is in St. John's two hours away	Retail
681559	Small businesses are taxed to the hilt by councils and we get diddly squat in return for these exorbitant fees and no garbage pickup	Retail
1124160	I spent 32 years in the auto business and we had a tire fee for pickups and cars. Nothing for heavy vehicles. I'm now in the ATV business. Guess what? No tire fee or levy. I was advised to bring my tires to the garbage dump and we will bury them there. If you or I got caught doing the same thing, you would never have the money to pay the fine imposed. Until they get off their butts or privatize the project, it will always be the same. I sell more ATV tires than I ever did in the auto business and I'm not the only ATV dealer in NL. Try getting some HONEST politician to sort this out. I sound frustrated because of the Budget and the big raise the Feds are going to receive.	Retail
1018609	You cannot label all businesses under one category. Therefore you cannot expect one method to effectively work for all businesses. Each one has their own specific needs and must be dealt with accordingly. In short, one program for all businesses will not work.	Retail
492287	Most of our products are sold with packaging and that package would be recycled by end user. Do Not charge me any more we are taxed to death now. I agree 100% to recycle but let the people that end up using the recycled material in there new products help pay as well?	Retail

Q8: As CFIB continues to represent your interests with the provincial government on the potential new recycling program, are there any other messages you would like us to deliver to the Premier?

1123830	Recycling? Really? In Labrador? Let's start with getting the basics done here. The area is only set up to recycle cans and bottles. I'm pretty sure the environmental footprint of trucking recycling out of Labrador would far outweigh the environmental benefits. As for adding burden to small enterprise, stop doing it. It is difficult enough to operate in the current economic situation.	Retail
1027636	In light of all of the new taxes that the Liberal government has imposed in this province there would be a general revolt by the business community and the people if the government were to impose and additional taxes or levies on the people of the province at this time.	Retail
678601	Stop taxing and adding more hurdles to business, look at the inefficient and wasteful costs of running the MMSB. MMSB, started out with some great ideas and now have people thinking about recycling, but have grown into a tax grab and the costs to run it have ballooned out of control.	Retail
673074	I really think there should be a curbside pick-up for recycling pertaining to business products. It is hard to find the time for my small business to take cardboard and plastic to the local recycling area here in Corner Brook.	Retail
918004	Absolutely!! Residents of NL should be treated alike ..... We are paying double to dispose of our waste in Central Newfoundland as opposed to all businesses on the Avalon!! They are still using black garbage bags and taking garbage to the Logy Bay dump site but we have to have multiple Dump bins to sort ours which cost us up to \$10,000 a year... Fair is fair and that's not fair as we are all living and doing business in the same province.	Retail
1043817	This is equivalent to imposing just another fee on an already over-burdened small business	Retail
672524	Too many taxes	Transportation
839992	Businesses and homeowners all recycle. Business pay to private enterprise to pick up all recyclables. Maybe I am missing the point altogether. There are a lot of recycling bins out there or maybe the premier hasn't noticed.	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Leasing
1035020	Don't add more taxes now. Deal with issue of too many public service employees, muskrat falls, ferries not being run on cost recovery	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Leasing
1006873	We already recycle all plastics, cardboard and paper and pay to have this done through private company.	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Leasing
682887	The costs to recycle is small rural communities in NL are too high for the small amount of environment that is harmed by landfill sites. The environmental damage caused by the fuels and air pollution in trucking the material long distances every day probably exceed the damage caused by the small dump sites that were shut down.	Professional Services
1042930	We are a small company and we have been recycling for years. We don't need to be paying the government for recycling.	Professional Services

Q8: As CFIB continues to represent your interests with the provincial government on the potential new recycling program, are there any other messages you would like us to deliver to the Premier?

600118	We need to do more recycling in this Province. Businesses should be encouraged to recycle. Charging for recycling is not very encouraging.	Professional Services
13885	I agree with the recycling program, but I do not agree with any other tax or cost for this program. We as small business cannot afford further expenses.	Social Services
1241942	Not now	Social Services
578600	I would like to see one of these surveys address the issues in the new budget and how that will affect future growth for small business. Surely there are better ways to address the debt load. Driving your young people out of the province is not the answer.	Social Services
1083613	Devise a program that would allow everyone in rural outports to recycle cans, plastics (other than drinks containers), cardboard etc... There is none now. Once the public recycles THEN move onto businesses.	Hospitality
1000428	Recycling in Newfoundland is a complete waste of money, yes we all pay for it. We ship our recycling to another province to have it refined, at a significant cost to us the taxpayers and get nothing in return ( no manufacturing jobs- a few can counters can't be justified for the recycling costs)	Hospitality
1103874	You need not worry, this government would not be considering this program unless the government itself could save money or make money for themselves. Let's see how willing they are to provide incentives to businesses to participate. Because one thing is sure, they do not care about the extra costs to a business, nor what financial damage it does to businesses in Newfoundland.	Hospitality
897507	Leave small business alone. We are finding it hard enough to survive in the business climate created by your recent budget and the foolish reporting requirements that continue to increase annually.	Hospitality
1034484	I think the recent Budget has levied enough new expense for my business. The status quo should remain for this and any other new initiatives until we have our spending under some kind of control. I don't want to hear of any new spending	Hospitality
1018618	We own and operate a B&B, we recycle cans bottles, compost, paper/cardboard etc. This is a great reduction in garbage	Hospitality
897323	For god sake it's time for the government to ease up on small business and look at what is keeping this province going. The backbone of NL is the small business	Personal, Misc. Services
998441	I do not want to pay another penny for anything until this province gets its act together; we have a handful of people, we pay and spend a fortune and it is still not enough; then the business community seems to be the first to have to pick up the tab. The term "poor management" is a joke.	Personal, Misc. Services
708520	On a different subject, I would like the option of paying my HST monthly as opposed to quarterly. It is hard to come up with that much capital every three months after the suppliers are paid in that third month. It kills our little bit of profit	Personal, Misc. Services
13315	Small business is always hit with things to do for government, If they want something like this done, they should pay for them, instead of giving us another expense.	Personal, Misc. Services

Q8: As CFIB continues to represent your interests with the provincial government on the potential new recycling program, are there any other messages you would like us to deliver to the Premier?

1290544	Recycling is a key part of the Newfoundland and Labrador image as a pristine natural tourism destination.	Unclassic & IVMs
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## Appendix C - Mandate Question 260 Question 1 NL September 2015

**Question:**

Should businesses pay an additional fee for the recycling of packaging and printed paper (e.g. cardboard, newsprint) they sell or use?

**Background:**

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is exploring a new recycling program similar to existing programs in British Columbia and Ontario. This would impose an additional recycling fee onto businesses who sell or use packaging (e.g. cardboard, plastic, Styrofoam) or printed paper (e.g. magazines, newsprint, menus). Businesses would be required to weigh, measure and record all packaging and printed paper and pay a fee accordingly.

**Arguments for:**

Supporters say: It would provide an incentive to reduce how much packaging and printed paper businesses generate; It would only be fair that businesses who sell or use packaging and printed paper pay for recycling it.

**Arguments against:**

Opponents say: It would add significant regulatory and financial costs to businesses; An additional fee would be unfair as most businesses cannot control how much packaging and printed paper they sell or use.

	<b>NL</b>	
<b>Should businesses pay an additional fee for the recycling of packaging and printed paper (e.g. cardboard, newsprint) they sell or use?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	9%
	<b>No</b>	87%
	<b>Undecided</b>	3%
	<b>No Interest</b>	1%

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