

Report to Council

Report Title: 2026 Provincial Recycling Changes

Prepared By: Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations

Department: Operations - Waste Management

Date: October 14, 2025

Report Number: WM2025-10 **File Number:** C110P

Attachments: Recyclable material list (circular materials)

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number WM2025-10 - 2026 Provincial Recycling Changes, prepared by Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations for information purposes and further provides the following direction to staff under option number _____.

Report:

Background:

The provincial government transitioned recycling from the local municipalities to a producer responsibility model, starting in its full capacity on January 1, 2026. Previous update reports have been provided to council for information. As of Thursday, October 2, Circular Materials released the inclusive recyclable material list of items that will be accepted at the curbside starting January 1, 2026. The full list is attached to this report.

What this means for Brockton:

- An increase in types of materials that will be universally recyclable at curbside. This includes, film plastics, cardboard, polystyrene packaging, tetra-paks, aluminum foil type containers and hard type plastic packaging.
- All recycling depots will cease to operate and fully close at the end of day, December 31, 2025. This includes depots at the Brant Landfill, Greenock Transfer station as well as the MTO recycling cardboard, film plastic and polystyrene drop off.

The MTO yard has historically been open to the public 24//7 for drop off for cardboard, polystyrene and film plastics, with the e-waste being open and staffed from 9-11 am on Thursday mornings. With the legislated change taking effect on January 1, 2026, staff present the best options for the continuation of recycling of non eligible items for council's consideration.

Analysis:

Option 1 (preferred): Move collection opportunities to the landfill, which is properly staffed to handle the sorting and oversight.

This option ensures that members of the public can still recycle their e-waste and scrap metal but ensures that members of the public don't leave garbage, adding to the amount of cleanup that already occurs at this location. Both the Brant landfill and the Hanover Walkerton landfill already accept the two remaining streams of waste (e-waste and scrap metal)

Option 2: Maintain E-Waste Operations at MTO and continue to collect scrap metal, e-waste and batteries.

The depot is only open 2 hours/week to accept scrap metal and e-waste. The concern staff present with this option is that the depot grounds are too large for this purpose only and staff would not be able to control dumping of materials after the change. To keep part of it open may be a deterrent to use the upgraded service delivery of having all the materials (cardboard, film plastics and polystyrene) being accepted curbside. Based on previous behavior, users may turn it into a dumping grounds.

Strategic Action Plan Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Strategic Action Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?		
• Recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision		Yes
• Recommendations contribute to achieving Heritage, Culture, and Community		N/A
• Recommendations contribute to achieving Quality of Life		Yes
• Recommendations contribute to achieving Land Use Planning and the Natural Environment		N/A
• Recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Development		N/A
• Recommendations contribute to achieving Municipal Governance		Yes

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes

The two streams that come into the recycling depot generate approximately \$2,000 per year. The rental and program costs, including approximately 5-10 hours of staff time each week far outweigh this.

Transitioning to collection at Brant and Hanover/Walkerton only would have a positive effect on the overall operating budget.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Schnurr".

Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations

Reviewed By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sonya Watson".

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer