

## Urban Waste Management and Rural Land

### A CFFO Position Statement

1. **Whereas** the city of Toronto recently secured a landfill site in Elgin for its future use without giving opportunity to stakeholders to have input.
2. **Whereas** the stewardship of Ontario's prime agricultural land is not best served by the disposal of urban waste in remote rural areas.
3. **Whereas** the disposal of urban waste in landfill sites is an on-going concern for the protection of Ontario's watersheds.
4. **Whereas** the abundant availability of land in rural Ontario is not a valid reason for governments at all levels to their drag the heels with regards to implementing diversion practices.
5. **Whereas** the world which we live in is a finite one. The traditional waste management methods of "burn it or bury it" are not viable long-term approaches to sustainability.
6. **Whereas** there are regions within Canada that have done an exceptional job of implementing diversion techniques, among them the province of Nova Scotia, and cities within Ontario such as Trenton and Guelph.
7. **Whereas** the general public was unaware of a deal conducted between a large city and private landfill operation that has potential ramifications that could influence the well-being of many people living beyond that city's borders.

#### Therefore Be It Resolved

- 1.) **That** urban waste should be dealt with within the borders of their own municipality.
- 2.) **That** urban communities which lack the available land for new landfill should implement other waste disposal methods, including modern incineration and gasification techniques.
- 3.) **That** urban governments should increase their efforts to improve diversion practices, with a long term goal of zero-waste.
- 4.) **That** a manufacturing-side levy be placed on the use of non-reusable or non-recyclable packaging of all retail goods as a disincentive to use excessive packaging.
- 5.) **That** reusable packaging have a refundable deposit value included in their sale to provide an incentive for consumers to reduce their personal level of waste and improve overall reuse of materials.
- 6.) **That** contracts reached between a private entity and either public or private entities should be made public if there are potential health and/or environmental risks attendant in the deal.
- 7.) **That** Ontario municipalities take responsibility for their waste generation through the methods mentioned above.

Adopted by Provincial Council  
Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario  
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