

## PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS

The Comox Valley Regional District board, on occasion, elects to support province-wide concerns and issues in the form of a board resolution. These resolutions are normally forwarded first to the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities (AVICC) for consideration but may also be forwarded directly to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM). Based on the nature of the concern, UBCM will either endorse or not endorse the recommendation and if endorsed, will present the concern to the provincial or federal government on behalf of all BC municipalities and regional district.

**Date of Board meeting:** May 14, 2009

**Board Resolution:** THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM request that the provincial government ensure that all funds paid for eco fees / refundable deposits are used exclusively to run the programs to reduce the demand on local and regional waste management.

**This resolution was referred to UBCM on,** May 26, 2010

**A response was received on** February 2, 2010

**Response from UBCM:** On motion, was ENDORSED at annual convention: The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions supporting the introduction of industry product stewardship programs that would shift the responsibility for waste management from local governments to producers and consumers on such products as electronic waste, batteries, tires, used oil and plastics (2005-B24; 2004-B13; 2004-B14; 2004-B15; 2004-B82; 2003-B87; 1998-B60). Members have also endorsed the principle that industry should be fully funding product stewardship programs, in which industry assumes the costs of marketing, collecting, transporting and processing materials (2007 UBCM Environment Action Plan).

**Additionally this resolution was referred to the Ministry of Environment** The Recycling Regulation establishes stewardship responsibilities for producers of prescribed products. This stewardship role for producers shifts responsibility for managing end-of-life products and waste from local governments and taxpayers to industry and consumers. To assure financial accountability, the regulation requires any producers charging an eco-fee or deposit report on an annual basis independently audited financial statements detailing deposits and refunds as well as revenues and expenditures for any fee associated with an approved stewardship plan.