



**MINISTER
OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE**

Room 344
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8
CANADA

Terri Drover
Director-General
Health Products Stewardship Association
301A-3800 Steeles Ave W
Woodbridge ON L4L 4G9

Dear Terri Drover:

I approve your Manitoba Medications Return Program and Manitoba Sharps Collection Program Plan effective July 1, 2023. This Approval marks twelve successful years of the Health Products Stewardship Association operating in Manitoba. This Approval will expire June 30, 2028, pursuant to Section 7(4) of the Regulation under the Waste Reduction and Prevention Act unless otherwise noted.

This Approval is issued to the Health Products Stewardship Association under Section 7(2) of the Household Hazardous Material and Prescribed Material Stewardship Regulation, 2010 (Regulation), and is subject to the Health Products Stewardship Association meeting the conditions as set forth in "Attachment A" of this letter, which forms part of this Approval.

Strengthening environmental protection, community safety, and public health are priorities for Manitoba. As an organization that safely collects and processes unused medications and used medical sharps, your programs contribute to all of these priorities.

Your programs have an important role in providing waste diversion services to Manitobans. I am pleased to see that your programs met their eligible pharmacy participation target of 90%, and I approve of your plan's target to maintain this rate. Thank you for participating in the Winter Roads backhaul program and for partnering with SpiritRX to provide program coverage to First Nations communities.

Manitobans suggested opportunities for increasing awareness of waste diversion and recycling programs through more engagement. I approve of your plan's consumer awareness and usage targets, and I expect you to continue exploring engagement strategies to reach all Manitobans, including Indigenous peoples and youth

Going forward, my department will meet with you or your designated representative on an annual basis as an opportunity for you to share your program's progress and to discuss continuous improvement.

The Health Products Stewardship Association should submit its next application for renewal of this Approval by October 31, 2027 to allow adequate time for review and public consultations. However, you may apply for approval of an amendment to your stewardship program plan at any time, under Section 13(1) of the Regulation.

I look forward to our continued collaboration on this program. If you have any additional questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please contact Kelly Kuryk, Acting Senior Manager, Environmental Policy and Delivery Unit, at Kelly.Kuryk@gov.mb.ca or 431-374-9424.

Kind regards,

Original signed by

Honourable Kevin Klein
Minister of Environment and Climate

Attachment

c. Kelly Kuryk

ATTACHMENT A

Conditions of Approval

Health Products Stewardship Association

The conditions set forth below form part of the Ministerial approval for the Manitoba Medications Return Program and Manitoba Sharps Collection Program (Program) Plan pursuant to the Household Hazardous Material and Prescribed Material Stewardship Regulation, 2010 (Regulation).

Under Section 11(1) of the Regulation, the Minister has the authority to suspend or cancel the Approval of the Program at any time if there is a breach or contravention by the Health Products Stewardship Association as the operator of the Program, of either The Waste Reduction and Prevention Act or the Regulation or the conditions set forth in this Approval and, if applicable, subsequent amendments of this Approval.

If the Minister is not assured that the Health Products Stewardship Association is implementing or operating the Program substantially in accordance with its intent, or where the Minister or department have concluded, based on relevant circumstances, that the Program or terms of this Approval, including “Attachment A: Conditions of Approval” should be reviewed, then pursuant to Section 8 of the Regulation new or additional conditions may be imposed as deemed appropriate so as to ensure that the environmental outcomes and regulatory requirements are fulfilled.

Any notices to be provided to the department pursuant to this approval are to be submitted in writing to: Senior Manager, Environmental Policy and Delivery Unit, Manitoba Environment and Climate, Box 37 - 14 Fultz Boulevard, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3Y 0L6.

The conditions of this approval are:

THAT the Health Products Stewardship Association:

1. Implement and operate the programs substantially in accordance with the submitted program plan's intent, consistent with the requirements of The Waste Reduction and Prevention Act, the Household Hazardous Material and Prescribed Material Stewardship Regulation, the Guideline for Household Hazardous Material and Prescribed Material Stewardship, and these Conditions of Approval, as approved and amended from time to time.
2. Identify a senior official with the Health Products Stewardship Association as a contact person to work with my officials to provide such assistance or any information (including both financial and non-financial information) that may be deemed necessary in a timely manner to enable them to provide me with information to assess whether the Health Products Stewardship Association

has implemented the Program and it is operating substantially in accordance with its intent and the Conditions of Approval and, if applicable, subsequent amendments to this Approval.

3. Retained earnings shown on the Health Product Stewardship Association's financial statement for the Manitoba program (total revenues less total expenditures), as determined by an external auditor, shall not at any time during the term of this approval, exceed an amount equal to one year's program revenue.
4. Submit annual reports to the department's senior manager who administers The Waste Reduction and Prevention Act, per the applicable regulation and guidelines.
5. Provide meaningful opportunity for input at strategic points (amendment of program plan, annual reporting, continuous review of operations) from government, service delivery agencies, relevant external agencies, and the public, per the applicable regulation and guidelines.
6. Maintain its status as a body corporate and registration under The Corporations Act, C.C.S.M. c. C225 (Manitoba) while operating the program.
7. Over the next year, work with the department to identify key performance indicators that will contribute to an evaluation framework measuring the performance of stewardship programs in Manitoba. You will be required to report on these key performance indicators in your annual reports to show that the program is working towards incremental, improved outcomes.
8. Provide information on current accessibility gaps, develop accessibility standards by 2025 to support reasonable access to program collection services by Manitobans and begin reporting on accessibility annually in 2026.
9. Increase awareness to 54% for pharmaceuticals and 64% for medical sharps.