

Date: January 20, 2025

To: Ag plastic collection sites & key stakeholders

Re: Building a Zero-Plastic-Waste Strategy for Agriculture Project wind down

You are receiving this memo because you have been involved in Cleanfarms' Building a Zero-Plastic-Waste Strategy for Agriculture.

This project was funded in part by the Government of Canada through Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Canadian Agricultural Strategic Priorities Program (CASPP) which provided 50/50 funding for eligible projects ending March 31, 2024.

Over the past year, Cleanfarms has explored different ways to secure funding to build on the important onthe-ground ag plastics pilots that were a large component of *Building a Zero-Plastic-Waste Strategy for Agriculture.* We explored a variety of funding programs and submitted a proposal via CASPP's new project intake period, which offers funding for eligible projects until March 31, 2029.

<u>Unfortunately, our proposal was declined which necessitates the official wind down of *Building a Zero-*<u>*Plastic-Waste Strategy for Agriculture.*</u></u>

Over the next few weeks, our staff will be reaching out, one-on-one, to collection sites to discuss this further and potentially assist with any final actions.

While we are disappointed that this project is closing, we are proud of the progress we made with our pilot program partners. Review our <u>Annual Reports</u> to learn more about the volumes diverted, the collection systems that were developed and the support and farmer buy-in that was achieved.

Although this specific project is closing, Cleanfarms will continue to seek out solutions for managing agricultural plastics and packaging. We remain dedicated to finding practical and sustainable options to support agricultural communities in reducing plastic waste and helping farmers farm even more sustainably than they already do.

We will be in touch if new opportunities arise to collaborate on future projects.

For more information

Kim Timmer, Director, Stakeholder Relations and Policy