



The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.  
Prime Minister  
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Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

On behalf of the Canadian Association of Recycling Industries and our 200 member companies, we want to thank you for the actions you and your government have taken to reduce the harm caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. We recognize that this virus is an unprecedented healthcare and economic crisis and that the efforts to reduce the virus's potential harm must be equally extraordinary.

Recycling facilities are taking appropriate measures to ensure the health and safety of their staff during this crisis, but they understand their businesses are essential to supply chains and to maintaining healthy communities.

Canada's recycling sector supplies raw materials to manufacturers of essential goods within Canada and across the world. Steel mills, the construction sector, food and beverage container manufacturers, the military and many others all depend on resources provided and processed by the recycling industry.

Additionally, about 35 million tonnes of solid waste are generated (disposed plus diverted) in Canada annually. Canadian recyclers ensure the diverted materials are collected, safely processed, and returned to the manufacturing supply chain. Shutting down these operations would impede residential material collection and create further public health challenges.

As many regions across Canada begin to shut down non-essential businesses, we urge the Government of Canada to recognize recycling operations as essential, both for the safety of the public and for our nation's economic infrastructure.

Tracy Shaw  
President and CEO