

Making it work

Waste Free Ontario Act

March 28, 2017, Toronto

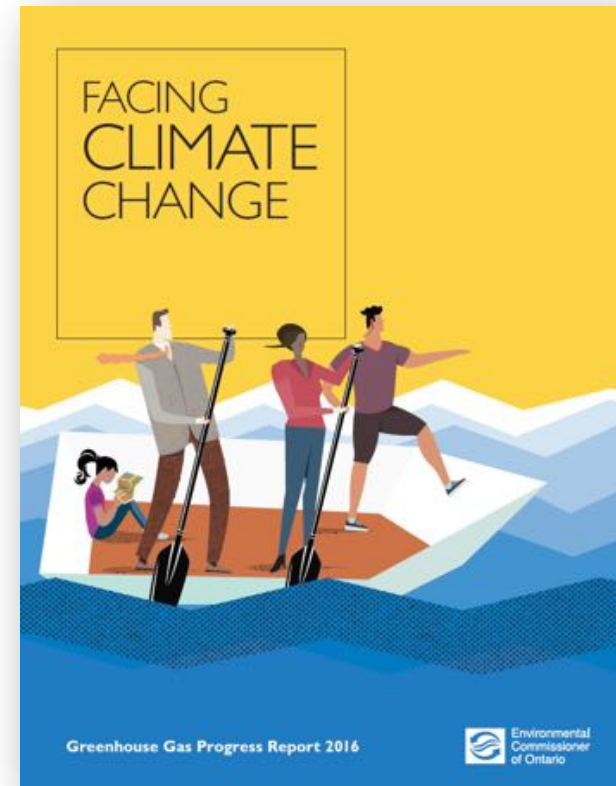
Ontario Environmental Industry Association

Dianne Saxe



Who is the ECO?

- Impartial, independent
- Guardian of the *Environmental Bill of Rights*
- Watchdog on:
 - Greenhouse gas emissions in Ontario
 - Energy conservation
 - Environmental protection



Waste-Free Ontario: What's New?

In the Law:

- Direct producer responsibility
- Enhanced transparency and accountability measures
 - Data collection
 - Service provider responsibilities
- Enforcement responsibilities
- Circular Economy

In the Strategy:

- Improving IC&I diversion
- Regulatory review
- Designating new materials
- Organics action plan
- Excess soil management policy
- Procurement

Will it work?

“Zero Waste and Zero Emissions from Waste”

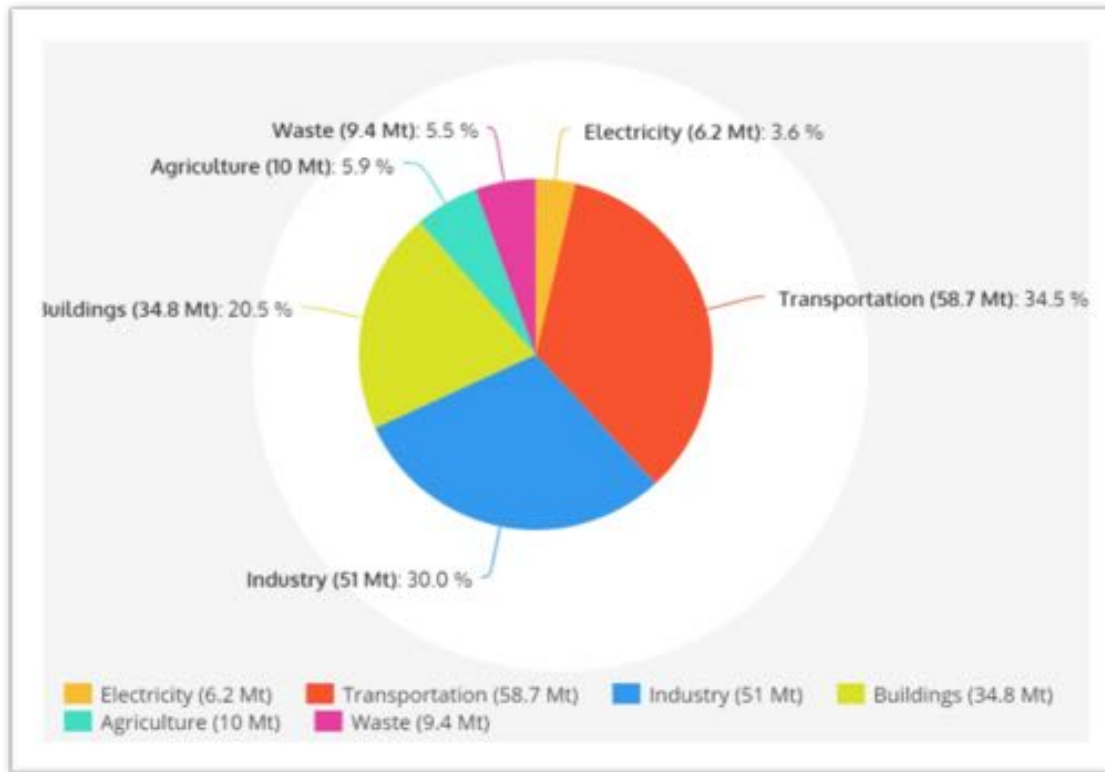
4 Key Priorities:

1. Organics
2. Recycling Standards
3. More Designated Materials
4. Blue Box

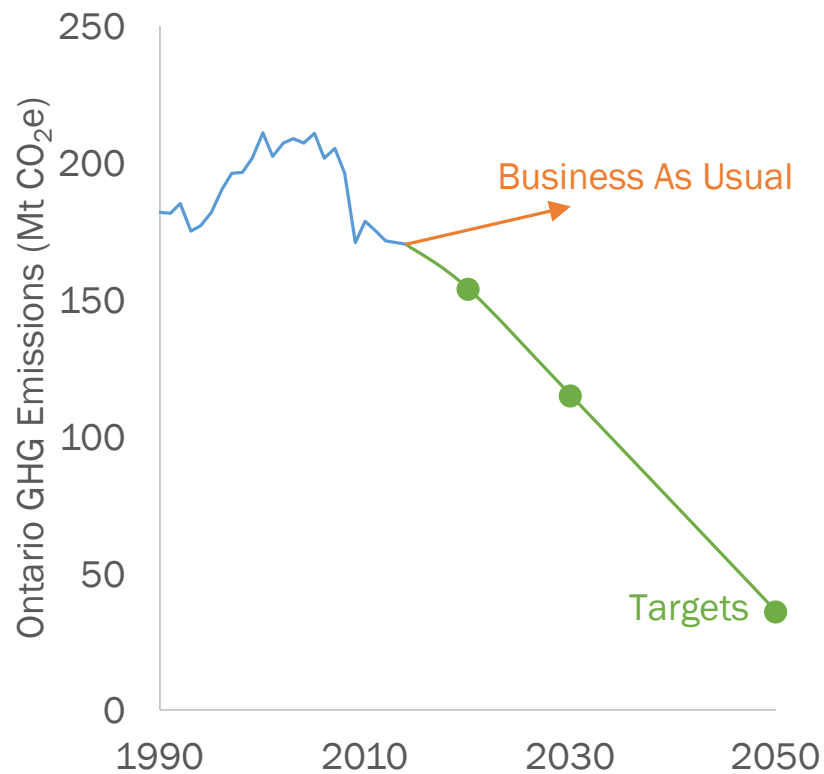


1. Organics

Why Organics Matter

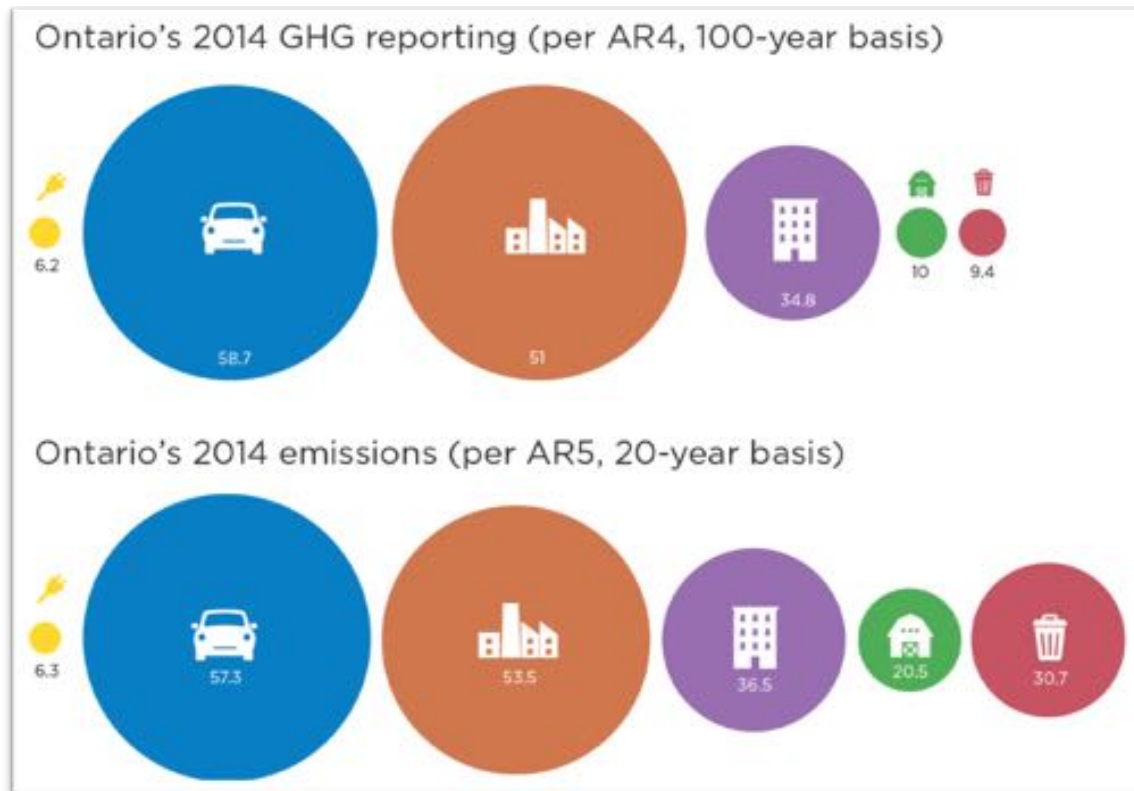


Ontario's journey to a low carbon economy



- Unprecedented transformation
- Methane underestimated

If we took methane seriously



Zero GHGs from waste?

- Reduce / ban landfill
- Landfill methane capture (RNG?)
- All organics, incl. IC&I

Challenges:

- Processing capacity
- Siting (esp. odour)
- Expense (who pays?)
 - E.g. Branded organics



2. Recycling Standards

Robust Recycling Standards: Why?



Photo credit: Santeri Viinamäki

Robust Recycling Standards

- Good metrics
- Good environmental results
- Clarity, stringency, enforceability

Challenges:

- Cost
- Consistency
- Escape routes?



3. More Designated Materials

More Materials: Why it Matters

- Stagnant diversion – only 25%
- Need:
 - Better capture rates
 - More material types
- Priority items obvious:
 - Appliances
 - Electrical tools
 - Batteries
 - Fluorescent bulbs and tubes
 - Mattresses
 - Carpets
 - Clothing, textiles
 - Furniture, bulky items



What to divert next?

- Move on priority list
 - Toxics first

Challenges:

- Making the market work
 - Incentives and barriers
- How to change habits



4. Blue Box

Blue Box: Why it Matters

- Most widely used program
 - Important to Ontarians
- Cost rising, evolving tonne
- Substantial municipal investment, \$\$ cost to ratepayers
- Damaged relationship with “stewards”



Resolving Blue Box

- What's Fair?

Challenges:

- Who controls the curb
- Co-collection
- Stranded assets
- Litter



We'll be watching

“Zero Waste and Zero Emissions from Waste”

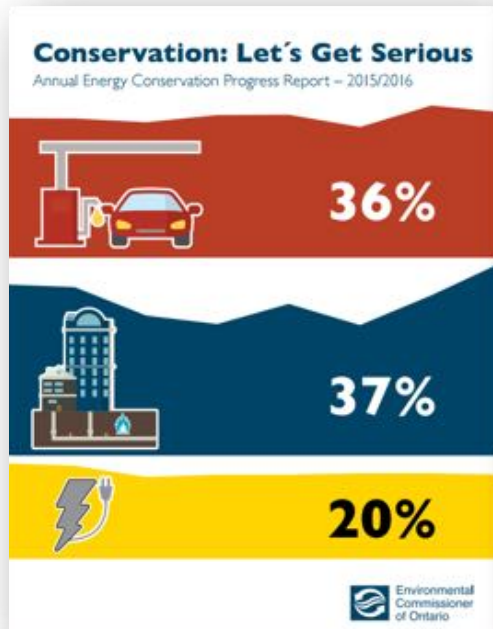
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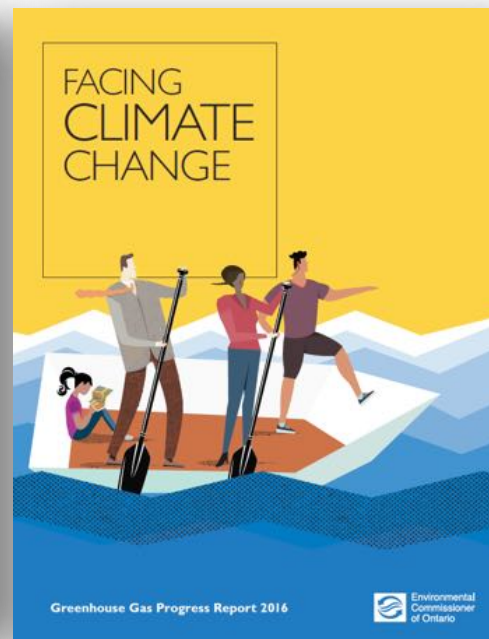


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YOUR RIGHTS

Under the Environmental Bill of Rights, Ontarians have a right to know about — and have a say in — government decisions that affect the environment.

- WANT TO HAVE A SAY IN GOVERNMENT DECISIONS? COMMENT ON PROPOSALS
- HAVE AN IDEA TO IMPROVE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION? APPLY FOR A REVIEW
- THINK SOMEONE IS BREAKING THE LAW? APPLY FOR AN INJUNCTION

CLIMATE, ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT

We report on compliance with the Environmental Bill of Rights and Ontario's progress on climate change, energy conservation, and other environmental issues.

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WHO WE ARE

The Environmental Commissioner of Ontario (ECO) is an independent officer of the Legislature who reports on government progress on climate change, energy and other environmental issues. The ECO is the province's environmental watchdog and champion of Ontarians' environmental rights.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COMMISSIONER