Board of Directors Meeting Highlights Held on August 20, 2020 at 8:30 AM as a Virtual Meeting



All of Ontario Now in Stage 3 Re-Opening

As of August 10, all thirty-four of Ontario's public health regions are now in "Stage 3" of re-opening under the COVID-19 state of emergency. Nearly all businesses and public spaces can gradually reopen as regions enter Stage 3, with public health and workplace safety restrictions in place, while some high-risk venues and activities will remain closed until they can safely resume operations.

Gathering limits are increased to a maximum of 50 people indoors and a maximum of 100 people outdoors with physical distancing in place. Workplaces must put the necessary measures in place to protect the health of their workers and the public, including safe physical distancing and frequent and thorough hand-washing. Document or track attendance as much as possible to support contact tracing efforts while respecting privacy. Work from home arrangements should continue where possible.

Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health will continue to closely monitor the evolving situation across the province to advise when public health restrictions can be further loosened or tightened.

New Waste Practitioners Group to Help Improve Approvals Process

In collaboration with OWMA; Municipal Engineers Association (MEA); Ontario Association of Sewage Industry Services (OASIS); Ontario Environment Industry Association (ONEIA); Canadian Biogas Association (CBA); as well as other external stakeholders, including municipalities, consultants, and waste sector proponents, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) is establishing a Waste Practitioner's Group (WPG) to create a forum for discussions on waste permissions.

Through regular quarterly meetings that will start this Fall, the working group will identify opportunities for improvements in the permissions and approvals process and its operational practices for waste facilities. The Waste Practitioner's Group (WPG) will be co-chaired by Mike Chopowick (OWMA) and Mohsen Keyvani (MECP). More information will be provided as it becomes available.

Consultation on Modernizing Hazardous Waste Reporting in Ontario

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks is seeking feedback on proposed changes to modernize and transition the delivery of hazardous waste digital reporting services to the Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority. More information on the consultation is available on the Environmental Registry website. Feedback will guide future regulatory and implementation changes to make reporting simpler, faster, and more cost-effective.

Timing of Producer Responsibility Recycling Regulations

Regulations under the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act to enable individual producer responsibility of Ontario's recycling programs continue to undergo development and await implementation. The status of upcoming producer responsibility regulations is as follows:

Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) – The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Program operated by Ontario Electronic Stewardship (OES) will end on December 31, 2020. The new producer responsibility regulation is expected to be imminently filed by the Minister during August 2020. The producer responsibility regulation for batteries was filed on February 27, 2020

Municipal Hazardous and Special Waste (MHSW) – The current Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste (MHSW) Program will wind-up on June 30, 2021, and be replaced with a new producer responsibility regulation, to be fully in effect on July 1, 2021. The Ministry of the Environment is anticipating that a draft MHSW regulation will be released in Fall 2020 for public consultation. Transitioning the MHSW Program to a producer responsibility model will be a multi-stage process that will involve many opportunities for input.

Packaging and Printed Paper (**Blue Box**) – Formal consultations among municipalities, producers, and waste service providers, which started in November 2019, have now largely concluded. A draft producer responsibility regulation for the Blue Box program is expected to be released by the Ministry during Fall 2020. A final regulation is expected to be filed in early 2021 to allow for the three-year transition from municipalities to producers to start in 2023.

Ontario Waste Management Association Says Legislation Will Kill Province's Disposal Capacity

Ontario Waste Management Association says the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act will make landfill approval 'virtually impossible.'

The Ontario Waste Management Association (OWMA) issued a statement July 10 condemning Bill 197, otherwise known as the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act. Specifically, the association warned that the legislation will make it "virtually impossible" for new landfills to be approved by local governments if enacted.

According to the association, "The COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act puts the provincial economy and the health of the environment at risk by making it virtually impossible to build new landfills in Ontario. By requiring approval of local councils in municipalities within 3.5 kilometers of a proposed landfill, this legislation essentially scuttles almost every major landfill proposal in Ontario, including projects that are already under review by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks."

OWMA says that the legislation will result in increased waste disposal costs and more limited disposal options, necessitating the need to truck waste to the U.S.

The association says that with the current rate of waste generation and the remaining disposal capacity of 122 million metric tons, Ontario will run out of landfill space by 2032—unless new landfill space is constructed.

Ultimately, the association says that despite the need for local feedback, landfill approvals must come from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks if the region's waste disposal needs are to be met in the future.

Quebec Government Commits To Province-Wide Composting By 2025

The Quebec government recently announced that it was putting \$1.2 billion towards a composting strategy that will result in all citizens in the province having access to composting services come 2025 and will be fully implemented by 2030. In addition to providing composting services to citizens across the province, the plan is to manage composting in all industries, businesses and institutions by 2025 as well, in the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 270,000 tonnes per year by 2030.

"We are taking another step forward by investing \$1.2 billion to divert organic matter from disposal sites and ensure their recovery, which will significantly contribute to reducing our greenhouse gas emissions," Benoit Charette, Quebec Environment Minister said in a statement. "Thanks to the support of the government and the municipalities, the entire population as well as industries, businesses and institutions will be able to contribute to an even healthier management of our residual materials."

Currently, only 57 per cent of Quebecers have access to food waste collection services. The province's waste totals in at 5.8 million tons per year, 60 per cent of which is organic matter. The waste sector also emits around 4.55 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent per year and is the fifth largest contributor in the province.

The new strategy aims to adapt collection services as well as processing facilities to Quebec's many regions. To promote composting and limit waste, the government is increasing landfill charges from \$23.51 to \$30 per ton. Charette said this sends a clear signal that Quebec intends to discourage the elimination of residual materials in favour of their recovery.

The government claims that for this strategy to work, all actors, including those at the municipal level, must share responsibilities – and it says it plans on helping them better manage their green waste and improving their ecocentres to do so. Quebec will work with municipalities to speed up the establishment of collection services and processing facilities. In addition, the province will promote the quality of the organic matter treated and the development of local outlets for composts and other residual fertilizing materials from this collection.

The program to reduce, recover and recycle organic materials from industries, businesses and institutions, administered by Recyc-Québec, will be awarded \$9.6 million. The Crown corporation is also responsible for a new recognition program for sorting centres for construction, renovation and demolition residue. That program is the result of concerted discussions with the residual materials management industry.

In summary, the goals of Quebec's compost strategy are as follows:

- Offer the collection of organic matter to all citizens of Quebec by 2025.
- Manage organic matter in 100 per cent of industries, businesses and institutions by 2025.
- Recycle or recover 70 per cent of the organic matter targeted by 2030.
- Reduce 270,000 tonnes of CO2 equivalent per year in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

The plan also intends to allocate funds to programs that finance the management of organic matter, which will help boost green infrastructures. The government says this will help boost the province's economic recovery.

Waste Management Industry: Waste Disposal, 2018

Almost 26 million tonnes of non-hazardous waste went to private and public waste disposal facilities in Canada in 2018, an increase of about 3% since 2016.

Disposal of non-residential waste amounted to almost 14.9 million tonnes, representing 58% of all waste disposed, while waste from Canadian households accounted for the remaining 42% (10.8 million tonnes).

Australian Government To Directly Invest \$190 Million On A Waste & Recycling Plan To Transform The Industry

The Australian Government recently announced that it will commit \$190 million to a new Recycling Modernisation Fund (RMF) that will generate \$600 million of recycling investment and drive a billion-dollar transformation of Australia's waste and recycling capacity.

The government claims that more than 10,000 jobs will be created and over 10 million tonnes of waste diverted from landfill to the making of useful products as Australia turbo charges its recycling capacity.

The RMF will support innovative investment in new infrastructure to sort, process and remanufacture materials such as mixed plastic, paper, tires and glass, with Commonwealth funding contingent on cofunding from industry, states and territories.

Australia's waste and recycling transformation is being further strengthened by an additional:

- \$35 million to implement Commonwealth commitments under Australia's National Waste Policy Action Plan, which sets the direction for waste management and recycling in Australia until 2030.
- \$24.6 million on Commonwealth commitments to improve our national waste data so it can measure recycling outcomes and track progress against our national waste targets.
- The introduction of new Commonwealth waste legislation to formally enact the Government's waste export ban and encourage companies to take greater responsibility for the waste they generate, from product design through to recycling, remanufacture or disposal (Product Stewardship).

The moves are part of a national strategy to change the way Australia looks at waste, grow the economy, protect the environment and reach a national resource recovery target of 80% by 2030.

Waste export ban to start from January 2021

The unparalleled expansion of Australia's recycling capacity follows the 2019 National Waste Policy Action Plan, Australia's government ban on exports of waste plastic, paper, glass and tires, and this year's first ever National Plastics Summit.

The waste export ban was due to commence on July 1st, 2020. After consulting with industry and as a result of restrictions related to COVID-19 impacting Parliament's ability to pass legislation in by July 1st, the ban will now commence on January 1st, 2021. The schedule for implementing the export ban on waste plastic, paper and tires remains unchanged.

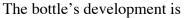
Johnnie Walker whisky will be sold in paper bottles from next year

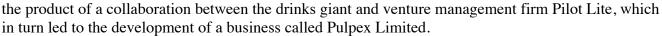
In the U.K., awareness of plastic pollution has been raised by TV shows such as "Blue Planet II."

Diageo's plans represent the latest example of a drinks manufacturer trying to move to more sustainable packaging.

Diageo is to roll out "100% plastic free" bottles of Johnnie Walker from next year, the latest example of a major drinks manufacturer attempting to move toward more sustainable forms of packaging.

In a statement Monday, the British firm said the bottle would be paper-based and "made entirely from sustainably sourced wood."





Diageo described Pulpex Limited as a "sustainable packaging technology company" and said its paper bottle was both scalable and plastic free.

"The bottle is made from sustainably sourced pulp to meet food-safe standards and will be fully recyclable in standard waste streams," the firm, whose other brands include Guinness and Baileys Irish Cream, said.

In addition to bottles for Diageo, Pulpex has set up a "partner consortium" of fast-moving consumer goods, or FMCG, businesses. This includes PepsiCo and Unilever, who are also set to release their own products using the paper bottle technology next year.

In the U.K., awareness of plastic pollution has been raised in recent years by shows such as "Blue Planet II." Presented by naturalist David Attenborough, the TV show highlighted the shocking impact plastic has on wildlife.

According to statistics from the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, the U.K. generated 2.26 million metric tons of packaging waste from plastic in 2017, with 46.2% of this either recovered or recycled.

Diageo is one of several major firms looking to introduce new types of packaging. Last October, Carlsberg released details of two "paper bottle" research prototypes it was working on. In November, Heineken U.K. said it would be getting rid of plastic from its multi-packs by 2021.



Barilla Removes Plastic Windows From Pasta Packs In Recycling Move



The packs feature instructions and visual guides for easy disposal

Barilla has rolled out 100% recyclable packs across its biggest pasta lines.

It has removed plastic front windows from its Penne, Fusilli, Spaghetti, Lasagne, Linguine, Tortiglioni and Mezze Penne Tricolore pastas, and moved them into new packs made from "a combination of paper-based materials and 100% virgin fibres", which Barilla added were sourced responsibly from certified sources.

The new paper packs feature instructions and visual aids to "ensure ease of disposal for consumers".

It's the latest in a series of 'Good for You, Good for the Planet' commitments to design, product and distribute packaging responsibly from the brand. It has looked to ensure materials are sourced renewably, use resources from responsibly managed forests and reduce the quantity of materials used in packaging.

It follows a similar packaging change from Napolina in September last year, in which the supplier switched from plastic packs to "fully coated boxboard" across 12 SKUs.

Barilla has recently seen a number of lines dropped by Tesco, with the retailer slashing its listings from 18 SKUs to just five. Lines to be cut included its 500g packs of penne, fusilli, tortiglioni and linguine.

Your Used Mask Needs to Make It to the Trash Can

They're on beaches, in parking lots and on sidewalks. You probably won't catch the coronavirus from a discarded mask, but the litter poses a risk to the environment.

Helen Lowman looks at litter a lot. It's her job. But while walking her dog in Westport, Conn., in



March, she noticed an alarming trend. First she passed some dirty wipes on the ground. Then there were gloves. And finally a mask. Four months later, she said the litter of personal protective gear has only gotten worse.

As more people wear masks to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, more personal protective equipment, or P.P.E., has been found as litter around the world.

The issue has prompted environmental organizations, including the Environmental Protection Agency, to sound the alarm. Some local governments, like Suffolk County in New York, have instituted fines for littering involving masks and gloves, and police departments, like the one in Swampscott, Mass., have warned that improperly discarding P.P.E. is a crime.

"This pandemic is causing the face of litter to change," said Ms. Lowman, chief executive of Keep America Beautiful, a nonprofit group that organizes cleanups. "We're seeing a real shift in what is in the litter stream."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that the general public wear reusable cloth face coverings, but disposable masks are readily available; a pack of 50 can be purchased for around \$30.

Experts say the risk of catching coronavirus from a discarded mask is minimal, but the litter is causing concern for other reasons: Used masks and gloves, which cannot be recycled, pose a problem for the environment.

Closed Loop Partners launches consortium to address retail bags

The Center for the Circular Economy at Closed Loop Partners and retailers CVS Health, Target and Walmart to identify, test and implement alternatives to single-use retail bags.

The Center for the Circular Economy at Closed Loop Partners, New York, has joined with the retailers CVS Health, Target and Walmart, in addition to Kroger and Walgreens, to form the Consortium to Reinvent the Retail Bag. The initiative seeks to reinvent single-use plastic retail bags, which are typically made with low-density polyethylene (LDPE) or linear-LDPE film, by identifying, testing and implementing viable design solutions and models that more sustainably serve the purpose of the current retail bag, according to a news release from Closed Loop Partners. Collectively, consortium partners have committed more than \$15 million to launch the Beyond the Bag Initiative.

The three-year consortium invites additional retailers to join.

According to Closed Loop Partners, global risks from climate change, the global pandemic and mounting plastic waste have revealed the vulnerabilities of our current system.

"The status quo has been shaken, presenting a unique opportunity to build back better and reimagine a more resilient and sustainable way of doing business," says Kate Daly, managing director of the Center for the Circular Economy at Closed Loop Partners. "During challenging times, unexpected and unprecedented collaboration is required, and we're excited to work with leading retailers like CVS Health, Target, Walmart and others—along with the entire industry—to take effective action."

The initiative "aims to take a holistic view of the challenge and solutions, aligning consumer convenience and product innovation with the equally important infrastructure for recovery or reuse of any alternatives developed," Closed Loop Partners says.

The consortium's Innovation Challenge, launched in partnership with global design firm IDEO, will solicit design solutions to serve the function of today's retail bag from around the world, with an initial focus on implementation in the United States. Closed Loop Partners says it will launch a Circular Accelerator, develop potential piloting opportunities and aim to make infrastructure investments in support of the development of market-ready solutions.

"We know how important it is to bring our customers along on our sustainability journey, keeping in mind that most are looking for convenience with minimal environmental impact," says Eileen Howard Boone, senior vice president, Corporate Social Responsibility & Philanthropy, and chief sustainability officer, CVS Health. "This collaboration with Target, Walmart and other like-minded retailers and innovators allows for collective reach that can be truly impactful."

"We believe in serving our guests and communities with actions that reduce our footprint on the planet," says Amanda Nusz, vice president of corporate responsibility, Target. "We're proud to partner with Closed Loop Partners and other leading retailers to take on a challenge facing the entire industry. We welcome others to join us in this collective effort as we aim to design a better solution."

"By coming together to tackle the problem, we aim to accelerate the pace of innovation and the commercialization of sustainable solutions," says Kathleen McLaughlin, executive vice president and chief sustainability officer for Walmart. "Through efforts like the Innovation Challenge and the Circular Accelerator, we hope the Beyond the Bag Initiative will surface affordable, practical solutions that meet the needs of customers and reduce plastic waste."

CVS Health, Target and Walmart, the founding partners of the consortium, are calling on other retail leaders to join the initiative. The Kroger Co. has joined as the Grocery Sector Lead Partner, while Walgreens has joined as a Supporting Partner.

Conservation International and Ocean Conservancy have joined as Environmental Advisory Partners. Closed Loop Partners says they will provide perspective on environmental impacts and solutions throughout the initiative.

Covid-19 Has Resurrected Single-Use Plastics

Covid-19 is changing how the U.S. disposes of waste. It is also threatening hard-fought victories that restricted or eliminated single-use disposable items, especially plastic, in cities and towns across the nation.

Our research group is analyzing how the pandemic has altered waste management strategies. Plastic-Free July, an annual campaign launched in 2011, is a good time to assess what has happened to single-use disposable plastics under Covid-19, and whether efforts to curb their use can get back on track.

From plans to pandemic

Over several decades leading up to 2020, many U.S. cities and states worked to reduce waste from single-use disposable objects such as straws, utensils, coffee cups, beverage bottles and plastic bags. Policies varied but included bans on Styrofoam, plastic bags and straws, along with taxes and fees on bottles and cups.

Social norms around plastic waste have evolved quickly in the past several years. Pre-Covid-19, "Bring your own" tote bags, mugs and other foodware had become part of daily life for many consumers. Innovative startups targeting reusable foodware niches include Vessel, which partners with cafes, enabling customers to rent stainless steel to-go mugs, and DishCraft, which picks up dirty dishes from dine-in restaurants and to-go food outlets, cleans them with high-tech equipment and returns them ready for reuse.

Just before Covid-19 lockdowns began in March 2020, the New Jersey senate adopted a bill that would have made the state the first to ban all single-use bags made of either paper or plastic. And U.S. Sen. Tom Udall of New Mexico and U.S. Rep. Alan Lowenthal of California introduced the Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act – the first federal measure limiting use of single-use disposable items.

Covid-19 shutdowns drastically changed all of this. In just a few weeks, plastic bags returned to grocery stores in states that had recently banned them. Even before lockdowns were official, restaurants and cafes started refusing personal reusables such as coffee mugs, reverting to plastic cups and lids, wrapped straws and condiment packets.

By late June, cities and states had temporarily suspended almost 50 single-use item reduction policies across the U.S. – mainly bans plastic bag bans. The pandemic also spurred demand for single-use personal protective equipment, such as masks and plastic gloves. These items soon began appearing in municipal solid waste streams and discarded on streets.

The plastic pandemic

With legislation restricting disposables suspended, many food vendors and grocery stores have shifted entirely to disposable bags, plates and cutlery. This switch has raised their operating costs and cut further into their already-low margins.

Grocery stores have sharply increased plastic bag usage. Households are generating up to 50% more waste by volume than they did pre-Covid-19. Anecdotal reports indicate that these waste streams contain more single-use disposable items.

The recycling industry has weighed in on the impacts of more single-use bags and higher residential waste volumes. Waste industry workers, who have been uniformly declared essential, work in closed spaces with many other people, so even if surface transmission of coronavirus is not a serious risk, the pandemic has increased person-to-person transmission risks in the waste industry.

Hygiene: A red herring

The main rationale that states, cities and vendors have offered to justify switching from reusables back to disposables is hygiene. Plastic packaging, the argument goes, protects public health by keeping contents safe and sealed. Also, discarding items immediately after use protects consumers from infection.

This narrative handily dovetails with the plastics industry's ongoing effort to slow or derail bans and restrictions. The industry has loudly supported turning the clock back toward single-use disposable products.

In a March 2020 letter to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Plastics Industry Association argued that single-use items were the "most sanitary" option for consumers. Industry representatives are actively lobbying against the Break Free From Plastics Act.

However, studies show that these products are not necessarily safer than reusable alternatives with respect to Covid-19. The virus survives as long on plastic as it does on other surfaces such as stainless steel. What's more, studies currently cited by the plastics industry focus on other contaminants such as E.coli and listeria bacteria, not on coronaviruses.

Viewed more holistically, plastics generate pollutants upstream when their raw materials are extracted and plastic goods are manufactured and transported. After disposal – typically via landfills or incineration – they release pollutants that can seriously affect environmental and human health, including hazardous and endocrine disrupting chemicals.

All of these impacts are especially harmful to minority and marginalized populations, who are already more vulnerable to Covid-19. In our view, plastic goods are far from being the most hygienic or beneficial to public health, especially over the long term.

Building resilience

Crises like the Covid-19 pandemic make it hard to see the bigger picture. No longer having to remember reusable tote bags or coffee mugs can be a relief. But the quick return of single-use disposable products shows that recent restrictions are precarious, and that industries don't cede profitable markets without a fight.

Waste reduction advocates, such as Upstream Solutions and #BreakFreeFromPlastic, are working to gather data, educate the public and prevent decision-making about plastics that is based on perception rather than scientific reasoning. On June 22, 115 health experts worldwide released a statement arguing that reusables are safe even under pandemic conditions.

Some governments are taking notice. In late June, California reinstated its statewide ban on single-use plastic bags and requirement for plastic bags to contain 40% recycled materials. Massachusetts quickly followed suit, lifting a temporary ban on reusable bags.

For the longer term, it is unclear how Covid-19 disruptions will affect consumerism and waste disposal practices. In our view, one important takeaway is that while mindful consumers are part of the solution to the plastics crisis, individuals cannot and should not carry the full burden.

We believe that at the local and federal levels, policymakers need to build cross-jurisdictional alliances, recognizing shared interests with the waste management industry and emerging businesses like Vessel and Dishcraft. To make progress on reducing plastic waste, advocates need to reinforce measures in place before the next crisis hits.

Republic Services Orders 2,500 Electric, Zero-Emission Waste Trucks From Nikola



Nikola Corporation has received a minimum order of 2,500 electrified refuse trucks from Republic Services, expandable up to 5,000. This order is to begin full production deliveries in 2023 with on-road testing likely to begin in early 2022. The refuse trucks are anticipated to carry up to 720kWh of energy storage.

"Nikola specializes in heavy-duty, zero-emission Class 8 trucks. The refuse market is one of the most stable markets in the industry and provides long-term shareholder value," said Nikola Founder and Executive Chairman Trevor Milton. "The Nikola Tre powertrain is ideal for the refuse market as it shares and uses the same batteries, controls, inverters and e-axle. By sharing the Tre platform, we can drive the cost down for both programs by using the same parts. You couldn't pick a better partner than Republic Services, a leader in long-term environmental sustainability and customer service. Republic Services will help us ensure the Nikola Tre meets customer and fleet lifecycle demands and we are excited to have them participate in the design process."

"This is a game changer," said Nikola CEO Mark Russell. "Refuse truck customers have always ordered chassis from truck OEMs and bodies from other suppliers. Nikola has fully integrated the chassis and body, covering both with a single factory warranty. Trucks will include both automated side loaders and front-end loaders — all of which will be zero-emission."

The powertrain software will be limited to 1,000 HP and is expected to outperform current diesel and natural gas competitors. The new platform can give refuse trucks nearly three-times the HP of natural gas and diesel options, giving operators the ability to go up hills with full loads without issue — a challenge natural gas vehicle manufacturers have been working to solve.

GFL Environmental Announces Acquisition of WCA Waste Corporation and Further Expansion of U.S. Footprint

GFL Environmental Inc., a leading North American diversified environmental services company, announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement with an affiliate of Macquarie Infrastructure Partners II to purchase WCA Waste Corporation and its subsidiaries ("WCA") for an aggregate purchase price of US\$1.212 billion. The purchase price for the Acquisition will be financed in part with the net proceeds of a private placement of US\$600 million of equity and the balance through a combination of cash on hand and capacity under the Company's revolving credit facility.

WCA operates a vertically-integrated network of solid waste assets, including 37 collection and hauling operations, 27 transfer stations, 3 material recovery facilities and 22 landfills supported by over 1,000 collection vehicles, across 11 U.S. states.

WCA has an established regional platform with a growing footprint across the Midwest and Southeast U.S., including three key markets in Texas, Missouri and Florida and generates annualized revenue of approximately US\$400 million.

The Acquisition is expected to support GFL's continued organic growth by further extending its reach into new and adjacent markets and forming a base to pursue synergistic tuck-in acquisitions. GFL expects that the Acquisition will expand its U.S. footprint while creating an opportunity to realize meaningful synergies and free cash flow accretion.

Following completion of the acquisition of WCA and the divestiture assets from Waste Management and ADS, GFL will operate in nine provinces in Canada and in 27 states in the United States. "We continue to deliver on our goal of pursuing strategic and accretive acquisitions to grow our business. The WCA transaction, which we have been working on for over a year, is another example of this commitment. The high quality, vertically integrated network of assets, together with our recently announced acquisition of certain divestiture assets resulting from the Waste Management and ADS transaction, will complement our existing footprint and provide us with the runway to further expand in the U.S. through tuck-in acquisitions and providing our suite of environmental services solutions to new customers. We are excited to welcome almost 1,600 employees of WCA to the GFL family," said Patrick Dovigi, the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of GFL. "To fund part of the transaction, we will be issuing new equity to HPS Investment Partners, LLC, a long standing partner of GFL, at a premium to market. Their continued support is a testament to their belief in the value proposition of GFL. The new equity will help us maintain our leverage within expected levels."

Mr. Dovigi added, "Our multi-disciplinary integration team has a successful track record of integrating acquisitions like WCA and the Waste Management/ADS divestiture assets. We have been working on integration preparation of the divestiture assets since earlier this year which has allowed us to significantly advance our integration plans. We are well-positioned to bring these operations and WCA on board."

Scot French, Co-Governing Partner of HPS, said, "Today's announcement represents a key component of GFL's acquisition plan which will help further position the Company for continued long-term success. We look forward to building on our now seven-year partnership with Patrick and his entire team as they continue to execute their growth strategy."

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