

# RECYCLING REALITY CHECK: IS IT STILL A VIABLE PROPOSITION?

ARWMAS Regional Round-Up  
October 30, 2020



# THE BIG PLAYERS

- ◎ **CHINA'S NATIONAL SWORD**
- ◎ **COVID-19**
- ◎ **CHANGING CONSUMER TRENDS**

# LET'S TALK CHINA...

- ◎ **National Sword Legislation**
- ◎ **Acquisition of pulp mills in US**
- ◎ **Need for mill retrofits in North America**

# COVID-19

- ◉ **30-40% decrease in quality post-use material; less OCC feedstock from commercial sources**
- ◉ **Delays in mill retrofit/construction projects**
- ◉ **Closure of collection depots**
- ◉ **Higher contamination levels in post-consumer product**
- ◉ **Fibre mix has changed due to school and office closures**

## CHANGES IN CONSUMER TRENDS

- ◉ **Less demand for writing paper grades**
- ◉ **Higher demand for coated recycled packaging and smaller linerboard boxes**
- ◉ **More e-commerce (on-line purchasing)**
- ◉ **Declining demand for newspapers**
- ◉ **Shift to demand for paper grocery bags**

# THE MILLS RESPOND...

- ◎ **Last shipments to China late 2020**
- ◎ **Norpac, Atlantic Packaging retrofits**
- ◎ **Integrating mixed paper (MRP)**
- ◎ **4 linerboard mills converting to kraft production**

# HERE'S THE RUB...

- **Mixed paper grade has to be a quality product**
- **Contamination in curbside product is at unprecedented levels**
- **Need to source more commercial OCC**
- **Let's get this pandemic under control!**

# WE NEED TO TALK!

- ◎ **Municipal tipping fees**
- ◎ **Source separation/primary sorts (purge!)**
- ◎ **Public Education**
- ◎ **Consolidation of material loads (SK is such a small player!)**





THANK YOU FOR  
JOINING US TODAY!