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Press Release

Building a More Resilient Scrap Tire Program

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Tire Stewardship of Saskatchewan (TSS) is pleased to provide an update on its recent efforts to build a resilient scrap tire program in Saskatchewan.

The program is advancing towards establishing two processing locations in the province. The existing Moose Jaw location will be joined by a new site in the Saskatoon area in 2025. This expansion is expected to bring significant cost reductions and environmental benefits. This investment will enhance the province's capacity for value-added processing.

To address the continuous need for scrap tire collection and processing, TSS is establishing a marshaling yard at the Saskatoon Transportation Link (STL) in the RM of Blucher No. 343. This initiative aims to ensure a steady flow of scrap tires to the two processing sites, mitigating delays, shutdowns or seasonal variations. Previously, a limited number of tires were moved out of province as a short-term solution.

Since a program review in 2017, the TSS has been mandated to improve sustainability and accountability in the scrap tire program in the province, keep costs low to consumers, maintain a high level of service to retailers, and encourage industry innovation and higher value production.

"It takes a while for an industry to change to a better model," said Colin Fraser, Chair of the Board. "We are pleased with the partnerships, and the investments in industry infrastructure being made in the last few years. We would have preferred to have been able to move more quickly in some ways however change takes time."

Stevyn Arnt, CEO of TSS has been responsible for moving the industry from a single processing site largely producing Tire Derived Aggregate (TDA) towards two processing locations, assigned collection zones and the new marshaling yard. "This yard will be used effectively right from the start, as the Saskatoon processing site is being developed." Says Arnt. "Service, cost efficiency and lower environmental impact are the goals for all of these changes," he adds.

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About TSS

TSS is a non-profit corporation that was established in June 2017 by the Retail Council of Canada (RCC) and the Western Canada Tire Dealers (WCTD) to serve as the scrap tire recycling program operator in Saskatchewan. TSS operates under a Product Stewardship Program approved by the Ministry of Environment. Saskatchewan tire retailers are mandated by legislation to set up and operate a recycling program, collect recycling fees from the consumer for each new tire sold, and use these fees to operate the program. The program involves the collection, recycling, and processing of scrap tires into more environmentally friendly products. Abandoned used tires pose a health risk to the community and a risk to the environment. Scrap tires can hold water and create an environment for pests such as rats and mosquitos. And if a pile of tires catches fire, it can burn intensely, and produce toxic smoke.

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