

<b>About the Scoping Study</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The scoping study was conducted by Circular Economy Leadership Canada (CELC), in collaboration with Smart Prosperity Institute (SPI), for Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) during the Fall of 2022, and included a review of 8 strategy / policy case studies, 20 key informant interviews, and 2 workshops (in-person and virtual).</li> <li>• The purpose of the scoping study was to identify, review, and assess what governance models might be best suited to support a coordinated national approach to advancing the circular economy in Canada.</li> <li>• From the research, analysis, and consultations, the scoping study identifies five potential governance models for advancing a coordinated, national approach to the circular economy in the Canadian context, which are presented in this report.</li> <li>• The scoping study does not include recommendations for the inclusion of any specific priority sectors or material streams for Canada, but rather provides considerations with respect to governance models, implementation, and the role of the federal government.</li> </ul>

<b>Key Considerations for Advancing a National Circular Economy Approach</b> Important take-aways based on analysis of the jurisdictional case studies, Canadian policy frameworks, and stakeholder consultation.				
Level of ambition & motivations	Development approach	Governance models & implementation	Sector & material focus considerations	Stakeholder engagement & involvement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognizing that circular economy principles and practices can support a multitude of economic, social, and environmental priorities (in line with several of the UN SDGs), including jobs and just transition, diversity and inclusion (including potential for linkages with Indigenous Truth and Reconciliation), climate, biodiversity loss, and community resiliency.</li> <li>• Canada’s alignment with existing international (e.g., G7, OECD, and major trading partners), national (e.g., existing plans and mandates), and sub-national (e.g., provinces / territories and local governments) CE related commitments and efforts will be important.</li> <li>• The potential to integrate CE in a more meaningful way across existing policies, strategies, and programs, including Canada’s Emissions Reduction Plan 2030 and the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy among others.</li> <li>• The importance of developing common language, clear definitions, and a vision to guide the work.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to consider a phased approach to policy development and developing a framework that is flexible and adaptable given the broad, evolving, maturing, and longer-term nature of the circular economy agenda.</li> <li>• The need to consider existing efforts on the ground and to enable “bottom-up” initiatives given that waste and recycling are managed locally, and small businesses and communities are able to adapt circularity to their local contexts.</li> <li>• The opportunity to build on existing clusters of activity and collaborate with regional actors, including other levels of government, businesses in key sectors, industries, academia, NGOs, and others.</li> <li>• The reality that scaling up outcomes will require both industrial policy (production), as well as motivating behaviour change (consumption).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The importance of cross-departmental and inter-governmental collaboration and cooperation, enabling a holistic and systemic approach.</li> <li>• The need to consider unique participatory models that support innovative, collaborative ways of working with government and the private sector (e.g., citizen’s juries, transition agendas, sector tables).</li> <li>• The option for engaging with or creating an independent, third-party agency or administrative body (e.g., Sitra, CEID, and Zero Waste Scotland) to support implementation and coordination.</li> <li>• The importance of developing specific metrics, indicators, and a structure for tracking progress over time and reporting out on goals and objectives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many of the leading jurisdictions have focused on leveraging their existing resource and industry strengths as it relates to the CE. For Canada, this could be in areas such as the bioeconomy, minerals /metals, and enabling technologies such as AI, big data, and Internet of Things.</li> <li>• Opportunities to build off existing sector efforts and provincial / territorial plans should be considered, in collaboration with key stakeholders and other levels of government - recognizing that sectors will likely advance at their own unique pace given varying levels of maturity.</li> <li>• Advancing cross-cutting themes or materials as opposed to a focus on sectors or traditional industries may help avoid siloed approaches and allow for greater innovation and synergies to come from new collaborations within and between sectors and industries (e.g., waste-to-resource and industrial symbioses).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The importance of engaging with a broad and diverse set of stakeholders to establish support and buy-in on the CE agenda.</li> <li>• The need for CE education and awareness building , including making more established linkages between CE as a solution for fighting climate change, biodiversity loss, and other critical economic, social, and environmental issues.</li> <li>• The importance of collaboration between the federal government and the PTs, as well as inter-ministerial cooperation.</li> </ul>

Summary of Governance Model Options					
	<b>Model 1:</b> Mainstreaming Circularity	<b>Model 2:</b> Collaborative National Policy Framework	<b>Model 3:</b> Bottom-up Innovation Agenda	<b>Model 4:</b> Public-Private Sector-Based Transition Agenda	<b>Model 5:</b> Phased Hybrid Approach
<b>Description</b>	No stand-alone CE strategy is developed at the federal level. However, CE approaches are integrated into existing federal tools, policies, and strategies in a larger way than presently, where they support existing policy goals.	Federal, provincial, and territorial governments, with input from major local government partners, collaboratively set a national vision and ambition for the CE, which is then implemented and interpreted within each jurisdiction's powers, with joint efforts to harmonize wherever possible.	The federal government establishes a high-level framework that brings guidance for the CE and enables innovation sourced from various clusters and/or place-based activities (e.g., community-based projects and initiatives).	Federally-supported, industry-led collaborative tables, including a F/P/T, as well as industry, academia, NGO, local / regional government, and civil society perspectives, develop sector or material CE 'strategies' and/or 'roadmaps'.	A longer-term, staged approach which phases the bottom up innovation agenda (model 3) and the public-private sector-based transition (model 4) to gradually build the common understanding, knowledge, experience, and capacity to advance a national CE approach along a deliberate learning pathway.
<b>Implementation Considerations</b>	CE is largely outside frames of reference of existing strategy / policy stakeholders. As such, the integration into existing strategies and policy frameworks could be slow and cumbersome.	CE vision / ambition is primarily set by governments, limiting potential input and influence from other stakeholders. Time may be long to get on the F/P/T agenda amid other priorities, with action on CE being delayed until after agreements are reached.	Engages with already motivated stakeholders, while leaning on third-parties to drive the implementation agenda. Efforts can be advanced in a flexible, timely, and ever-evolving manner.	Opportunities to advance CE efforts vary widely by sector or material. As such, timelines to initiation will vary from short to medium based on their level of maturity.	Engages with already motivated stakeholders, and leans on third-parties to drive initial implementation agenda. As such, it provides a short timeline to initiation, but a longer timeline to broad scale implementation via tables.
<b>Overall Impact</b>	Defined by mandate of existing strategies / policy frameworks, which may be narrower than full CE potential.	Potential for high impact if full F/P/T alignment on agenda, but potential for limited impact if critical mass of jurisdictions are not on board.	Potential for high impact on innovation, regional job creation, and environmental benefits but (dependent on foci) success and replicability of initiatives may be limited and disparate with duplication of efforts unless accompanied by a high-level of coordination and knowledge sharing.	Potential for high impact on innovation, regional job creation, GHG, and other environmental benefits, but dependent on influence and follow through on sector-specific priorities.	Potential for high impact on innovation, regional job creation, GHG, and other environmental benefits as it brings together local / regional priorities with strategic sectors / materials of interest.