



September 19, 2019

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Email: plastics@gov.bc.ca

RE: City of Penticton support for the CleanBC Plastics Action Plan

On September 17, 2019, Penticton City Council resolved "THAT Council support the Province of British Columbia's *CleanBC* single-use Plastics Action Plan, by providing a formal submission to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, supporting the initiative to limit single-use plastics."

The City of Penticton supports the four principle objectives of the Plastics Action Plan:

Bans on single-use packaging

This includes single-use plastic bags and plastic packaging. Consideration should be given to exemptions for health, safety and accessibility where single-use plastics may be necessary. The City supports a ban that regulates the sale and/or use of single-use plastics and plastic packaging at the provincial level.

Expanding producer responsibility for packaging-like products and single-use items

Single-use items and packaging-like products are common contaminants in the recycling stream. Extending EPR to include items such as disposable food items (plates, cups, utensils, etc.) and re-usable plastic containers will allow these items to be recycled rather than landfilled.

Expanding plastic bottle and beverage container returns

Include milk and milk substitutes in the beverage container deposit-refund schedule. Increase the minimum deposit-refund for beverage containers to 10 cents. Allow refunds to be electronic and paid in an alternative form of cash, including e-transfer and charitable donations.

Reducing the use of virgin plastics

Reduce reliance on virgin plastic and develop a standard for a minimum content of recycled plastic in new packaging and products. This standard should be in line with any proposed national standards that may result from the Canada-wide Strategy on Zero Plastic Waste.

The City of Penticton supports a uniform Provincial plastic management strategy that will be implemented in a timely manner.