



# BRITISH COLUMBIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Representing the Beef Cattle Industry of British Columbia

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August 6, 2019

**Hon. Minister Heyman**  
**Minister of Environment**  
PO Box 9063, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2  
[ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

**Hon. Lana Popham**  
**Minister of Agriculture**  
PO BOX 9043, STN PROV GOVT.  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2  
[AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Our File: 2019-025  
SENT BY EMAIL

Dear Minister Popham:

**RE: Plastics Recycling Survey**

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Recently, the Province began an engagement period on provincial plastics recycling ([news release](#)). The BC Cattlemen's Association has been seeking options for agricultural plastics recycling. It appears the Province has overlooked including agricultural plastics in the plastics recycling survey. We believe that solutions for recycling agricultural plastics can be made available to farmers and ranchers.

**The BC Cattlemen's Association encourages the province to simultaneously engage with the agricultural stakeholders to find solutions for agricultural plastics recycling.**

For almost two years, the ranching community has been discussing options for bale twine and mini bulk bag recycling with regional districts, municipalities, and other agricultural sectors.

Ranchers and farmers want to recycle plastics. Previous ag-plastics programs in BC were established to discourage burning and funded by air quality programs that are no longer available. Clean ag-plastics can be remanufactured into other products and the "dirty" ag-plastics (those with contaminants such as soil, hay, etc.) can be diverted to create energy.

The ranching community is looking for environmentally friendly ways to recycle ag-plastics and would like the provincial plastics recycling survey to include finding workable solutions farm/ranch plastics.

We kindly ask that your ministries work with agricultural stakeholders to find solutions for agricultural plastics recycling.

Best regards,

Larry Garrett, President  
BC Cattlemen's Association

Renee Ardill, Vice-President  
& Chair BCCA Environmental Stewardship Committee

cc: *BC Agriculture Council*