



**Jonathan X. Côté**  
Mayor

September 3, 2019

Hon. George Heyman  
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy  
Room 112  
Legislative Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Via email and Regular mail: [ENV.minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ENV.minister@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Minister Heyman,

**Re: Single-Use Items Regulatory Framework**

At a meeting on August 26, 2019, New Westminster City Council tabled a motion regarding exploring the implementation of a municipal ban on plastic straws, single-use plastic bags and Styrofoam take-out packaging until the Provincial process and policy on single-use items is complete.

City Council is aware that the Province is currently seeking public feedback (until September 19, 2019) on new policy opportunities that would reduce plastic waste and improve recycling. Among the proposed strategies includes the consideration of bans on single-use items.

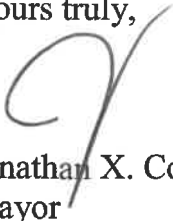
At the meeting, Council expressed concern that the disability community and different cultural groups (including businesses) could be impacted by policy decisions (e.g., a ban on plastic straws) and feels strongly that the Province should effectively consult these communities during this engagement period.

At this meeting, Council passed the following motion:

*THAT Council write a letter to the Province, requesting engagement with diverse communities, especially the disability community, in the development of a single-use items policy.*

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to the release of the provincial regulatory framework.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jonathan X. Cote', written over the printed name.

Jonathan X. Cote  
Mayor