

# Summary of Single-Use Item Reduction Regulations and Policies in Canada

## Purpose

This document summarizes regulations and policies put in place by governments across Canada and the world to reduce single-use items. It is not intended to be a comprehensive list but provides a snapshot of various initiatives are being taken in other jurisdictions.

The scan focuses on Metro Vancouver's priority single-use items: bags, cups, takeout containers, straws and utensils, and jurisdictions with strategies to reduce single-use items.

## Updates and Suggestions

This document was last updated **July 2020 based on research completed between from April to June 2020. Therefore, it may not reflect all changes made in the past 3 months. All changes made since the previous version released July 2019 are highlighted with red text.**

We welcome any updates or information about other programs. Please email suggested updates to [karen.storry@metrovancover.org](mailto:karen.storry@metrovancover.org).

## Government Single-Use Item Reduction Regulations and Policies Canada

This summary is organized by province and in alphabetical order.

Table 1 - Summary of Single-Use Item Reduction Regulations and Policies in Canada

Canada						
British Columbia						
	Plan/Strategy	Straws	Utensils	Bags	Cups	Containers
Courtenay	-	Ban (enforcement pending)	-	Ban (enforcement pending)	-	-
Cumberland	-	Ban	-	Ban	-	-
Qualicum Beach	-	Ban	-	Ban	-	-
Salmon Arm	-	-	-	Ban	-	-
Squamish	-	Ban	-	Ban	-	-
Tofino	-	Ban (Pending MoECCS Approval)	-	Ban (Pending MoECCS Approval)	Foam Ban (Pending MoECCS Approval)	Foam Ban (Pending MoECCS Approval)
Ucluelet	-	Ban (Pending MoECCS Approval)	-	Ban (Pending MoECCS Approval)	-	-
Victoria	-	-	-	Ban (Pending MoECCS Approval)	-	-
Metro Vancouver Regional District						
	Plan/Strategy	Straws	Utensils	Bags	Cups	Containers
North Vancouver, District	Options presented to Council	-	-	-	-	-
Richmond	-	Ban (Pending MoECCS Approval)	-	Ban (Pending MoECCS Approval)	Foam Ban (Pending MoECCS Approval)	Foam Ban (Pending MoECCS Approval)
City of Port Moody	Consultation results submitted to Council	-	-	-	-	-
Surrey	Request to Council	-	-	-	-	-

Table 1 - Summary of Single-Use Item Reduction Regulations and Policies in Canada Continued

Metro Vancouver Regional District Continued						
	Plan/Strategy	Straws	Utensils	Bags	Cups	Containers
Vancouver	Yes	Ban (Pending April 2020)	By-request (Pending April 2020)	Ban (Pending 2021)	Foam Cups Banned and Fee for Disposable Cups (Pending 2021)	Foam Ban
West Vancouver	See details below.					
Alberta						
	Plan/Strategy	Straws	Utensils	Bags	Cups	Containers
Calgary	Draft Strategy and Engagement created	-	-	-	-	-
Jasper	-	-	-	Ban	-	-
RM Wood Buffalo	-	-	-	Ban	-	-
Saskatchewan						
	Plan/Strategy	Straws	Utensils	Bags	Cups	Containers
Regina	Report with Options submitted to Committee	-	-	-	-	-
Ontario						
	Plan/Strategy	Straws	Utensils	Bags	Cups	Containers
Toronto	Consultation Phase in progress	-	-	-	-	-
Quebec						
	Plan/Strategy	Straws	Utensils	Bags	Cups	Containers
Montreal	-	-	-	Ban	-	-
New Brunswick						
	Plan/Strategy	Straws	Utensils	Bags	Cups	Containers
Moncton	-	-	-	Ban	-	-
Dieppe	-	-	-	Ban	-	-
Riverview	-	-	-	Ban	-	-
Prince Edward Island						
	Plan/Strategy	Straws	Utensils	Bags	Cups	Containers
PEI	-	-	-	Ban	-	-
Nova Scotia						
	Plan/Strategy	Straws	Utensils	Bags	Cups	Containers
Nova Scotia	-	-	-	Ban	-	-

Table 1 - Summary of Single-Use Item Reduction Regulations and Policies in Canada Continued

Yukon						
	Plan/Strategy	Straws	Utensils	Bags	Cups	Containers
Dawson City	-	Plastic Ban	Plastic Ban	Plastic Ban	Plastic and Foam Ban	Plastic and Foam Ban

## Canada

The Canadian Council of Ministers of Environment have approved, in-principle, a [Canada-wide strategy](#) on zero plastic waste ([link](#)). Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced the Government of Canada will [ban harmful single-use plastics](#) such as bags, straws, cutlery, plates and stir sticks, as early as 2021, and the Government of Canada will work with the provinces and territories to make companies that manufacture plastic products, or sell items with plastic packaging, responsible for this plastic waste. [In January 2020, Environment and Climate Change Canada released a Draft Science Assessment of Plastic Pollution, stating:](#)

“Science confirms that plastic pollution is everywhere and is negatively impacting our environment. This assessment will inform our decisions as our government follows through on our commitment to ban harmful single-use plastics as soon as 2021 because Canadians expect us to.”

– The Honorable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment and Climate Change ([source](#))

## British Columbia

Several municipalities throughout BC have adopted or are considering adopting regulations to reduce single-use items. The most common approach is a plastic bag and/or straw ban. A few municipalities are also implementing foam take-out container bans. Several local governments, including Metro Vancouver, have written letters to the Province supporting a provincial strategy to reduce single-use items. On July 25, 2019, the Province released their [Plastics Action Plan Policy Consultation Paper](#).

On June 29, 2020, the BC Government adopted amendments to the Recycling Regulation (B.C. Reg 449/2004) that will change how EPR programs in BC manage single-use items. Notable amendments are highlighted below.

- Effective June 29, 2020, the minimum deposit for beverage containers is set at \$0.10 and refunds can be paid by cash or a method other than cash (e.g., e-Transfer).
- Effective February 1, 2022, milk and milk substitute beverage containers will transition from the packaging and paper product category to the beverage container deposit-return program.
- Effective January 1, 2023, packaging-like products and single-use products will be regulated items in the packaging and paper product category.
  - *Packaging –like products* include items sold as products, which consumers may use associated with packaging such as: non-durable paper or plastic food containers, foil and wraps, bags, and boxes.
  - *Single-use products* includes items such as: straws, beverage stirrers, utensils, plates, bowls, cups, and party supplies.

## Courtenay

On June 17, 2019, Courtenay City Council proceeded with final adoption of “City of Courtenay Single Use Plastic Regulations Bylaw No. 2970, 2019”. It began July 1, 2019, with enforcement starting on March 31, 2020, in order to give businesses time to use up existing stock. Council requested that staff prepare a report on additional items to be added to the bylaw one year after the bylaw takes force. On December 2019 the Council directed staff not to enforce the bylaw until the the provincial and federal government announce their regulatory approach. The council report cites:

- the court’s decision that the City of Victoria’s *Checkout Bag Regulation Bylaw* required approval from the MoECCS to regulate businesses on environmental matters;
- the announcement from the Government of Canada to ban harmful single-use plastics as early as 2021; and
- the release of the Province of British Columbia’s *Plastic Action Plan – Policy Consultation Paper*

as the key reasons for delaying enforcement of the City of Courtenay Single Use Plastic Regulations Bylaw.

## Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Single-Use Plastics Regulations</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">April 15, 2019 Staff report titled <i>City of Courtenay Single Use Plastic Regulation Bylaw No. 2970, 2019</i></a></li><li>• <a href="#">June 10, 2019 Staff report titled <i>City of Courtenay Single Use Plastics Regulation Bylaw No. 2970, 2019</i></a></li><li>• <a href="#">June 17, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes – Final Adoption Carried (page 6)</a></li><li>• <a href="#">December 16, 2019 Staff report titled <i>Single Use Plastic Regulation Bylaw - Enforcement Provisions</i></a></li></ul>
Bylaw:	<a href="#">Bylaw No. 2970</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">Resident Survey Results</a> <a href="#">Business Survey Results</a>

## Cumberland

On March 25, 2019, Cumberland City Council adopted “Single-Use Item Regulation Bylaw No. 1098, 2019”, which includes the following:

- Biodegradable and compostable plastic are included in the definition of a plastic checkout bag and plastic drinking straw.
- Reusable bag is defined as being able to be used for 100 uses and made of cloth or other washable fabric.

The Bylaw came to force on July 1, 2019 and enforcement began January 2020.

## Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Reducing Reliance on Single-Use Plastics in Cumberland</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">November 6, 2018 Staff report titled <i>Single Use Plastic Ban Report (page 43)</i></a></li><li>• <a href="#">November 13, 2018 – Staff report titled <i>Single Use Item Regulation</i></a></li><li>• <a href="#">March 14, 2019 – Staff report titled <i>Single Use Item Regulation</i></a></li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">March 25, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes – Final Adoption Carried (page 5)</a></li> </ul>
Bylaw:	<a href="#">Bylaw No. 1098</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">FAQ</a> <a href="#">Retailer Toolkit</a> <a href="#">Resident Survey Results</a> <a href="#">Business Survey Results</a>

North Vancouver, District of

On May 6, 2019, District of North Vancouver Council passed a motion for staff to update Council on the actions of regional, provincial and federal governments to reduce and regulate single-use items. Council also passed a motion for staff to report back within 90 days with estimates of the cost and timeline to create and enact policies to reduce single-use items.

At the July 9, 2019 Council workshop, staff reported back on options and considerations for taking actions to reduce single-use items.

Resources

Landing Page:	None
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">May 6, 2019 minutes with motion to update Council on the actions regional, provincial and federal levels to reduce and regulate single-use items</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">July 9, 2019 staff report for Council workshop titled <i>Taking Action to Reduce Single-Use Items</i></a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Presentation</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Bylaws:	None

Qualicum Beach, Town of

The Town of Qualicum Beach banned plastic bags and straws, including those labelled biodegradable starting July 1, 2019. Reusable bags (rated for 100+ uses) and compostable bags labelled with BPI or BNQ compostable are acceptable alternatives. **An enforcement plan will be considered in the future.**

Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Plastic Bag Ban</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">March 19, 2018 Staff report titled <i>Proposed Plastic Bag Ban Consultation Results (page 48)</i></a></li> <li>• <a href="#">March 19, 2018 Staff report titled <i>Uptown Summer Market and Reusable Summer Bags Proposals (page 75)</i></a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 25, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes with final adoption carried</a></li> </ul>
Bylaws:	<a href="#">Bylaw No. 723</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">Public Brochure</a> FAQ on landing page

Richmond

On June 10, 2019, Richmond City Council directed staff to start working on a bylaw or bylaws to ban plastic straws and plastic bags.

On July 15, 2019, staff presented a single-use plastic and other items bylaw to the General Purposes Committee. The bylaw targets the reduction of single-use items by banning:

- food service ware that contains polystyrene foam;
- plastic straws except for persons with disability and/or other accessibility needs who request a plastic straw, including those labelled compostable or biodegradable; and
- plastic bags including those labelled compostable or biodegradable.

On July 22, 2019, Council approved the implementation plan for single-use items with the direction to:

- seek approval of the bylaws from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy as soon as possible;
- analyze the minimum charge for paper bags and the definition of reusable bags and report back; and
- provide options to immediately commence educational outreach programs for the public and business.

The City of Richmond developed an engagement campaign with the tag-line “Let’s be Leaders”. The campaign includes information for businesses about the potential bylaws sent to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy for approval. The city is running a door-to-door campaign to directly reach business that may be impacted. **Public engagement concluded on November 10, 2019.**

**The bylaw was sent to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change for approval.**

#### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">About Single-Use Items Bylaw</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">May 14, 2019 General Purpose Committee staff report dated April 2, 2019 titled <i>Single-Use Plastic Items – Proposed Consultation</i> (page GP-69)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">July 15, 2019 General Purpose Committee meeting staff report dated July 5, 2019 titled <i>Single-Use Plastic and Other Items Bylaw and Implementation Plans</i></a></li> <li>• <a href="#">July 22, 2019 Council Minutes</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">September 9, 2019 Council Meeting Agenda staff report dated August 8, 2019 title <i>CleanBC Plastics Action Plan - Policy Consultation Paper</i> (page 48)</a></li> </ul>
Bylaws:	<a href="#">Bylaw No. 10000</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">Business Implementation Resources</a> <a href="#">Implementation Support</a> <a href="#">FAQs</a>

#### Port Moody

On June 26, 2018, Council asked staff to:

- Participate in the Metro Vancouver Single-Use Item Reduction Consultation;
- Report back after the Metro Vancouver Consultation with recommendations on next steps; and
- Seek feedback from Port Moody business license holders on their concerns about eliminating single use items.

In April 2019, Port Moody completed consultation survey of businesses. Based on feedback from 38 respondents, staff reported:

- “Many respondents indicated they are moving toward reducing single-use items”
- “Concerns about eliminating single-use items included a lack of alternative products, increasing costs for businesses, and loss of convenience for customers.”

On January 21, 2020, Council asked staff to connect with the District of Tofino to gather information regarding the plastic bag ban in that community. Port Moody city staff summarized the results of the discussions with Tofino in a Memorandum dated February 10, 2020. Tofino has since updated their bylaw in March 2020 (see Tofino).

Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">None</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<a href="#">June 26, 2018 Motion from Council to begin consultation process for eliminating single-use items</a> <a href="#">September 23, 2019 staff report titled Stakeholder Consultation Summary on Single-Use Items (Page 58)</a> <a href="#">February 10, 2020 Memorandum to Council titled Delegation Response – SUPER (Single Use Plastics Elimination Reinforcer) Team (Page 55)</a>
Bylaws:	<a href="#">None</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">Business Consultation Summary</a>

Salmon Arm

On June 10, 2019 City Council approved a bylaw to reduce checkout bags, which included:

- a ban on plastic bags including those labelled biodegradable or compostable;
- fees on paper bags of \$0.15 as of July 1, 2019 and \$0.25 after January 1, 2020; and
- fees on reusable bags of \$1.00 as of July 1, 2019 and \$2.00 after January 1, 2020.

A 6-month transition period for businesses to source appropriate bags and use existing plastic bag stock. The city began enforcement January 1, 2020.

Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Reducing Single-Use Plastic Bags</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">December 10, 2018 Minutes with request for staff to bring forward draft bylaws to ban plastic bags</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 25, 2019 staff report dated February 7, 2019 titled Checkout Shopping Bag Regulation Bylaw No 4297</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">April 2019 staff report titled Checkout Shopping Bag Regulation Bylaw No. 4297 Update</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">April 23, 2019 – Video of Public Meeting</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">September 17, 2019 – Council Report titled MOECCS Plastics Action Plan Submission</a></li> </ul>
Bylaws:	<a href="#">Bylaw No. 4297</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">FAQs for Residents</a> <a href="#">FAQs for Businesses</a>

Squamish

On July 2, 2019, Council approved recommendations from the Committee of the Whole, which included:

- consulting with stakeholders on draft bylaw to ban single-use plastic bags and straws starting January 1, 2020;
- bringing a report to Council in 2020 on regulating other single-use plastic items; and



- writing to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, UBCM and Squamish-Lillooet Regional District to request support for:
  - developing a province wide strategy to reduce single-use items and disposable plastic packaging;
  - developing a provincial single-use item reduction strategy;
  - developing provincial standards for compostable single-use items; and
  - collecting compostable single-use items through an extended producer responsibility program.

On September 17, 2019 staff provided Council outlining possible bylaw components for a

- Plastic bag ban; and
- Plastic straw ban.

On December 17, 2019, the District of Squamish adopted their Single-Use Items Reduction Bylaw. The [bylaw](#)

- restricts the distribution of single-use plastic checkout bags and straws including those labelled biodegradable or compostable;
- requires businesses to ask if the customer needs a checkout bag;
- requires business to charge a fee on Plastic Bags of \$0.10 per bag increasing to \$0.25 ninety days after the adoption of the bylaw;
- requires business to charge a fee on Paper Bags of \$0.20 per bag increasing to \$0.75 90 ninety after adoption of the bylaw; and
- requires business to charge a fee on Reusable Bags of \$1.20 per bag increasing to \$2.75 ninety after adoption of the bylaw.

#### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Reducing Single-Use Items</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">June 25, 2019 staff report titled <i>Update: Single-Use Items Regulation</i></a></li> <li>• <a href="#">September 17, 2019 report to Council titled <i>Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaw(Proposed Contents)</i></a></li> <li>• <a href="#">September 17, 2019 staff presentation to Council titled <i>Single-Use Item Regulation (Proposed Bylaw Contents)</i></a></li> </ul>
Bylaws:	<a href="#">Single Use Item Reduction Bylaw No. 2703</a> <a href="#">Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw No. 2704</a> <a href="#">Notice Enforcement Bylaw Amendment</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">FAQs</a>

#### Surrey

On May 27, 2019, City Council endorsed the proposed actions as outlined in the Council [report](#) to commence the development of a Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy for Surrey. Early actions identified in the report include

- initiating preliminary consultation with residents and businesses;
- completing a single-use item waste composition study; and

- conducting an extensive review of regulatory and legislative authority.

On February 24, 2020, staff reported back to City Council after completing the Public Consultation, Waste Composition Study and collaboration with Metro Vancouver on the SUI toolkit. Surrey requested approval from council to

- prepare a Plastic Bag and Single-Use Item Bylaw; and
- develop a communications and education campaign on the proposed bylaw.

#### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">May 27, 2019 staff report dated May 23, 1029 titled <i>Update on Single-Use Plastics and Other Items</i></a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 24, 2020 staff report dated February 20, 2020 titled <i>Plastic Bags and Single-Use Items Update</i></a></li> </ul>
Bylaws:	None

#### Tofino

Tofino, in coordination with Ucluelet, passed a bylaw that banned plastic straws and bags as of June 8, 2019. The bylaw

- includes a ban on plastic bags and straws including those labelled “biodegradable” or “compostable”;
- includes fees for paper and reusable bags; and
- permits plastic bags to be distributed that have already been used by a customer and that have been returned to the business for the purpose of being reused by other customers.

On March 10, 2020, District of Tofino resolved that:

“District of Tofino Single-Use Item Regulation Bylaw No. 1277, 2020 be revised to include a prohibition on polystyrene foam containers and an exemption for the provision of Plastic Drinking Straws to person with disabilities upon request.”

During the March 10, 2020 council meeting, the amended bylaw was read a first, second and third time. The amended bylaw was sent to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy for approval.

#### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Single-Use Item Regulations</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<p>February 25, 2019 staff report titled <i>District of Tofino Single-Use Plastic Bylaw</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Attachment 1 - <a href="#">District of Tofino Single-use Item Regulation Bylaw No 1263, 2019</a></li> <li>○ Attachment 2 - <a href="#">Single-Use Item Communications Plan</a></li> <li>• April 30, 2019 staff report titled <i>Single-Use Plastics Regulations</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Attachment 1 <a href="#">Draft Bylaw</a></li> <li>○ Attachment 2 <a href="#">Feedback</a></li> <li>○ Attachment 3 <a href="#">Municipal Ticketing Bylaw</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">March 10, 2020 staff report titled <i>Single-Use Item Regulation Bylaw Amendments</i></a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Attachment 1 <a href="#">Proposed Bylaw Amendment</a></li> <li>○ Attachment 2 <a href="#">Municipal Ticketing Bylaw Amendment</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Bylaw:	See Bylaw as attachment in Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes

### Ucluelet

Ucluelet, in coordination with Tofino, passed a bylaw that as of June, 8, 2019, bans plastic straws and bags. The bylaw

- includes a ban on plastic bags and straws including those labelled “biodegradable” or “compostable”;
- includes fees for paper and reusable bags; and
- permits plastic bags to be distributed that have already been used by a customer and that have been returned to the business for the purpose of being reused by other customers.

Ucluelet collected feedback through Facebook.

On February 11, 2020 Council approved and gave first, second and third reading to an updated bylaw. The updated bylaw

- identified that they bylaw is being adopted for the protection of the natural environment;
- expressly exempts small paper and plastics bags under 15cmx20cm; and
- removed transition provisions.

The updated bylaw was sent to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy for approval.

### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Single Use Plastic Regulations Bylaw</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">November 27, 2018 staff report titled <i>Single-Use Shopping Bag Bylaw</i></a></li> <li>• <a href="#">March 26, 2019 staff report titled <i>Single-Use Plastics Bylaw – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading</i></a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 11, 2020 staff report titled <i>Single-Use Item Regulation Bylaw No 1266, 2020</i></a></li> </ul>
Bylaw:	<a href="#">Bylaw No. 1247 (to be superseded pending Ministry approval)</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">Tip Sheet – For Residents</a> <a href="#">Tips for Business</a> <a href="#">Tips for Staff</a> <a href="#">FAQs</a>

### Vancouver

City of Vancouver consulted on and is implementing a single-use item reduction strategy that targets: foam cups and containers, plastic and paper bags, disposable cups, straw, utensil and take-out containers.

Existing and upcoming bylaws include:

- January 2020 – Foam cups and container ban
  - Food vendor ban on serving prepared food in polystyrene foam cups and take-out containers, with a temporary 1-year exemption of hospitals and care facilities.
- April 2020 – Plastic straw ban
  - Final bylaw was presented to Council November 30, 2019.
- January 2021—pending bans include
  - Plastic and paper bags;
  - Disposable cups; and,
  - Disposable utensils.

A take-out container pilot program is planned, with details to be determined.

The City website encourages early adopters to reduce items if possible. For items that cannot be reduced, the City suggests selecting items that are readily accepted in the City’s residential green bin program or the Recycle BC residential blue box program.

On April 9, 2020 the City of Vancouver updated their website to clarify that the start dates for single-use item bylaws for straws, utensils, cups and shopping bags remain unchanged. However, the city is suspending education, outreach and enforcement of by-laws until further notice due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy</a>
Strategy:	<a href="#">City of Vancouver Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy 2018-2025</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Feb 2, 2016 Report to Council titled <i>Enhanced Solid Waste Management and Diversion By-law Authority</i></a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Feb 2, 2016 Council minutes</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">Feb 2, 2016 Council presentation</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="#">June 27, 2017 Report to Council titled <i>Single Use Items Update and Consultation Launch</i></a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">June 27, 2017 Council minutes</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">June 27, 2017 Council presentation</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="#">May 16, 2018 Report to Council titled <i>Single Use Item Reduction Strategy</i></a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">May 16, 2018 Council minutes</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">May 16, 2018 Council presentation</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="#">April 24, 2019 Report to Council titled <i>Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy By-laws—Consultation Update</i></a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">April 24, 2019 Council minutes</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">April 24, 2029 Council presentation</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="#">November 27, 2019 Report to Council titled <i>Bylaws to Reduce Single-Use Items</i></a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">November 27, 2019 Council minutes</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">November 27, 2019 Council presentation</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">November 27, 2019 Council report, Appendix I-1</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">November 27, 2019 Council report, Appendix I-2</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">November 27, 2019 Council report, Appendix I-3</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Bylaws:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">By-law 12416 (amends By-law 4450 regarding polystyrene foam)</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">By-law 12604 (amends By-law 4450 regarding charitable food services)</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Plastic Straws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">By-law 12618 (amends By-law 4450 regarding plastic straws)</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Bags <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">By-law 12624 (amends By-law 4450 regarding shopping bags)</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Utensils <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">By-law 12620 (amends By-law 4450 regarding single-use utensils)</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Cups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">By-law 12622 (amends By-law 4450 regarding single-use cups)</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Other Resources:	<p>For bylaw adoption resources, see landing page <a href="#">Consultation Paper September 12, 2017</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Phase 1 Consultation Summary</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Phase 2 Consultation Summary</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Phase 3 Consultation Summary</a></li> </ul>

Victoria

City of Victoria passed a [bylaw](#) that bans distribution of plastic shopping bags and requires a minimum fee of \$0.12 and \$1.00 for paper and reusable bags respectively.

The Canadian Plastic Bag Association challenged the legal authority of the City of Victoria to enact the bylaw. A [June 19, 2018, ruling in the BC Supreme Court](#) dismissed the case. On July 11, 2019, the Court of Appeal judgment determined the bylaw was invalid on the basis that it is a law intended to protect the environment rather than one concerned with the regulation of business and therefore approval of the Minister of Environment was required. On September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 the City of Victoria announced their plan to ask the Supreme Court of Canada to rule on the authority of municipalities to regulate the distribution of plastic bags by businesses. **In January 2020, the Supreme Court of Canada determined they would not hear the case.**

Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Reducing Single-Use Plastic Bags</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">October 2017 report titled <i>Single-Use Checkout Bag Reduction Program – Bag Reduction Strategy</i></a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">PowerPoint</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="#">December 2017 report titled <i>Single-Use Checkout Bag Regulation – Draft Bylaw Feedback</i></a></li> </ul>
Bylaw:	<a href="#">Bylaw No. 18-008</a> <a href="#">Amendment Bylaw No. 18-064</a>
Legal Challenges:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">June 19, 2018 ruling in the BC Supreme Court</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">July 11, 2019 judgment at the Court of Appeal for British Columbia</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">July 11, 2019 media release titled <i>City Vows to Find Another Way to Eliminate Single-Use Plastic Bags</i></a></li> <li>• <a href="#">September 25, 2019 media release titled <i>City to Ask Supreme Court of Canada to Rule on Municipal Power to Regulate Business Use of Plastic Bags</i></a></li> </ul>

## West Vancouver

On June 24, 2019, District of West Vancouver Council adopted a notice of motion to ask the Province – both directly and through a proposed Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) resolution – to provide clear jurisdiction to municipalities to pass single-use item reduction bylaws. This UBCM resolution was endorsed by the UBCM Conference.

On September 9, 2019, District of West Vancouver Council instructed staff to develop a Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy. The city conducted an initial discussion with local businesses to collect input and ideas, and hear concerns and aspirations about their experience with single-use items. A business survey through [westvancouverite.ca](http://westvancouverite.ca) concluded February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Developing a Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">June 24, 2019 Report to Council Titled <i>Notice of Motion regarding Confirming Municipal Jurisdiction to Regulate Single-Use Items</i></a></li><li>• <a href="#">September 9, 2019 Report to Council titled <i>Municipal Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy</i></a></li></ul>
Bylaw:	None

## Alberta

### Calgary

On May 14, 2019, City Council directed staff to develop a City strategy to reduce single-use items. In October and November 2018, Calgary collected online feedback from citizens, businesses and organizations as part of their phase one of engagement. The city held further engagement with students at the 2019 Mayor's Environment Expo. Calgary plans to combine recommendations of the Federal Government with their stakeholder engagement to develop a draft Single-Use Items Waste Reduction Strategy for feedback in early 2020 and presentation to council in Spring 2020.

### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Single-Use Items Waste Reduction Strategy</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">May 27 staff report dated May 15 2019 titled <i>Scoping Report on Reducing Waste From Single-Use Items</i></a></li></ul>
Bylaw:	None
Other Resources:	<a href="#">What we Heard Report</a> <a href="#">Verbatim Comments</a> FAQs on landing page

## Jasper

Jasper banned plastic bags including those labelled as compostable or biodegradable as of July 1, 2019. Compliance is voluntary with enforcement to take effect at a date determined by Council. Jasper promoted the bylaw through their BYO Bag Campaign.

The bylaw:

- requires that the business ask the customer first if they need a bag;
- requires paper bag to have 40% recycled post-consumer content and be labelled as such; and
- defines reusable as capable of at least 100 uses.

#### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Bring Your Own Bag, Jasper</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Minutes May 21, 2019 (Page 2)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">March 12, 2019 staff report titled <i>Comparative Environmental Impact of Alternative Checkout Bags</i> (Page 23)</a></li> </ul>
Bylaw:	<a href="#">Bylaw No. 215</a>
Other Resources	<a href="#">Retail toolkit</a> <a href="#">Business and Resident Feedback – May 2019</a>

#### Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

In 2010, the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo banned plastic bags, including biodegradable bags. While the municipal staff received some complaints about the cost of purchasing reusable bags, overall the bylaw was well received.

#### Resources

Landing Page:	None
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">November 24, 2009 report titled <i>Bylaw No 09/33 Single-Use Plastic Shopping Bag Bylaw</i></a></li> </ul>
Bylaw:	<a href="#">Bylaw No. 12/007</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">BYO Bag Brochure</a>

#### Saskatchewan

##### Regina

The City of Regina is considering different single-use plastic reduction options to reach their reduction goals of their Waste Plan Regina. Staff conducted an online survey that ended October 2019.

On May 19, 2020, staff submitted a report to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee following an early consultation. The report elaborated on three options:

- Continued focus on implementation of the Waste Plan Regina by working toward reduction of all disposable products, including plastics (Recommended).
- Implementing mandatory bag fees, or fees for other single use items.
- Ban plastic checkout bags at the municipal level via enforceable bylaw.

The report was withdrawn from the May 2020 committee meeting agenda with all members in favor of postponement.

#### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">City Seeks Input on Single-Use Plastics</a>
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Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">May 19, 2020 staff report to committee titled <i>Item# PW120-3 Single-Use Plastics</i> (page 64 of 130)</a></li> </ul>
Bylaw:	none

## Ontario

### Toronto

City of Toronto began consultation to develop a single-use and takeaway items reduction strategy following City Council direction in July 2018. In October, 2019 the City of Toronto started engagement on the following proposed bylaws with a plan for a phased-in approach

- 2021 – Ask first for utensils and fees for paper and plastic bags; and
- 2022 – Ask first for straws; fees on disposable cups; and ban on foam cups and containers.

Based on phase 1 consultation results from fall 2018, City of Toronto began developing potential policies and programs for their reduction strategy. Following phase 2 consultation in September 2019, City Staff are refining initiatives for presentation to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee in 2020.

### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Reducing Single-Use &amp; Takeaway Items</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">July 23, 2018 Council direction to Address Single-Use Items, Misleading Advertising, and textile Waste in the City of Toronto</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">May 6, 2019 staff report titled <i>Single Use Item Consultation and Reduction Strategy Next Steps</i></a></li> </ul>
Bylaw:	None
Other Resources:	<a href="#">Single-Use and Takeaway Items Public Consultation Report dated May 2019</a> <a href="#">Single-Use and Takeaway Item Reduction Strategy – Phase 2 Consultation Presentation</a>

## Quebec

### Montreal (Ville and Metro)

In January 2018, the Ville de Montreal introduced a bylaw which bans:

- conventional plastic shopping bags (thickness less than 50 microns); and
- all oxo-degradable, oxo-fragmentable and biodegradable plastic shopping bags.

Over 30 jurisdictions (representing over 75% of the population) in the Communaute Metropolitaine de Montreal have banned bags. The [Ville de Montreal website](#) has the bylaw and FAQ detailing which municipalites have banned bags. Enforcement began June 5, 2018.

### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Banning Single-Use Plastic Bags</a>
Bylaw:	<a href="#">Bylaw 16-051</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">FAQs</a>



## New Brunswick

### Tri-Cities of Moncton, Dieppe and Riverview

Neighboring cities Moncton, Dieppe and Riverview all passed similar bylaws in June 2019 banning the distribution of plastic checkout bags. Retailers can provide paper and reusable bags at a fee. Exceptions include bags for bulk foods and other specified items. The cities planned for the bylaws to come into force on July 1, 2020, but due to Covid-19, the start date was amended to begin October 1, 2020.

#### Resources

Landing Page:	None
Bylaw:	<a href="#">Moncton Bylaw P-619</a> <a href="#">Dieppe Bylaw A-13</a> <a href="#">Riverview Bylaw 700-75</a>

## Prince Edward Island

As of July 1, 2019, Prince Edward Island will be the first province to ban the distribution of plastic checkout bags, including those labelled biodegradable or compostable. Business must charge a fee for paper bags (minimum \$0.15) and reuseable bags (minimum \$1.00), which the business will retain.

#### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Plastic Bag Reduction</a>
Act:	<a href="#">Plastic Bag Reduction Act – Bill No. 114</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">Business Fact Sheet</a> <a href="#">Customer Q&amp;A</a>

## Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia passed a bill to ban single-use plastic bags on October 29, 2019. The bill takes effect on October 30, 2020 and includes bags made from biodegradable or compostable plastic. Paper bags are permitted, but must be made from at least 40 percent post-consumer recycled paper. Exceptions include bags for bulk foods and other specified items.

#### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Single-use Plastic Bag Ban</a>
Act:	<a href="#">Plastic Bags Reduction Act – Bill No. 152</a>

## Yukon Territories

### Dawson City

Dawson City passed their Single Use Plastics Bylaw on February 12, 2020. Businesses are prohibited from providing customers with:

- Plastic bags;
- Plastic drinking straws;
- Plastic utensils; and
- Plastic or polystyrene foam take out containers or cups (including biodegradable or compostable variants).

The bylaw came into force as of April 22, 2020.

Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Project &amp; Council Initiatives: Single Use Plastics Bylaw</a>
Bylaw:	<a href="#">Bylaw No. 2019-10</a>

USA and Europe

Table 2 - Summary of Single-Use Item Reduction Policies and Strategies Outside of Canada

USA						
California						
	Plan/Strategy	Straws	Utensils	Bags	Cups	Containers
Portland, OR		By Request	By Request	Plastic Ban	Foam Ban	Foam Ban
California	-	-	-	Ban	-	-
Berkeley, CA		By Request	By Request	Plastic Ban/Fees (Alameda County)	Mandatory Fee Compostable Require Reusable for Dine-in	Compostable Require Reusable for Dine-in
Connecticut	-	-	-	Fee and Ban Pending (2021)	-	-
Philadelphia, PA	-	-	-	Ban (Pending January 2021)		
Europe						
	Plan/Strategy	Straws	Utensils	Bags	Cups	Containers
European Union	Directive to ban nine single-use items as well as oxo-degradable plastics.	Pending Ban (2021)	Pending Ban (2021)		Pending Ban (2021)	Pending Foam Ban (2021)

Portland

As of October 1, 2019 businesses in Portland cannot automatically include plastic straws, stirrers, utensils or individually packaged condiments in a customer’s order for dine-in, drive through, take-out or delivery. These include plastic products labeled “compostable” or “biodegradable”.

Since October 2013, the City of Portland has had a Checkout Bag Regulation which states that all retail establishments and food providers shall only provide recycled paper bags or reusable bags as checkout bags to customers.

Since January 1990, the City of Portland banned restaurants from serving food in polystyrene foam food containers.

*Resources*

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Single-use Plastics Reduction Policy</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">November 14, 2018 Council Report title <i>By-request policy for plastic straws in dine-in areas; as well as an ask-first policy for plastic utensils and condiments for take-out, delivery and fast food orders.</i></a></li> </ul>
Regulation:	<a href="#">City Code 17.103</a> <a href="#">Oregon Straw Bill 90</a>
Other Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Straws available by request sign</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Utensils available by request sign</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Straws, stirrers, utensils, and condiments available by request sign</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Business notification letter: <i>Single-Use Plastics Reduction Policy Notification Letter</i></a></li> </ul>

*State of California*

On November 8, 2016, California banned the distribution of single-use carry out bags. Business may still provide reusable grocery bags or recycled paper bags. But they must charge at least \$0.10 for each bag. Stores may sell compostable plastic bags if

- they are located in a jurisdiction where the majority of residential household have access to curbside collection for composting; or
- the local government has voted to allow the sale of compostable bags to consumers.

**Bag manufacturers who sell reusable grocery bags in California must be certified by the Reusable Grocery Bag Reporting System.**

*Resources*

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Single-Use Carryout Bag Ban</a>
Regulation:	<a href="#">Bill No. 270</a>

*City of Berkeley*

The City of Berkeley introduced a Single-Use Foodware and Litter Reduction Ordinance which came into effect March 27, 2019 (phase 1) with additional restrictions coming into effect January 1, 2020 (phase 2) and July 1, 2020 (phase 3). Ordinance enforcement begins one year after their effective date. The ordinance includes the following components aimed at reducing the use and disposal of cups, lids, utensils, straws, clamshells, and other disposables:

Phase 1

- The following items will only available by request:

- Straws, stirrers, napkins, utensils, condiments cups and packets, cup sleeves, tops, lids, spill plugs, and other similar accessories
- Food Vendors must provide color-coded receptacles.
- City events and facilities must only serve food in reusable or certified compostable food serviceware.

Phase 2

- All disposable food serviceware must be certified compostable and free of intentionally added fluorinated chemicals.
- Food vendors must charge \$0.25 for disposable cups.

Phase 3

- Food vendors offering on-site dining may only use reusables (durable/washable).

The Alameda County Reusable Bag Ordinance applies to City of Berkeley. Therefore City of Berkeley retailers must

- no longer distribute single-use plastic bags;
- charge a minimum of \$0.10 for paper bags and/or compliant reusable bags; and
- encourage customers to bring their own bag.

*Resources*

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Berkeley Single Use Foodware and Litter Reduction Ordinance</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<a href="#">July 24, 2012 Council Report titled <i>Expanded Single-Use Bag Reduction Ordinance</i></a>
Regulation:	<a href="#">City of Berkeley Single Use Foodware Ordinance No. 7,639-N.S.</a> <a href="#">Alameda County Reusable Bag Ordinance 2016-2</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">Ordinance Requirements for the Prepared Food Vendors fact sheet</a>

*State of Connecticut*

On August 1, 2019, Connecticut retailers were required to charge a fee of \$0.10 per single-use plastic checkout bag less than 4 mils thick. “Single-use checkout bag” does not include paper bags; reusable bags; newspaper bags; laundry or dry cleaning bags; or bags used only to contain meat, seafood, loose produce of other unwrapped food items. **Single-use plastic checkout bags are scheduled to be banned on June 30, 2021.**

Municipalities can enact ordinances concerning plastic single-use checkout bags that are as restrictive or more restrictive than the statewide Act.

*Resources*

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Single-Use Plastic Bag Fee</a>
Regulation:	<a href="#">Bill No. 7424</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">FAQs</a>

## Philadelphia

Philadelphia City Council passed a Single Use Plastics Ban in December 2019. The original effective date of the ban was pushed from July 2, 2020 to January 1, 2021 in light of Covid-19. Enforcement will begin April 1, 2021. Following a three month education period, fines for non-compliance will begin July 1, 2021.

Exceptions to the bag ban include

- Dry Cleaner bags;
- Bags sold in packages with multiple bags, such as garbage, recycling and yard waste bags; and
- Bags used inside retailers by a customer to delivery perishable items to point of sale (bulk items, meats, bakery goods, flowers and similar items).

In addition, only recyclable plastic bags will be permitted. Philadelphia plans to release additional support material such as flyers and business signage in the coming months.

### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">Philadelphia's Single Use Plastic Bag Ban</a>
Regulation:	<a href="#">Bill No. 190610-A02</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">FAQs on landing page</a>

## European Union

The European Union voted to ban selected single-use plastics by 2021. The ban includes cotton bud sticks, utensils, plates, straws, stirrers, sticks for balloons, cups, foam food and beverage containers, and products made of oxo-degradable plastics. **Taking action on plastics is a priority for the EU's Circular Economy Action Plan.**

### Resources

Landing Page:	<a href="#">European Strategy for Plastics</a>
Council Reports, Presentations and Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Brussels May 28, 2018 document titled <i>Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment</i> and Annex</a></li><li>• <a href="#">March 27, 2019 meeting agenda and vote</a></li></ul>
Strategy:	<a href="#">Implementation Plan</a> <a href="#">Directive</a>
Other Resources:	<a href="#">Single-use Plastics Factsheet</a> <a href="#">Press release May 28, 2019</a> <a href="#">Q&amp;A</a> <a href="#">Impact assessment part 1, part 2, part 3 and summary</a> <a href="#">Supporting Study: Assessment of measures to reduce marine litter from single use plastics</a> <a href="#">Engagement Synopsis report</a>