



REGIONAL DISTRICT of Fraser-Fort George

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Municipalities:

McBride
Mackenzie
Prince George
Valemount

Electoral Areas:

Chilako River-Nechako
Crooked River-Parsnip
Robson Valley-Canoe
Salmon River-Lakes
Tabor Lake-Stone Creek
Willow River-Upper Fraser
Woodpecker-Hixon

June 3, 2019

File No. COM 2.0

Honourable George Heyman
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
PO Box 9047 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Heyman:

Cariboo Regional District

File No. 400-60

JUN 11 2019

Referred To CAO/SSWM /
Board

RE: Single Use Plastics Ban

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George wishes to express its support for the call from the Comox Valley Regional District to consider provincial regulations that would reduce single-use plastic bags and disposable plastic packaging.

According to statistics, 3 billion single-use plastic bags are used in Canada each year. Less than 11 per cent of Canada's plastics is estimated to get recycled. The rest end up in landfills, lakes, parks and oceans, posing significant risks for animals and the environment.

There are some municipalities in BC that have begun to implement bylaws that restrict or reduce the use of single-use plastics by businesses. However, Regional Districts do not have the same authority to impose those restrictions on businesses and the resulting impact is inconsistent rules about single-use plastics, depending on the area you live.

We support the Comox Valley Regional District's call for the Provincial Government to introduce regulations that would diminish the use of single-use plastics throughout the province, regardless where you live or operate a business.

Providing a province-wide regulation will provide a level playing field for business operators and go a long way in protecting our environment from the many harmful effects of single-use plastics.

Sincerely,

Lara Beckett,
Chair, Environment and Parks Standing Committee

CC:

Shirley Bond, MLA, Prince George-Valemount
Mike Morris, MLA, Prince George-Mackenzie
Chair and Directors, BC Regional Districts

LB:RM:dh