



Dear Mayors, Councillors and Regional District Board Members,

September 3, 2019

**Re: Joint Local Government Submission regarding Provincial Plastics Action Plan**

Municipalities and Regional Districts are often at the forefront of environmental issues that affect our citizens and local environments. As local governments who are taking steps to reduce single-use items in our communities, we write to you asking you to join us in a response to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy's call for submissions regarding proposed amendments to the *Recycling Regulation* of the *Environmental Management Act* to address plastic waste. In this way, it is our hope that the voices of local governments will be stronger together.

In reviewing the "[Plastics Action Plan Policy Consultation Paper](#)", the following five topic areas were determined as matters requiring specific feedback from the local government sector, and they form the basis of our joint letter:

1. Prioritization of Reduction and Reuse over Recycling and Disposal
2. Clarification of Local Government Authority
3. A "Stepped" Or Phased Approach to Regulation
4. Improvement of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Programs
5. Adequate Consultation (including with other Ministries)

To be clear, there is no reason why your organization cannot submit its own specific feedback to the proposals laid out in the Consultation Paper in addition to this joint submission. However, if you are in alignment with the five broad themes as outlined above, we encourage you to consider passing the following resolution at your next meeting:

"THAT the [insert jurisdiction] Council/Board supports and wishes to join the submission from the Districts of Squamish and Tofino in response to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy's proposed amendments to the *Recycling Regulation* of the *Environmental Management Act*."

In order to jointly submit our feedback by the deadline of 4PM on September 30th, 2019, we ask that your staff please contact Elyse Goatcher-Bergmann, Manager of Corporate Services for the District of Tofino, at [egoatcher-bergmann@tofino.ca](mailto:egoatcher-bergmann@tofino.ca) by **noon on Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019** in order to add your local government's name to the letter.

We understand the tight timeline for consideration of this submission, and thank you and your staff for your attention in advance. We look forward to working together on this and other important matters in the future.

Sincerely,

Karen Elliott  
Mayor of Squamish

Josie Osborne  
Mayor of Tofino