

Attachment #1

Summary of actions taken by municipalities regarding single-use plastics

Municipality:	Action(s) Taken:
City of Toronto	<p>In 2009, the City of Toronto required retailers to charge customers five cents for plastic bags. However, in 2012, the “bag tax” was repealed and a motion to ban plastic bags was passed. Due to legal challenges, Council later voted against the ban before it was due to come into force.</p> <p>In 2012, the sale or distribution of bottled water at all City of Toronto facilities and operations was prohibited.</p> <p>In July 2018, Toronto City Council passed a motion directing staff to develop a policy to restrict plastic straws in the City as well as develop a work plan aimed at reducing the use of single-use or take-away packaging or products. Consultations were held in two phases; phase 1 identified top priority single-use or takeaway items to reduce and the preferred approaches to reduce these items; and the objective of phase 2 was to gather feedback that will help the City create a Single-Use and Takeaway Item Reduction Strategy. The results will be presented by staff to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee in 2020.</p>
City of Richmond Hill	<p>In May 2019, Richmond Hill Council adopted a motion directing staff to report back to council on practical and feasible strategies to reduce single-use plastics within their own corporation and within the municipality.</p> <p>On November 25, 2020, staff presented a report to Council with recommendations to: develop and implement a corporate policy to reduce single-use plastics and increase waste diversion at City facilities, functions and events; implement a public education campaign focused on raising awareness about options to reduce single-use plastics; and develop a program, in partnership with York Region, to recognize local businesses reducing their use of single-use plastics through voluntary initiatives.</p>
Town of Aurora	<p>In September 2018, Town of Aurora Council directed staff to develop a report providing information on banning plastic straws. Staff reported back to Council recommending the Town implement an Offer-First policy, where a plastic straw is offered when required, rather than automatically handed out at all Town Facilities and Town operated events.</p>
City of Markham	<p>At the October 7, 2019, City of Markham General Committee Meeting, a motion was introduced regarding a declaration for immediate action on single-use plastics and litter. Presented at the October 22, 2019, General Committee Meeting, the motion declares that, within three months of the adoption of this declaration, certain single-use plastics must not be used by businesses serving consumers in Markham. The motion was deferred to staff to report back on the concerns identified by the Committee.</p> <p>At the May 4, 2020, General Committee Meeting, staff presented a report recommending the following actions to address single-use plastics (SUPs) in the community: a review of all municipal facilities for opportunities to eliminate or reduce non-essential single use plastics (SUPs); implementation of a community-wide education program to raise awareness and provide options for SUP reduction; and ban Styrofoam packaging from curbside collection. Actions will be phased in and staff will report back on the results of Phase 1 and outline Phase 2 recommendations regarding the implementation of a potential municipal</p>

	by-law or other methods to reduce plastic retail shopping bags and polystyrene convenience food containers from distribution in Markham.
City of Kawartha Lakes	In May 2019, a resolution was made requesting that staff review the feasibility of a single-use plastics and Styrofoam ban. In November 2019, staff reported back to Council and recommended implementing a voluntary ban focused on plastic shopping bags, Styrofoam and plastic straws as well as reducing or eliminating Styrofoam and single-use plastics from City buildings and facilities and the municipality's recycling program.
City of Woodstock	In August 2019, the City of Woodstock Council approved a ban on single-use shopping bags in principal, but asked for a staff report on the logistics of implementing the ban. In December 2019, a report was presented by staff to seek Council's direction regarding a ban of single-use plastic handled shopping bags.
City of Brantford	On March 26, 2019, Brantford City Council adopted a motion directing staff to analyse the impacts of single-use plastic straws in the municipality and how to reduce those impacts through the regulation and prohibition of single-use plastic straws. On April 30, 2019, Brantford Council agreed to phase out single-use plastics such as straws, cutlery and plates at City Hall and replace them with reusable dishware and cutlery.
City of St. Catharines	In January 2019, St. Catharines City Council passed a ban on plastic straws and stir sticks for sale and use in city facilities, parks, city-run events and public spaces and requires non-plastic, compostable alternatives be used when necessary. In July 2018, the City implemented a ban on the sale of plastic bottled water in municipal facilities.
City of Niagara Falls	On April 9, 2019, Niagara Falls City Council unanimously approved eliminating the use and distribution of plastic straws and plastic stir sticks in all city-owned facilities and at city events to complement the existing plastic beverage bottle ban implemented May 1, 2009.
Municipality of Clarington	On October 7, 2019, Clarington council voted to ban all single-use plastics in all municipal buildings and recreation facilities.
Town of Fort Frances	On January 13, 2020, a resolution to adopt a Single-use Plastics By-law was unanimously passed by Town of Fort Frances Council. The by-law will come into effect on January 1, 2021, and will prohibit the distribution of single-use plastic bags and Styrofoam food containers.
York Region	York Region has communicated their intent to explore ways to reduce single-use plastics as part of the update to the Regional Waste Master Plan (SM4RT Living Plan).
Durham Region	In April 2019, Durham Region Council took steps to eliminate single-use plastics at its own headquarters. Bottled water is no longer available for purchase and take out containers from its food service areas are fully compostable, and plastic straws have been replaced with compostable paper straws.
City of Vancouver, British Columbia	The City of Vancouver's Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy, approved by Council on June 5, 2018, included a proposed ban on plastic straws and foam cups and containers. The ban on foam cups and foam take-out containers took effect on January 1, 2020. Effective April 22, 2020, single-use utensils can only be provided upon customer request, flexible plastic straws individually wrapped in paper must be stocked and provided to customers upon request, and other plastic straws, including plastic labeled or described as compostable, degradable, or made from plants are banned. Beginning January 1, 2021, there will be a ban on plastic shopping bags, required fees on paper and reusable shopping bags, and

	a minimum fee of \$0.25 must be charged for each single-use beverage cup distributed.
City of Victoria, British Columbia	On July 1, 2018, the Checkout Bag Regulation By-law came into effect and businesses in Victoria were no longer allowed to provide customers with single-use plastic checkout bags. In January 2018, the Canadian Plastic Bag Association (CPBA) challenged the by-law in BC Supreme Court and the Court ruled in favour of the City. However, in July 2019, the BC Court of Appeal overturned the BC Supreme Court decision and struck down the by-law. The City will ask the Supreme Court of Canada to review the decision.
City of Richmond, British Columbia	In May 2019, Richmond City Council directed staff to bring forward appropriate by-law amendments to ban the commercial use or commercial distribution of foam cups, foam plates and foam take-out containers effective January 1, 2020. The proposed by-law is pending approval by the BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change.
Newfoundland	In April 2019, the Province amended the Environmental Protection Act and began drafting regulations to ban the distribution of retail plastic bags. A provincial ban on the distribution of retail plastic bags came into force on July 1, 2020.
Prince Edward Island	On July 1, 2019, the Plastic Bag Reduction Act came into effect, prohibiting businesses from providing plastic checkout bags to customers.
Montréal, Quebec	On August 23, 2016, the City of Montréal adopted a by-law prohibiting the distribution of certain types of shopping bags in retail stores including conventional plastic shopping bags and oxo-degradable, oxo-fragmentable, and biodegradable shopping bags. The ban took effect January 1, 2018. In 2020, additional bans will be looked into for other single-use plastic items such as straws, Styrofoam cups, disposable cutlery and grocery-store food packaging for meat, fish and vegetables.