

P.O. Box 1749 Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. 12.2.1

Request for Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee Consideration			
X Agenda Item (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon at least 5 working days prior to the meeting)		to Municipal ce by Noon at	Request from the Floor
Date of Meeting: September 2, 2021			
Subject: Plastic Pollution Resolution			
Motion for Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee to Consider:			
That the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee recommend Regional Council to endorse the Plastics Resolution as outlined in Attachment 1 of this Request for Consideration form.			
Reason: Plastic pollution is recognized by the Government of Canada, as well as governments and scientists around the world, as damaging to the environment. Canada lacks a comprehensive and coordinated approach to addressing the growing problem of plastic pollution, and the majority of plastics produced are not currently suitable for reuse or recycling. Some 8,000 tonnes of Canadian plastic waste end up in landfills, incinerators, or the natural environment every day. Municipalities are in the position of managing the end of life of products that are not adequately managed by the producers that put them on the market. This would be an investment in the circular economy and create jobs.			
Councillor Tony Mancini		District 6	

DRAFT municipal resolution in favour of federal action to manage plastics

WHEREAS plastic pollution is recognized by the Government of Canada, as well as governments and scientists around the world, as damaging to the environment;

Whereas Canada lacks a comprehensive and co-ordinated approach to addressing the growing problem of plastic pollution;

Whereas global annual production of plastic products is expected to double in the next decade, to 800 million tonnes in 2030;

Whereas some 40 per cent of plastic production generates "single-use" items that are used once and thrown away, which runs counter to the principles of a circular economy;

Whereas the majority of plastics produced are not currently suitable for reuse or recycling and some 8,000 tonnes of Canadian plastic waste end up in landfills, incinerators or the natural environment every day;

Whereas municipalities are in the position of managing the end of life of products that are not adequately managed by the producers that put them on the market;

AND whereas investing in the circular economy creates jobs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Council:

- 1. Endorse the integrated management plan for plastics proposed by the federal government, which includes:
 - a. Banning six single-use items: checkout bags, stir sticks, six-pack rings, cutlery, certain takeout containers and straws
 - b. Establishing a minimum requirement for recycled plastic content in new plastic products.
- 2. Ask the federal government to implement these important regulations as soon as possible and, in any case, no later than the end of the year.
- 3. Urge the federal government to establish a registry that publicly reports on:
 - a. Descriptions of the plastic manufactured items put on the market each year in Canada
 - b. A list of chemicals found in each product
 - c. The amount of plastic that enters the waste stream in Canada each year, broken down by how and where the waste is processed (e.g. landfill,

incineration/waste-to-energy, recycling, domestic vs. export)

- 4. Further urge the government to establish a framework for the adoption of Extended Producer Responsibility regulation across the country to ensure producers are responsible for the full lifecycle of the products they put on the market in Canada;
- 5. Further urge the federal government to set a national recycling target for plastic products;
- 6. And, finally, urge the federal government to work with municipalities to explore, with a view to investing in, reuse systems to replace single-use plastic products.

March 2021