

Resolution

Agenda Number: 22.1
Date: October 22, 2020

Moved by Councillor Innis
Seconded by Councillor Ras

Whereas the Government of Canada is taking steps toward eliminating plastic pollution in Canada, including potentially banning or restricting harmful single-use plastic products, where warranted and supported by science;

And whereas, since signing the Ocean Plastics Charter in June 2018, and approving in principle the Canada-wide Strategy on Zero Plastic Waste in November 2018, the Government of Canada has signalled its intent to move toward a more sustainable approach to producing, using and managing plastics in Canada;

And whereas, the Government of Canada, on October 7, 2020, released a discussion paper on a proposed integrated waste management approach to plastics and is seeking input on the discussion paper by December 9, 2020;

And whereas, the discussion paper includes a potential ban of harmful single-use plastic items including plastic checkout bags, stir sticks, six-pack rings, cutlery, straws and food service ware made from problematic plastics;

And whereas, viable alternative non-plastic options exist for each of the harmful single-use plastic items considered in the potential ban;

And whereas, the Region of Peel is responsible for managing plastics in the residential waste stream;

And whereas, the Region Council approved Resolution 2018-631 at its meeting held on June 28, 2018 requesting the Federal Government to develop a national strategy that addresses plastic pollution;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Region of Peel Council supports the Federal Government's proposal to ban harmful single-use plastic items in 2021, and not through a phased in approach, including plastic checkout bags, stir sticks, six-pack rings, cutlery, straws, food service ware made from problematic plastics;

And further, that the Region supports a national strategy on plastic pollution that includes a minimum recycled content performance standard for single-use plastics;

And further, that the Region supports a national strategy on plastic pollution that modernizes composting certification standards for compostable products and packages to be in line with municipal organics processing operations;

And further, that the Region submit comments on the discussion paper by December 9, 2020 to the Director of the Plastics and Marine Litter Division of Environment and Climate Change Canada and participate in any forthcoming engagement opportunities;

And further, that a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Federation of Canadian Municipalities; the Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; and, Peel area MPs and MPPs.

Regional Chair