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Re: Single use plastics ban

Dear Council,

I Kristen Case, am writing to you in support of the Single-use plastics ban. I am 19 years of age, and will be attending Ryerson University this fall to study Creative Industries. I moved to the town of Thornbury last year and have spent my gap-year working at the Lora Bay golf course and exploring my new community.

I cannot begin to express how fortunate I feel to be living in such a beautiful and welcoming lake side community, but like most people, I am extremely concerned with lack of environmental regulations put in place. In the city I previously lived, plastic bags were not a huge concern to me as they had a recycling program in place that allowed us to recycle all plastics such as: thin film grocery bags, single use plastic bottles, plastic straws, etc. On arriving in the town of Thornbury, I was shocked to learn that we could not put plastic bags in the blue bin for recycling. The obvious solution for my environmentally conscious family was to start using multi-use shopping bags, a very easy fix. We have also started using multi-use metal straws as 57 million straws are throw away daily by Canadians. The plastics that don't end up in our Great Lakes or land fills are sent abroad for recycling. Malaysia is the second country to recently call Canada out on its "irresponsible" export of plastic waste and are threatening to send shipping containers full of plastic bags back across the ocean. This is clearly a huge problem that seriously needs to be addressed and corrected.

It is a privilege to live next to the Great Lakes, and with this privilege comes responsibility. It is our responsibility as individuals and as a community to mitigate any future damage to our local, national and global environment. This ban on Single-use plastics would be a great step in the right direction. Please chose to ban the use of Single-use plastics and keep our environment safe and beautiful for future generations to enjoy.

Thank-you,

Kristen Case