

**PETITION TO THE SAINT JOHN CITY COUNCIL
TO HIS WORSHIP & COUNCIL OF SAINT JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK:**

Whereas nearly 90 per cent of plastics in Canada are not recycled but rather pollutes our lakes, parks, oceans, landfills, or is incinerated;

Whereas once plastics are in the environment they, on average, take more than 400 years to degrade while leaching toxic chemicals into the natural environment, harming or killing wildlife, and contaminating ecosystems;

Whereas plastic shopping bags require natural gas to be produced and therefore have a significant carbon footprint and upon disposal leach methane (a greenhouse gas) in the presence of sunlight;

Whereas 2.86 billion plastic bags are used in Canada per year;

Whereas Montreal and Victoria have banned single-use plastic shopping bags, P.E.I. has made plans to enact a ban, and the Moncton and Halifax city councils are considering a ban;

Whereas there is public opposition towards the use of single-use plastic shopping bags in Saint John, with 70 per cent of Saint John residents supporting a ban on plastic shopping bags (Source: Corporate Research Associates poll conducted spring 2018).

THE PETITION OF THE UNDERSIGNED HUMBLY SHEWETH THAT THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCILLORS OF SAINT JOHN RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR GREATER ACTION IN REDUCING CONSUMERISM WASTE, AND AS A SIGNIFICANT STEP TOWARD THE ENDEAVOR, SUPPORT A BAN ON SINGLE-USE PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS

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