

## Dear Minister Guilbeault and Minister Duclos,

We, the undersigned organizations and individuals, are deeply concerned about the plastic waste and pollution crisis and its devastating impacts worldwide. As responsible ministers for the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* — "an Act respecting pollution prevention and the protection of the environment and human health", we urge you to take bolder and urgent action to tackle the crisis by expanding the single-use plastics ban to include a more comprehensive list of problematic plastics and substances.

The federal, <u>provincial and territorial governments</u> have already identified a substantive list of plastic items that end up in the environment, are harmful to habitats and species, and/or cause significant challenges in end of life management. Plastic pollutes at each stage of its lifecycle and puts the health of the climate, wildlife, ecosystems, and humans at risk. Downstream management measures are insufficient to reduce waste and curb pollution, and the reduction of plastic produced is required to prevent further harm.

Canada committed to achieve zero plastic waste by 2030; however, the current ban covers only about 3 per cent of the plastic waste generated nationwide. To meet this goal, and key climate and biodiversity restoration targets, the production, distribution, sale, import and export of problematic and unnecessary plastic must be phased out through stronger regulatory action.

To build on the previous six single-use plastics that are covered by the ban, we call for an expansion of the ban to include these next six categories of single-use plastic manufactured items.

- All takeout containers, cups and lids
- Bottles and caps
- Sachets, pouches and wrappers
- Bags, film and wrap
- Filtered cigarettes
- Produce stickers

We further call for the elimination of the following **highly problematic polymers**, **chemical additives and types of plastic products**.

- Polymers:
  - Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)
  - Polystyrene
  - Polyurethanes
  - fluorinated polymers
- Chemical additives:
  - Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances
  - Phthalates
  - Bisphenols
  - Brominated flame retardants
  - Chlorinated paraffins
  - Benzotriazole UV stabilizers

- Products:
  - So-called "flushables"
  - So-called "biodegradable," "compostable" and "oxo-degradable" plastics

Canada is well positioned to set a new precedent on taking meaningful action to mirror the urgency and scale of the worsening pollution crisis. **We represent thousands of people across Canada who are calling on you to commit to expand the ban**, and accelerate a just transition to zero waste, circular systems centred on reuse.



## **SIGNATORIES**

**Action Environnement Basses-Laurentides** 

**Ambioterra** 

**Anarres Natural Health Apothecary** 

Association québécoise Zéro Déchet (AQZD)

**Atlantic Healthy Oceans Initiative** 

Bateau bateau

Boco Boco

**Breast Cancer Action Quebec** 

**Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE)** 

Circulr Inc.

**Citizens Environment Alliance of Southwestern Ontario** 

Collectivité zéro émission nette L'Assomption-D'Autray

Comité de vigilance environnementale de l'est de Montréal (CVEEM)

**Conservation Council of New Brunswick** 

Craque-Bitume

**David Suzuki Foundation** 

DreamZero

Eau Secours

**Ecology Action Centre** 

**Environmental Defence Canada** 

**ENvironnement Jeunesse(ENJEU)** 

**Environnement Vert Plus** 

Équiterre

**Etobicoke Climate Action** 

Fondation Rivières

Friendlier

Friends of the Earth Canada

Front commun québécois pour une gestion écologique des déchets (FCQGED)

GRAME

Green 13

**Greenpeace Canada** 

Groupe ÉCOSPHÈRE

**Health and Environment Justice Support** 

**Inwit Zero Waste Takeout & Corporate Meals** 

L'Assomption en Transition

La Récolte

La Vague

Le Conseil central du Montréal métropolitain - CSN



Le Front commun pour la transition énergétique (FCTÉ)

Les Aliments Naturels L'Eau Vive

Let's Talk Trash

**Mind Your Plastic** 

Nanaimo Recycling Exchange Society

NON à une marée noire dans le Saint-Laurent

OneSoak

**Ontario Nature** 

**Ontario Rivers Alliance** 

Packt Reuse Systems Inc.

Parkdale-HighPark for Climate Action

Physicians for a Smoke-Free Canada

Prospérité Sans Pétrole

Reego

Réseau des femmes en environnement

Réseau québécois des groupes écologistes (RQGE)

Retournzy

Reusables.com

Solidarité environnement Sutton

**StopPlastics** 

Suppli

**Surfrider Foundation Canada** 

The Soap Dispensary and Kitchen Staples

**Toronto Environmental Alliance** 

Union des employés et employées de service, Section Locale 800

**Univert Laval** 

Vrac Sur Roues

Wallaceburg Advisory Team for a Cleaner Habitat (WATCH)

**Waste Watch Ottawa** 

Women's Healthy Environments Network (WHEN)

**Zero Waste British Columbia** 

Zero Waste Canada

**Zero Waste Hub Toronto**