

Petition to ban single-use plastic shopping bags and polystyrene for food & drink

**Petition**

To: The Honorable Mayor Bryan Paterson and Kingston City Council:

Whereas plastic bags and polystyrene are so lightweight that they get blown into trees, streams, lakes and oceans. Only 11% of all plastic in Canada gets recycled annually. (“Canada Should Recycle 85% of plastics by 2025”, Global News, June 4/18).

Whereas Canadians use 2.86 billion plastic shopping bags per year (Globe & Mail; “The Battle of the Bag” updated March 29/18);

Whereas plastic bags and polystyrene are made from petroleum, and mining it adds greenhouse gases to the air, and pollutes the ground and streams;

Whereas plastic bags and polystyrene break down into microplastic bits and get ingested by marine life and birds making them sick, as well as entering the food chain;

Whereas up to 1 million sea birds and 100,000 sea mammals and countless fish die each year from ingesting plastic, according to the Ocean Conference, United Nations, New York, 2017;

Whereas plastic bags take 10-1000 years to decompose and polystyrene never biodegrades and can be fatal for wildlife (“The Decomposition of Waste in Landfills”, The Balance: Small Business, updated June 2018). We could recycle all remaining amounts for future needs;

Whereas stores can sell reusable plant fibre bags, and take-out food and drinks can be served in cardboard or reusable containers;

Whereas the students of Ms. Jerreat’s grade 4/5 class and all grade 5’s from Elginburg District Public School and **all** children in Kingston want and need clean lakes to swim in, clean air to breathe, and a healthy planet;

We, the undersigned, petition Kingston City Council as follows:

To ban plastic shopping bags and Styrofoam (polystyrene) packaging used for drinks and food from being manufactured, or commercially distributed, in Kingston.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>

Please call Ms. Jerreat at Elginburg Public School to collect this petition when filled at #613-542-8387, or mail it or deliver it to the school : The Petition  
Elginburg D.P.S.  
2100 Unity Road, Kingston ON K0H 1M0

