

NEWS RELEASE

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City of Nanaimo launches single-use checkout bags regulation consultation

Summary

The City is seeking input from residents and businesses on how to reduce our reliance on single-use checkout bags.

These bags can be recycled, but many aren't. Instead, they end up in waterways, storm drainage systems and green spaces. Many of them end up in the region's curbside recycling system where they contaminate loads that would otherwise be recyclable.

Residents and businesses can visit nanaimo.ca and follow the links to the consultation webpage, which includes a draft bylaw based on what other jurisdictions are doing and a brief survey to get public feedback. The survey will be open until May 31, 2019.

Strategic Link: Taking a leadership role in protecting our natural environment and our municipal infrastructure.

Key Points

- The City is seeking public input through a survey until May 31, on a proposed regulation covering single-use checkout bags.
- Survey results will be considered when preparing the final bylaw for Council's consideration.
- Many convenient, sustainable alternatives are available to reduce reliance on single-use checkout bags such as reusable shopping bags.

Quotes

"Our continued reliance on single-use checkout bags can damage municipal infrastructure, create litter in our parks and waterways and contaminate recycling or compostable waste. Regulating these bags is a priority and we are seeking input from the community on how we can successfully implement these changes."

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