


OVERVIEW



**B.Y.O.Bags
NANAIMO**
*Encourage the reuse of
clean checkout bags*



Set fees for selling
PAPER BAGS
*That contain at least 40% post-
consumer recycled content*



Set fees for selling
REUSABLE BAGS
*Designed to be washable
and capable of 100+ uses*



**BAN PLASTIC
CHECKOUT BAGS**
*Including compostable and
biodegradable checkout bags*

EXEMPTIONS

Including but not limited to bags:

- Used to package bulk goods, produce, meat, small hardware items, etc.
- Protecting newspapers, oversize linens and bedding, or clothes after dry cleaning
- Sold in packages of multiple bags to be used at home (e.g. green cart liners)

FEE SCHEDULE

July 1, 2021: \$0.15 paper / \$1.00 reusable

January 1, 2022: \$0.25 paper / \$2.00 reusable

The City of Nanaimo is dedicated to taking a leadership role to protect our natural environment and municipal infrastructure.

Background

Consultation with residents and businesses about a potential ban on the use of plastic checkout bags took place in the spring of 2019. Council heard the results of the public discussion in the spring of 2020.

Municipal plastic bag bylaws require provincial approval. Nanaimo's "Checkout Bag Regulation Bylaw 2020 No. 7283" received approval by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy on February 12, 2021.

The Bylaw returned to Council for adoption on February 22, 2021.



A Guide for Businesses


CHECKOUT BAG REGULATION


Bylaw No. 7283

*Implementation Date:
July 1, 2021*

For More Information

*Head to our website to sign up
for updates and resources.*

 www.nanaimo.ca/goto/BYOBag

 250-756-5390

 ZeroWaste@nanaimo.ca



BRING YOUR OWN BAGS

Nanaimo is encouraging customers to use, wash and reuse their bags as many times as possible.



BAN PLASTIC CHECKOUT BAGS

Sections 3.1 and 3.3(a) prohibit businesses from providing plastic checkout bags.

Included in the ban are compostable and biodegradable plastic checkout bags, as some do not fully decompose and cause microplastics in the environment.

PAPER & REUSABLE CHECKOUT BAGS

The Bylaw includes standardized fees and design standards for reusable and paper checkout bags.

Fee Schedule

If a customer forgets their own bags, paper and reusable bags can be provided to a customer and charged per the fees outlined in *Schedule A*:

	Paper	Reusable
July 1, 2021	\$0.15	\$1.00
January 1, 2022	\$0.25	\$2.00



Ordering Bags for your Business

Section 3.2 allows businesses to sell paper bags and reusable bags that meet the Bylaw's sustainable design standards.

Not all paper and reusable bags are the same! Follow these guidelines when placing your paper and reusable bag orders:

Paper bags should:

- ✓ Be made out of paper.
- ✓ Contain at least 40% of post-consumer recycled paper.
- ✓ Display the words "Recyclable" and "made from 40% post-consumer recycled content" or other applicable amount on the outside of the bag.

Reusable bags should:

- ✓ Be designed and manufactured to be capable of at least 100 uses.
- ✓ Be primarily made of cloth or other washable fabric.
Visit our webpage for suggestions.


Using up Plastic Bag Stocks

Section 4.4 exempts all checkout bags that were purchased by a business prior to the Bylaw's adoption date of February 22, 2021.

This means all checkout bag stocks (including plastic bags, paper bags, and reusable bags) purchased by your business before February 22, 2021 can continue to be provided to customers after the Bylaw comes into force, until stocks are depleted.

Exemptions

Section 4 lists the City of Nanaimo's Checkout Bag Regulation exemptions. For a full list of the exempted bags, businesses are encouraged to visit the project webpage.

 The City recognizes COVID-19 has impacted the supply of some paper and reusable bags. We will assess the ongoing impact and post updates on the BYOBag project page.