

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please have this translated

**RENSEIGNEMENTS IMPORTANTS**

Prière de les faire traduire

**重要資訊** 請找人為你翻譯

**重要资讯** 请找人为你翻译

**MAHALAGANG KAALAMAN**

Mangyaring isalin ito

**ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ**

ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਕੋਲੋਂ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਉਲਥਾ ਕਰਵਾਓ

**TIN TỨC QUAN TRỌNG**

Xin hãy dịch sang tiếng Việt

**INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE**

Busque a alguien que le traduzca

**중요정보** 번역해주세요

اطلاعات مهم لطفا درخواست کنید  
این اطلاعات را برای شما ترجمه کنند

November 1, 2021

**REMINDER: By-laws for Shopping Bags and Single-Use Cups start January 1, 2022**

This letter is a follow-up to our letter dated September 17, 2021, and contains similar content. If you did not receive or read the first letter, please take time to read this one. It contains important information on the new single-use by-laws for shopping bags and cups, and where to get a toolkit to help you comply and inform your staff and customers.

Vancouver's shopping bag and single-use cup by-laws will take effect January 1, 2022. By-laws for plastic straws, disposable utensils, and foam cups and foam take-out containers are already in effect. The by-laws apply to all businesses, charities and not-for-profits required to have a Vancouver business license. **For the complete by-laws, visit [vancouver.ca/reduce-single-use](https://vancouver.ca/reduce-single-use)**

**SHOPPING BAG AND CUP BY-LAWS – EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2022**

**SHOPPING BAG BY-LAW**

- **Ban on Plastic Shopping Bags**
  - Ban on plastic shopping bags, including plastic that is labeled or described as compostable or degradable, and plastic made from plants.
  - The ban does not apply to other types of plastic bags such as produce bags, sandwich bags and garbage bin liners.
- **Paper Shopping Bags**
  - A minimum \$0.15 fee must be charged on each paper shopping bag distributed (increases to \$0.25 on January 1, 2023).
  - Paper shopping bags must contain at least 40% recycled content and be labelled with the word “recyclable” and the amount (percent) of recycled content.
  - If requested by the City, business license holders must report the number of paper shopping bags distributed in the past 12 months at each location.
- **Reusable Shopping Bags**
  - A minimum \$1 fee must be charged on each new reusable shopping bag distributed (increases to \$2 on January 1, 2023).
  - New reusable shopping bags must be made of fabric, and made to last at least 100 uses.
  - If requested by the City, business license holders must report the number of new reusable shopping bags distributed in the past 12 months at each location.

## **CUP BY-LAW**

- A minimum \$0.25 fee must be charged on each single-use beverage cup distributed.
- Cup fees must be displayed on menu boards, menus and online ordering platforms.
- Starting with the 2023 business license renewals, food vendors must report the number of single-use cups distributed in the past 12 months at every location with a business license. The reporting requirement is waived for each location with a reusable cup-share program.

## **For both By-laws:**

- If receipts are provided, fees for shopping bags and cups must be displayed separately.
- Businesses, charities and not-for-profits keep the fees from shopping bags and cups.

## **SINGLE-USE ITEM BY-LAWS ALREADY IN EFFECT**

### **PLASTIC STRAW BY-LAW (in effect since April 22, 2020)**

- All types of plastic straws are banned, including plastic labeled or described as compostable or degradable, and plastic made from plants. (Except flexible plastic straws for accessibility.)
- **Accessibility Requirement:** Flexible plastic straws, individually wrapped in paper, must be provided to customers upon request. These straws ensure customers who are unable to drink without a straw, or have difficulty drinking, can safely consume beverages and nutrition. For a list of suppliers, go to [vancouver.ca/straws](http://vancouver.ca/straws)

### **UTENSIL BY-LAW (in effect since April 22, 2020)**

- Single-use utensils can only be provided upon request or at a self-serve station.
- This includes single-use spoons, knives, forks and chopsticks made from all types of materials (e.g. plastic, bamboo, wood).

### **FOAM BY-LAW (in effect since January 1, 2020)**

- Food vendors are banned from serving prepared food in foam cups and foam take-out containers such as plates, bowls, trays, cartons, and hinged or lidded containers.

## **GET A TOOLKIT**

An educational toolkit is available to help your organization comply and communicate the new by-law requirements to your staff and customers. The toolkit includes a guide, posters and till toppers, stickers and window decals, as well as samples of flexible plastic straws. Toolkits are available in English, Chinese (Traditional and Simplified), Punjabi, Tagalog and Vietnamese. If you haven't yet, we invite you to download or request a printed toolkit at [vancouver.ca/reduce-single-use](http://vancouver.ca/reduce-single-use)

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Visit [vancouver.ca/reduce-single-use](http://vancouver.ca/reduce-single-use) or e-mail [reducesingleuse@vancouver.ca](mailto:reducesingleuse@vancouver.ca)

Need help in other languages? Translation services are available:

- For Cantonese, Mandarin, and Vietnamese, call (778) 722-2242 to connect with the hua foundation, a non-profit organization providing outreach and education on the single-use item by-laws in these languages on behalf of the City.
- For other languages, call 3-1-1.

Yours truly,



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Director, Solid Waste Management and Green Operations

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