

Memorandum

Date: February 10, 2020
Submitted by: Engineering and Operations Department – Solid Waste, Fleet, and Shared Services Division
Subject: Delegation Response – SUPER (Single Use Plastics Elimination Reinforcer) Team

At the January 21, 2020 Special council (Committee of the Whole) meeting, Council received a delegation from School District No. 43 Students regarding SUPER (Single Use Plastics Elimination Reinforcer) Team. The delegation was promoting the banning of single-use plastic items, such as plastic bags, straws, and Styrofoam in the Tri-Cities.

In response to the delegation, Council passed the following motions:

CW20/004

THAT the delegation request be placed on a subsequent Council agenda for consideration;

AND THAT staff be directed to connect with staff at the District of Tofino to gather information regarding the plastic bag ban in that community.

Per direction of Council, in 2019, staff completed a survey of Port Moody business licence holders regarding single-use items. Recently, staff have also participated in regional initiatives to develop a coordinated single-use item reduction toolkit. A summary report (**Attachment 1**) was received for information by Council at the October 8, 2019 Regular Council Meeting.

In accordance with the January 21, 2020 direction, staff contacted District of Tofino staff to inquire about the recent plastic bag ban in their community. A summary follows:

- Tofino passed “Single-Use Plastic Regulation Bylaw No. 1263” on June 8, 2019. The scope of the ban included check-out bags and straws which are not to be given out unless asked by the customer. Charges for bags are now required under the bylaw and range from \$0.25 to \$2.00 per item. These “checkout bags” are required to be paper bags or reusable bags. Among some of the limited exemptions were the use of bags for loose or bulk items, purchase of multi-packaged straws intended for use in homes, and for frozen or baked goods.
- A six-month grace period for businesses to use up existing or appropriate stock in order to comply was allowed. MTI fines for contravention were set up in January 2020, but no fines have been issued to date.
- Public consultation and a concerted communications plan were designed for residents, business, and visitors. The communication effort included a partnership with the neighbouring District of Ucluelet.
- General feedback resulted in wide support of a bylaw. According to District of Tofino staff, the bylaw implementation is effective and going ‘very well.’

Consistent with the October 2019 staff report, regional, provincial, and federal efforts are currently under way to address single-use items in Canada. A coordinated regional (or higher level) approach is required to have the most success in reducing the use of single-use items while also trying to ensure equity between competing businesses and commercial areas. Staff will continue to participate in senior government initiatives and report back to Council once a coordinated regional approach has been completed.

If Council wishes to direct staff to accelerate a single-use item program ahead of regional, provincial, or national initiatives, additional staff resources, or consultant assistance will be required to undertake this work. If this direction is received, staff will report back with an estimate of the resources required.

The recommended resolution is:

THAT the memorandum dated February 10, 2020 from the Engineering and Operations Department – Solid Waste, Fleet, and Shared Services Division regarding Delegation Response – SUPER (Single Use Plastics Elimination Reinforcer) Team be received for information.

Attachment(s)

1. Report to Council – Stakeholder Consultation Summary on Single Use Items – September 23, 2019.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Delegation Response - SUPER (Single Use Plastics Elimination Reinforcer) Team.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment 1 - SUI Consultation Summary Report.PDF
Final Approval Date:	Apr 6, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Dorothy Shermer, Corporate Officer - Mar 13, 2020 - 1:36 PM

Rosemary Lodge, Manager of Communications and Engagement - Mar 17, 2020 - 10:18 AM

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Mar 17, 2020 - 10:25 AM

Jeff Moi, General Manager of Engineering and Operations - Mar 17, 2020 - 10:31 AM

Tim Savoie, City Manager - Apr 6, 2020 - 9:56 AM