



Patrick Weiler

Member of Parliament
West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country



Taking Action on Plastic Pollution

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Plastic pollution is a globally significant issue that impacts the environment, human health, and the economy. Plastic ends up in our landfills, litters our parks and beaches, and pollutes our rivers, lakes, and oceans. Small particles of plastic have become pervasive in our environment, and people and wildlife are exposed through air, water, and food.

To protect human health, safeguard the environment, and grow the economy, we are taking action to reduce plastic pollution. On January 30th, 2020, our Government released the *Draft Science Assessment of Plastic Pollution*, which provides us with evidence detailing the extent of the plastic pollution problem in Canada.

The Assessment reviews the available scientific information regarding the impact of plastic pollution on the environment and human health while confirming that larger plastic items like bags and straws harm animals and negatively affect their habitat. The report also highlights how microplastic



pollution is negatively affecting animals and the environment, while uncertainty remains regarding the potential effects on humans. We will further our understanding of the human health impacts of plastic pollution with further research to address this gap. Most importantly, the Assessment will help inform our Government's actions and policies as we follow through on our commitment to ban harmful single-use plastics.

As our Government continues to implement its ambitious climate action plan, we are working to have new regulations on plastic use in place as early as 2021, including moving towards a ban on single-use plastics by the end of next year. This Assessment provides the evidence base to list harmful plastic pollutants under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* so that they can be regulated.

Our actions will work in concert with communities across the riding that have already taken ambitious action to combat plastic use. Municipalities like West Vancouver and the Sunshine Coast Regional District are petitioning the BC Government for jurisdictional rights to implement single-use plastic bans. Meanwhile, Squamish has already implemented a plastic reduction program, while Gibsons has moved towards doing the same.

Local communities are already taking action on this issue, demonstrating once again how British Columbia is leading on this and other important environmental initiatives. We ask all Canadians to participate in the consultations taking place until March 31, 2020 by emailing our office at Patrick.Weiler@parl.gc.ca.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Your Voice Matters

Do you support our Government's plan to ban single-use plastics by 2021?

Comments:

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Are you interested in volunteering in our
Constituency Office?

Yes, I am interested in volunteering!

Email address: _____



Riding Report: January 2020

It has been a busy start to the new year, as we hit the ground running with meetings and events across our community in the month of January. On the first Sunday of the new year, we participated in the annual Brackendale Winter Eagle Count with over 80 volunteers to gather crucial data about bald eagle populations in the Squamish area. Thank you to all those who participated in this important initiative that is providing critical information on the species of our ecosystem.

One highlight of the new year was a tour of the Pacific Science Enterprise Centre (PSEC) in West Vancouver, one of Canada's two Science Enterprise Centres that serve as research hubs for collaboration, expand research activities, make ocean science more accessible, integrate traditional ecological knowledge in research processes, and promote citizen science and community engagement. Science and evidence-based research is at the heart of our Government's stewardship of the marine environment, so we look forward to continuing to work with PSEC in the future.

On January 14th, I was fortunate to be able to present in front of the Mayor and Council of the District of Squamish and highlight our Government's plan on affordability for families, public infrastructure, protecting the environment while growing the economy, and renewing our relationship with First Nations communities across the Country. Later in the evening, the Sea to Sky Community Services' Child Care Resource and Referral Program (CCRR) hosted a fireside chat with Mayor Karen Elliott, MLA Jordan Sturdy, Squamish District Planner Sarah McJannet and Capilano University early childhood educator Julia Black. This discussion focused on a

variety of topics, including housing, childcare, affordability for young families, early childhood education, and the Canada Child Benefit.

We were thrilled to formally open our Constituency Office on January 16, where we welcomed constituents from all corners of the Riding to discuss local and national priorities in 2020 and beyond. Our office is open Monday-Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm, and we welcome you to drop in, introduce yourself and meet our staff team.

We are delighted to announce that we have hired Christina Walsh to be our Community Liaison for the Sea to Sky region. The newest member of our team is available to connect with you, participate in important community events, help raise important issues, organize meeting requests, and assist with general concerns raised by the community. You can reach Christina by email at Christina.Walsh.842@parl.gc.ca or by phone at 778-957-0363. I look forward to working with Christina and the rest of the team for the benefit of the entire Sea to Sky region.



We'd like to hear from you!

Comments

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Contact Information

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____
Email: _____

To return survey: Cut along the dotted line, place in envelope, and mail to the address above – no postage required.