



# 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 30<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto: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:

**Patrick Weiler**  
**Member of Parliament**  
**6367 Bruce Street**  
**West Vancouver BC V7W 2G5**

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. My commitment for the first few weeks of 2020 was to meet with mayors and councils, regional districts and First Nations to discuss priorities and how we can work together going forward. Thank you to the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) board for the dialogue we had on January 10.

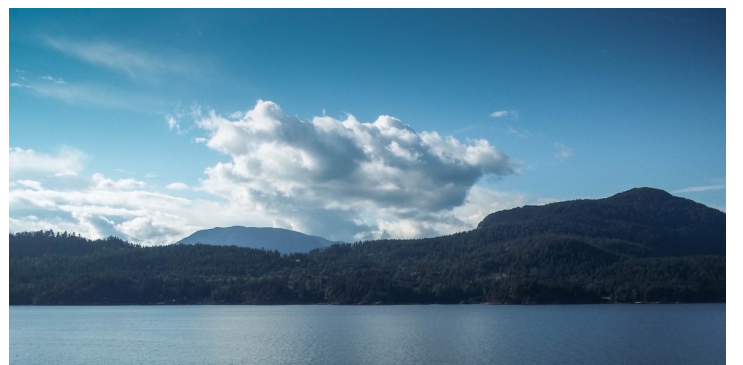
There was no shortage of issues to discuss, including: marine debris and derelict and abandoned vessels, single use plastics, alternate energy sources, infrastructure funding, climate change, DFO resources in Pender Harbour, and much more. These are all issues that we can and will work on together.

Andreas Tize, SCRCD Director for Area D Roberts Creek, introduced me to the Climate Caucus, a non-partisan network of over 250 elected local leaders working collectively to create and implement policy which aligns with Canada’s efforts to hold global temperature rise to 1.5°C. I am hopeful that I will be able to meet with this group in the very near future.

On January 10th, it was a pleasure to attend the presentation of the prestigious Sovereign’s Medal for Volunteers to long-time Sunshine Coast resident Laurean Reid. Laurean has been a tireless volunteer with many organizations, including the Sunshine Coast Association for Community Living and Elder College. Our communities thrive largely due to the volunteers who sustain and support them. Congratulations Laurean for a well-deserved honour.

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. I take advantage of the weeks I am not in Ottawa to meet with community groups and individuals both at the office and in the community. To this end, we are scheduling meetings on the Sunshine Coast using the FUSE Community Hub spaces in Gibsons, Sechelt and Pender Harbour. We look forward to serving you so please don’t hesitate to contact us.



**We’d like to hear from you!**

**Comments**

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**Patrick Weiler  
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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.**