

Petition

To: The Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

Whereas plastic bags and polystyrene are so lightweight that they get blown into trees, streams, lakes and oceans. Only 11% of all plastic in Canada gets recycled annually. (“Canada Should Recycle 85% of plastics by 2025”, Global News, June 4/18).

Whereas Canadians use 2.86 billion plastic shopping bags per year (Globe & Mail; “The Battle of the Bag” updated March 29/18);

Whereas plastic bags and polystyrene are made from petroleum, and mining it adds greenhouse gases to the air, and pollutes the ground and streams;

Whereas plastic bags and polystyrene break down into microplastic bits and get ingested by marine life and birds making them sick, as well as entering the food chain;

Whereas up to 1 million sea birds and 100,000 sea mammals and countless fish die each year from ingesting plastic, according to the Ocean Conference, United Nations, New York, 2017;

Whereas plastic bags take 10-1000 years to decompose and polystyrene never biodegrades and can be fatal for wildlife (“The Decomposition of Waste in Landfills”, The Balance: Small Business, updated June 2018). We could recycle all remaining amounts for future needs;

Whereas stores can sell reusable plant fibre bags, and take-out food and drinks can be served in cardboard or reusable containers;

Whereas the students of Ms. Jerreat’s grade 4/5 class and all grade 5’s from Elginburg District Public School in Kingston, Ontario and *all* children in the province of Ontario want and need clean lakes to swim in, clean air to breathe, and a healthy planet;

We, the undersigned, petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario as follows:

To ban plastic shopping bags and Styrofoam (polystyrene) packaging used for drinks and food from being manufactured, or commercially distributed, in the province of Ontario.

Name	Address	Email	Signature	Date

Please mail this petition to : Nathalie Des Rosiers, MPP,
Room 411
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A4

Petition to Ban Plastic Shopping Bags and Polystyrene for Food and Drinks across Ontario

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