



**Calgary**

Jyoti Gondek, Mayor

May 18, 2023

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault  
Minister of Environment and Climate Change  
Government of Canada  
[ministre-minister@ec.gc.ca](mailto:ministre-minister@ec.gc.ca)

**RE: *Single-use Plastics Prohibition Regulations***

The City of Calgary (“The City”) is reaching out to you on behalf of Calgary Co-op (one of the largest retail co-operatives in North America). We would like to provide input on The Government of Canada’s regulations that prohibit the manufacture, import and sale of single-use plastic checkout bags.

The City and Calgary Co-op have worked together as active partners for several years and collaborated on the design of the innovative compostable checkout bags distributed by Calgary Co-op. The bags break down at the Calgary Composting Facility and can be used as kitchen pail liners which supports participation in The City’s Green Cart program.

The City of Calgary recently passed the Single-Use Items Charter Bylaw, which will come into effect in January 2024. While The City’s strategy is focused on single-use items reduction, an exemption from the federal regulations for compostable checkout bags, including those distributed by Calgary Co-op, could serve as a transitional strategy and support Calgarians as they move fully toward reusable bags over time.

We applaud Calgary Co-op’s innovation and early action to eliminate conventional plastic checkout bags from their retail locations, and their on-going efforts to encourage customers to bring reusable bags.

Sincerely,

Jyoti Gondek  
Mayor, The City of Calgary

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