

PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED
Petition to establish National Strategy to Combat Plastic Pollution in Aquatic Environments

We, the undersigned residents of Canada, draw the attention of the House of Commons in Parliament Assembled to the following:

Whereas plastics in our oceans, lakes, rivers and other bodies of water pose a dire threat to sensitive ecosystems, wildlife, communities, and individuals;

And whereas plastics make their way these bodies of water in a variety of ways including: stormwater outfalls; global ocean tides and currents; and direct industrial and consumer waste disposal;

Therefore, we the undersigned call upon the federal government to work with the provinces, municipalities, and indigenous communities to develop a national strategy to combat plastic pollution in and around aquatic environments, which would include the following measures;

1. Regulations aimed at reducing;
 - a) Plastic debris discharge from stormwater outfalls,
 - b) Industrial use of micro-plastics including, but not limited to, microbeads, nurdles, fibrous microplastics and fragments,
 - c) Consumer and industrial use of single use plastics, including, but not limited to, plastic bags, bottles, straws, tableware, polystyrene (foam), cigarette filters, and beverage containers.
2. Permanent, dedicated, and annual funding for;
 - a) Cleanup of derelict fishing gear,
 - b) Community led projects to clean-up plastics and debris on shores, banks, beaches and other aquatic peripheries,
 - c) Education and outreach campaigns on the root causes and negative environmental effects of plastic pollution in and around all bodies of water.

Furthermore, we call upon the Government of Canada to adopt M-151 and establish a national strategy to combat plastic pollution.

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