



Reference: 355788

*March 11, 2020*

Her Worship Mayor Lisa Helps  
and Councillors  
City of Victoria  
1 Centennial Square  
Victoria BC V8W 1P6

Sent via email: [mayor@victoria.ca](mailto:mayor@victoria.ca)

Dear Mayor Helps and Council:

I am writing in response to the February 4, 2020, submission of the City of Victoria's Checkout Bag Regulation Bylaw No. 20-025.

I want to commend the City of Victoria for taking leadership on this important issue and thank you for submitting Bylaw No. 20-025 for my review.

Staff from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy have reviewed Bylaw No. 20-025 and related documentation. Pursuant to Section 9(3) of the *Community Charter*, as the minister responsible for approving bylaws made under Section 8(3)(j) of the *Community Charter* [protection of the natural environment], I consider Bylaw No. 20-025 approved. Please ensure that a copy of the final adopted bylaw is sent to my office for our records.

My approval should not be taken as a formal approval as to the validity or enforceability of Bylaw No. 20-025 or compliance with any other procedural requirements relating to the exercise of the City of Victoria's bylaw authority.

Our government strongly supports municipal leadership to address single-use plastics and is committed to ensuring that regulations of single-use plastics in B.C. are consistent across communities. I want to assure you that the Province is taking steps to address these important issues, including proposed regulatory changes to support municipal bylaws that meet certain parameters related to accessibility, public health, and reduction of waste from alternate materials. Staff from my ministry will be consulting with local governments on those parameters soon and I hope that you and your staff will participate in that engagement.

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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Sonya Sundberg, Director of Clean Communities in Environmental Protection Division of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, at [Sonya.Sundberg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sonya.Sundberg@gov.bc.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "G. Heyman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "George" and last name "Heyman" clearly visible.

George Heyman  
Minister