

Diversers Foundation recognizes and acknowledges that we operate on the traditional territory of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations



**Diverting Waste, Diverting Lives**

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## **OUR ASK**

That the City of Victoria suspend consideration of a 25-cent fee on single-use cups and work with the Diversers Foundation and other local NGOs to find a more equitable solution that addresses the issue of single-use cup waste.



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## OUR CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS?

- Who is being consulted on the development of this new bylaw?
- Are more equitable policy applications being explored?
- How are single-use cups currently being recycled and what's the success rate for diversion from the waste stream?



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## WHAT OUR MEMBERS SAY

- The fee will have an outsized impact on the diverter community.
- Mug sharing systems are less accessible to those with low incomes.
- A fee absorbed entirely by businesses doesn't ensure that cups will not find their way into the waste stream and doesn't support a community already in place and able to help.



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## WHAT DOES THIS KIND OF FEE MEAN IN PRACTICE?

*What this means in practice is that people who can not access alternatives to single use cups will be, almost singularly, responsible for paying into a system that they will never be able to participate in.*

**Sean Miles, Director - Binnars' Project**

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## WHAT DOES THIS KIND OF FEE MEAN IN PRACTICE?

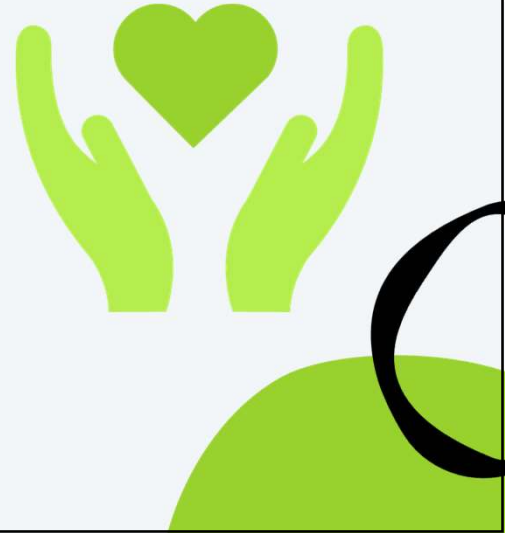
*While a fee on disposable cups may seem like a good idea, the reality is that it will unfairly target people of lesser means. In the best case, the fee will be used to hire a living-wage dishwasher to handle the number of reusable cups needing to be washed, but the reality is it'll likely simply end up in general revenue. We need a better approach, one that encourages businesses to work with a local group such as The Diverters to divert those disposables from the landfill, and one that does not place yet more barriers on low- or no-income folk.*

**Grant McKenzie, Director of Communications  
Our Place Society**

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## HOW CAN WE WORK TOGETHER?

- Collaborate with the Diverters Foundation and our members to provide a more focused and systematic process for single-use cup diversion from the waste stream
- Work with us, Binnars' Project, and other local NGOs to lobby the province to place a deposit on single-use cups.



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**Thank you for your time**

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