



Making a difference...together

Executive Services  
625 Fisgard Street  
Victoria, BC V8W 2S6

T: 250.360.3125  
F: 250.360.3130  
www.crd.bc.ca

September 27, 2019

File: 5200-40  
Solid Waste Diversion  
Beverage Containers

The Honourable George Heyman  
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy  
Room 112 Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4  
via email: [ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Minister Heyman:

**RE: OCEAN LEGACY FOUNDATION REPORT – BRITISH COLUMBIA'S BEVERAGE  
CONTAINER LEGACY: THE MISSING MILLIONS**

At its meeting of August 14, 2019, the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board received a report by the Ocean Legacy Foundation titled *British Columbia's Beverage Container Legacy: The Missing Millions*.

Ocean Legacy's report presents five recommendations:

1. Increase the regulated deposit rate
2. Add all beverage containers to the deposit refund system
3. Require producers to collect and report on the recycling of bottle caps
4. Raise regulated targets to at least that achieved by Alberta and Saskatchewan, with long-term targets matching the European Union
5. Enforce the regulated targets in a meaningful way, such as requiring producers to pay for the clean-up of ocean plastics equal to the amount by weight that they fail to collect and recycle

The Board approved the following motion:

*That the Board endorse the five recommendations laid out in the Ocean Legacy report and request that the Board Chair write to the Minister of Environment and Members of the Legislative Assembly representing constituencies in the Capital Region, requesting favourable consideration and action on the recommendations.*

I understand that your ministry is proposing a number of actions to reduce waste in the recent *Plastics Action Plan Policy Consultation Paper*, including expanding the deposit refund system to cover all beverage containers and creating a uniform 10 cent deposit-refund, which would increase the deposit for the majority of beverage containers. Our Board supports this approach in principle, and our staff will be providing more detailed feedback on the consultation paper to reinforce our position on this matter.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,



Colin Plant  
Chair  
Capital Regional District Board

cc: The Honourable John Horgan, MLA, Langford/Juan de Fuca  
The Honourable Lana Popham, MLA, Saanich South  
The Honourable Carole James, MLA, Victoria-Beacon Hill  
The Honourable Rob Fleming, MLA, Victoria-Swan Lake  
Ms. Mitzi Dean, MLA, Esquimalt/Metchosin  
Mr. Adam Olsen, MLA, Saanich North and the Islands  
Mr. Andrew Weaver, MLA, Oak Bay/Gordon Head  
CRD Board Members  
Robert Lapham, Chief Administrative Officer, CRD  
Larisa Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services, CRD