



Office of the City Clerk

K. O'Connell, City Clerk
B. Zeinabova, Deputy City Clerk

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL
PLANNING COMMITTEE

DATE: 2019 MARCH 12

FROM: DEPUTY CITY CLERK

FILE: 02410-20

SUBJECT: IMPACT OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS ON ENVIRONMENT
ITEM 4(B), DELEGATIONS, COUNCIL 2019 MARCH 11

Burnaby City Council, at the Open Council meeting held on 2019 March 11, heard from delegation Claire Preston regarding the impact of tobacco products on the environment.

Arising from discussion, Council adopted the following motion:

THAT the delegation's concerns be **REFERRED** to the Environment and Social Planning Committee.


Blanka Zeinabova
Deputy City Clerk

NOTE: The delegation will appear for the 2019 May 06 Environment and Social Planning Committee meeting.

DELEGATION
2019 MARCH 11

Office of the City Clerk
Burnaby City Hall
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC, V5G 1M2

To the Office of the City Clerk,

I would like to appear as a delegate to city council to present my stance on tobacco products and how Burnaby can help the environment without prohibition of these products.

Sincerely,

ff

Claire Preston

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Burnaby BC, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Copied to:
City Manager
Dir. Corporate Services
Dir. Engineering



MOVING TO A GREEN FUTURE

**ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS OF STANDARD
DISPOSABLE CIGARETTES**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION PART 1

- “5 trillion cigarettes are purchased worldwide each year.
- 65% of cigarette butts are littered.
- Cigarette butt litter is toxic when wet.
- Butts emit cadmium, lead, arsenic and zinc into water and soil as they decompose.
- Cigarette butt litter is also toxic even when it doesn’t reach a waterway.
- Butts contaminate aquatic ecosystems with tar, nicotine, and other potentially deadly substances that can leak into rain water.
- One cigarette butt in approximately 2 gallons of water is lethal to small crustaceans.
- Cigarette butts have been found in fish, birds, sea turtles and other marine creatures who mistake the butt of a cigarette for food.”

Information quoted from
theterramarproject.org

BACKGROUND INFORMATION PART 2

“What is in a cigarette filter?”

It may look like cotton, but 98 percent of cigarette filters are made of plastic fibers (cellulose acetate) that are tightly packed together, which leads to an estimated 1.69 billion pounds of cigarette butts winding up as toxic trash each year.

Are cigarettes biodegradable?

No—the plastic fibers in cigarettes are non-biodegradable, meaning they won't organically break down from living organisms.

How long does it take for cigarettes to decompose?

Although cigarettes don't break down naturally, they can gradually decompose depending on environmental conditions like the rain and sun. Estimates on the time it takes vary, but a recent study found that a cigarette butt was only about 38 percent decomposed after two years.”

Information quoted from
truthinitiative.org

BACKGROUND INFORMATION PART 3

“Almost half of fires reported in B.C. this year caused by humans...

As British Columbia struggles to contain hundreds of wildfires that have prompted a provincial state of emergency and forced thousands from their homes, much of the attention is focused on the dangerous combination of hot, dry weather and lightning strikes....

Data provided by the BC Wildfire Service show in the past decade, the percentage of fires caused by people ranges between 30 per cent to 60 per cent, depending on the year....

"Fires are started by campfires being left unattended or not properly extinguished, cigarettes being thrown away without being put out (especially from cars), by sparks and by contact with very hot surfaces (such as an ATV going through dry grass)," Dr. Innes said in an e-mail....

Last year, the fine for ignoring fire restrictions, such as campfire bans, jumped to \$1,100 – an increase of 218 per cent. Failing to properly dispose of burning substances, such as cigarette butts, now carries a ticket of \$575."

Information quoted from
theglobeandmail.com

SOLUTIONS

Now that Cannabis products are being regulated and sold in Canada, we have good example that we can hold tobacco products to.

CIGARETTES

I am proposing a ban on the sale of cigarettes in Burnaby that do not meet the following criteria:

- 100% Biodegradable or Compostable
- Does not contain chemicals that keep a cigarette burning (which can cause fires, harming humans or causing forest fires)

E-CIGS AND VAPING

Technology has provided us with alternatives for consuming tobacco that is more environmentally friendly than traditional cigarettes; E-Cigs and Vaping.

Bonus: Encouraging the use of vaping products as an alternative to traditional cigarettes can help local businesses.

VAPING



Canada

Information quoted from canada.ca

“Vaping is the act of inhaling and exhaling an aerosol produced by a vaping product, such as an electronic cigarette. Vaping doesn’t require burning like cigarette smoking. The device heats a liquid into a vapour, which then turns into aerosol. This vapour is often flavoured and can contain nicotine.

Most vaping devices use electrical power from a battery to heat a liquid solution. The heat causes the solution to become vaporized. The vapour then condenses into an aerosol, which is breathed in by the user through the mouthpiece.

Vaping devices are available in many shapes and sizes. Some are small and look like USB drives or pens, while others are much larger.

There are two kinds of vaping devices:

- open, which means they can be refilled
- closed, which means either the whole product, or the part that holds the vaping substances, can’t be refilled”

Note: Closed vaping products should be banned as well, as the point is to reduce waste from tobacco products.



DISCLAIMER

I am against Prohibition in all forms, this is presentation is not meant to be used to support the complete banning of all tobacco products.

Any by-laws should be inclusive of any narcotic or drug being consumed for recreational purposes, so that it does not need to be updated in the future.