

From: josh oh [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 6:12 PM
To: Dhaliwal, Satvinder
Subject: Styrofoam Ban



Killarney Secondary School

6454 Killarney Street, Vancouver, BC V5S 2X7 (604) 713-8950 (604) 713-8949 (fax)
March 11, 2019

4949 Canada Way, Burnaby, British Columbia

Dear Mr. Sav Dhaliwal

Greetings! We are high school students from **Killarney Secondary's School's Environment Club in Vancouver**. We are writing to you regarding the City of Vancouver's "Single Use Disposables" initiative. We are amazed to see the strides the city is taking towards being the "greenest city" and have chosen to support one of your initiatives: "Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy."

For the past year, we have been trying to help reduce Styrofoam products from local landfills and in our oceans, lakes, and rivers. We received a grant of **\$1500** from the Taking It Global Government of Canada, youth initiative, to purchase compostable take out containers. We are trying to encourage local restaurants to try them out and consider ordering them at a discount from Vancouver's **BSI Bio** sustainable products <https://bsibio.com/>

Killarney Secondary's Environment Club single use disposables initiatives:

1. We set up a Styrofoam and soft plastic recycling program at Killarney Secondary (population over 2800) We have been educating our school community on single use disposables and how harmful Styrofoam is for the environment and initiated a Styrofoam and soft plastic bag recycling program at Killarney Secondary over a year ago.
2. We also promote and provide 150 (3 different sized) compostable take-out containers for interested local restaurants, with the goal of reducing their use of harmful Styrofoam take-out containers.

It is an overwhelming task, but a very important one. We have connected with restaurants that are very interested in using compostable containers but

since Styrofoam is so cheap and accessible, and the bottom line is keeping afloat and making a profit, restaurants keep going back to purchasing Styrofoam products. We know most restaurant owners want to change to using sustainable take-out containers and will have to change in the future, but the cheap price of Styrofoam supersedes ordering environmental, compostable containers.

We need your help! We'd like Styrofoam banned all across BC – if Washington State can do it (Jan. 2016), so can we!

- (a) To determine and advertise a date that Styrofoam will be banned in Vancouver and hopefully, province-wide.
- (b) Spreading the word to all GRVD municipalities, and the BC provincial government, to urgently impose a tax on all Styrofoam products, prior to banning Styrofoam products. This gives companies, including restaurant owners and managers, the incentive to at least try out and then order compostable products instead of ordering and stockpiling huge quantities of Styrofoam products before the ban is imposed.
- (c) We also recommend the municipal and provincial government help subsidize the cost of compostable products for restaurants. In order to 'buy in' to using more sustainable products, restaurant owners and managers need to know what the incentives are to change habits to more sustainable practices.

Our Club has offered to pay the difference of the cost of buying Styrofoam take-out containers vs. compostable ones. However, our funds and time is limited, as students.

Thank you for your time and consideration! We look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible. We will do a follow-up call if we haven't heard from you in two weeks. Feel free to contact Antoine Huynh, and/or Ms. North, our teacher / club sponsor at Killarney Secondary (604) 713-8950 (ext. 1100) or at dlnorth@vsb.bc.ca

Sincerely,

Antoine Huynh
Killarney Secondary Environment Club Executive – Marketing