



May 1, 2015

His Worship John Tory, Mayor City of Toronto & Council Members
c/o Marilyn Toft, Toronto Council Secretariat Contact
100 Queen Street West
12th Floor, West Tower, City Hall
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Re: Support for the Elimination of Non-Biodegradable Plastic Microbeads

Dear Mayor Tory & City Council Members,

It has come to the attention of the Canadian Plastics Industry Association (CPIA) that the City of Toronto Executive Committee on April 22, 2015, has adopted agenda item “EX5.21.1 Support Banning the Use of MicroBeads”. We are writing to support the City Toronto in the elimination of non-biodegradable plastic microbeads when it is tabled before Council on May 5, 2015.

We would like to share with you a statement (page 2) that CPIA released June 2014 in response to the microbead announcement from Illinois Governor Pat Quinn. Similarly, we have supported the announcement from New Jersey (on March 23, 2015) which prohibits the production, manufacture and sale of personal cosmetic products containing synthetic plastic microbeads. As you can see, CPIA fully supports the phase out of non-biodegradable plastic microbeads from use in personal care products, such as toothpaste, shower gels and facial scrubs.

We believe Toronto’s initiative on microbeads and laws such as those announced in Illinois and New Jersey will build on the voluntary efforts initiated by the manufacturers of personal care products. The Canadian plastics industry has already encouraged the federal government to consider similar efforts to address the issue in Canada.

On this matter, we know manufacturers have already started phasing out these products and from research and experience in other jurisdictions there is a wealth of information to demonstrate that the toxicity of microbeads is low. While plastics provide many important environmental, social and economic benefits to our modern life, they do not belong in lakes, oceans or our waterways.

Canada's plastics industry supports Toronto on this important initiative and the CPIA looks forward to any future discussions by the City on this important matter.

Sincerely,



Krista Friesen
Vice President, Sustainability
Canadian Plastics Industry Association

The Canadian Plastics Industry Praises the Efforts of Manufacturers and the Government of Illinois in Leading the Phase Out of Microbeads in Personal Care Products

TORONTO (June 20, 2014) – In response to the [recent announcement](#) by Illinois Governor Pat Quinn (Senate Bill 2727) to ban the manufacture and sale of personal care products containing synthetic plastic microbeads, the Canadian Plastics Industry Association (CPIA) provides the following statement:

“As part of our ongoing commitment to reduce plastic marine litter, the CPIA and its member companies support the recent decision by the State of Illinois, and we commend Governor Pat Quinn for building on the voluntary efforts of personal care product makers to continue the phase out of microbeads from personal care products. Through the CPIA, Canada's plastics industry is a signatory to the “[Global Declaration on Solutions for Marine Litter](#),” which has been signed by more than 60 plastics associations in 34 countries. This group of associations leads and supports more than 180 projects focused on researching, preventing or reducing marine debris around the globe. On a national level, CPIA members prevent plastics from becoming marine debris by promoting the proper use, handling, recycling and recovery of these valuable materials. Our members undertake these activities as part of good operational practices and industry initiatives, such as Responsible Care® and Operation Clean Sweep®.”

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The Canadian Plastics Industry Association is the national voice of Canada's plastics industry, representing the interests of processors, material suppliers, equipment manufacturers and brand owners across the country. Visit www.plastics.ca for more information.