

# What the Federal Single-Use Plastics Prohibition Regulations Mean for Food Service Businesses

Webinar

Friday, January 27, 2023

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.



# Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the land we are meeting on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

# Recording



This webinar is being recorded only for the purpose of creating a summary of the question and answer period that will be shared with all participants.

# Introduction

# Agenda

TIME (minutes)	TOPIC
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introductions</li><li>• Webex Basics</li></ul>
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation 1: City of Toronto's Single-Use and Takeaway Items Reduction Strategy</li></ul>
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation 2: Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECC)'s Single Use Plastics Prohibition Regulations</li></ul>
25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Question and Answer Period</li></ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wrap-up</li><li>• Next Steps</li></ul>

# Webinar Objectives

1. Meet the project teams
2. Overview the City's Single-Use and Takeaway Items Reduction Strategy
3. Overview ECCC's Single-Use Plastics Prohibition Regulations
4. Give an opportunity for you to ask questions

# Introductions



## **City of Toronto:**

### **Solid Waste Management Services:**

- Annette Synowiec
- Fenicia Lewis-Dowlin
- Angela Doyle
- Marie-Helen Brillinger

### **Public Consultation Unit:**

- Alyssa Cerbu
- Michele Blackwood
- Mark De Miglio

## **Environment and Climate Change Canada:**

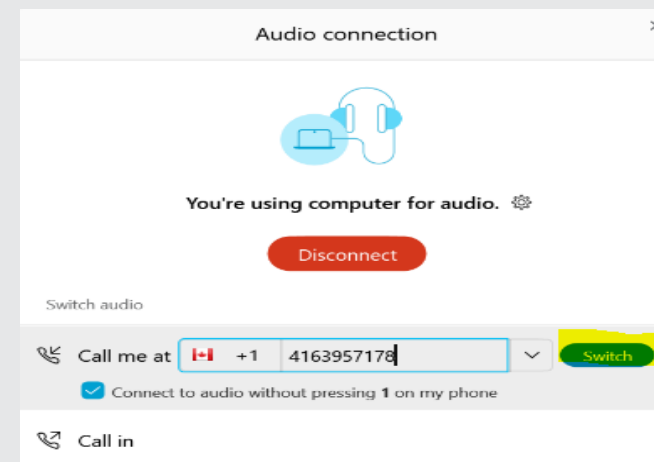
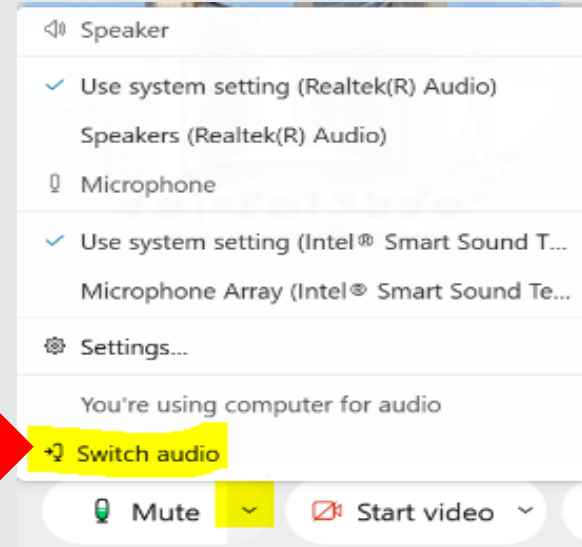
- Megan Hamilton
- Elise Legault
- Marilyne Girouard

# Webex Basics



# Webex Audio Trouble?

1. Click **the arrow** beside your mute button
2. Click **“Switch audio”**
3. Use **“Call me”** function
  - Enter your phone #
  - Webex will call your phone
  - No long distance charges



# Audio still not working?



## Call Into the Meeting

Dial: **416-915-6530**

When prompted for a meeting number  
enter:

**2453 608 7863**

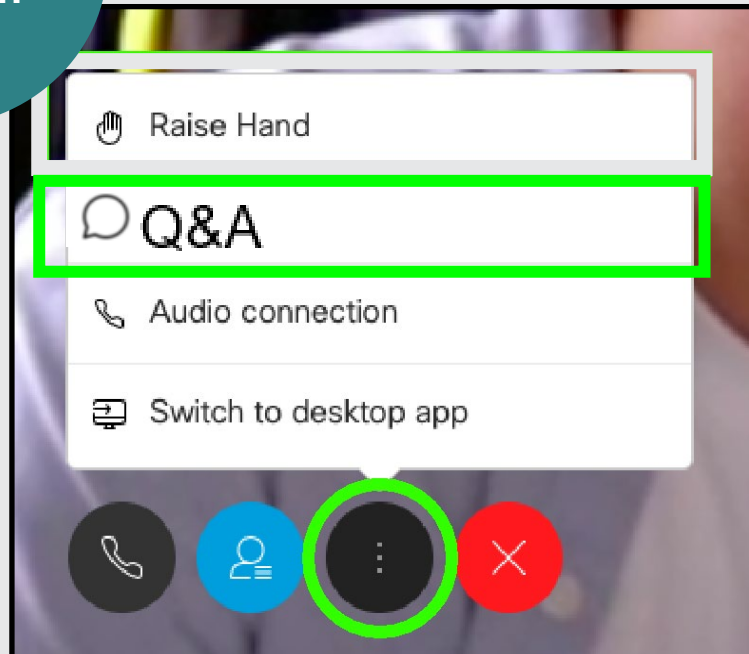
# Participating by Computer



## Via the internet browser

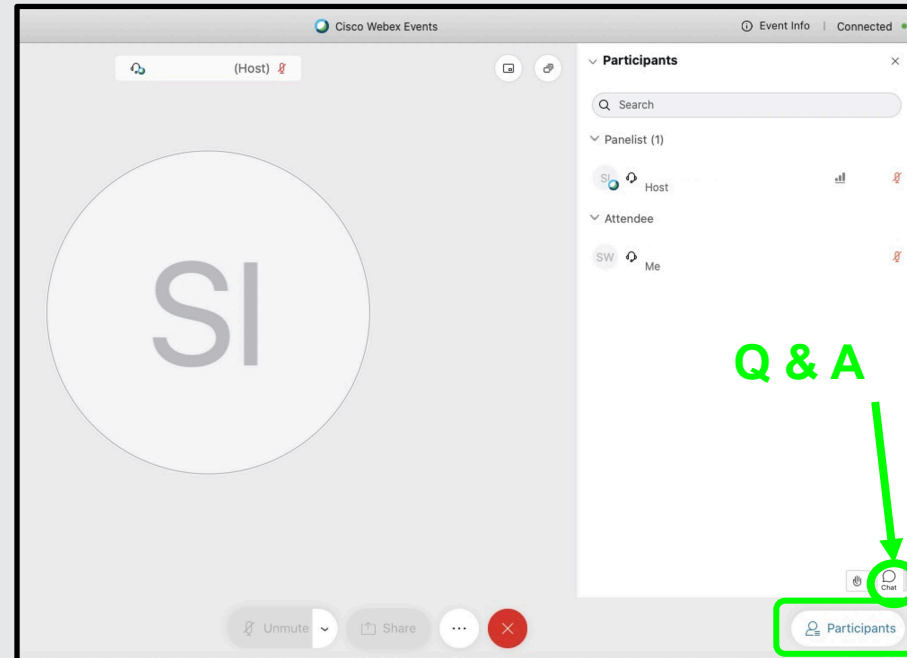
Click the “...” button at the bottom of the video window and select “Q&A”.

Type your question



## Via the Webex App

Click the Participants button at the bottom of the video (the Participants panel will open to the right). Then click the “Q&A” button at the bottom right.



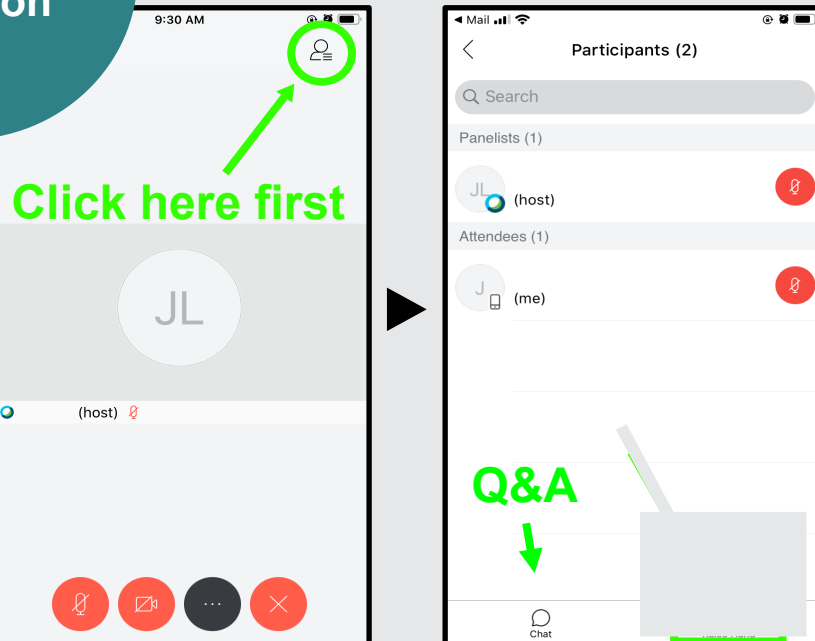
# Participating by Smart Phone or Tablet



## For smartphones

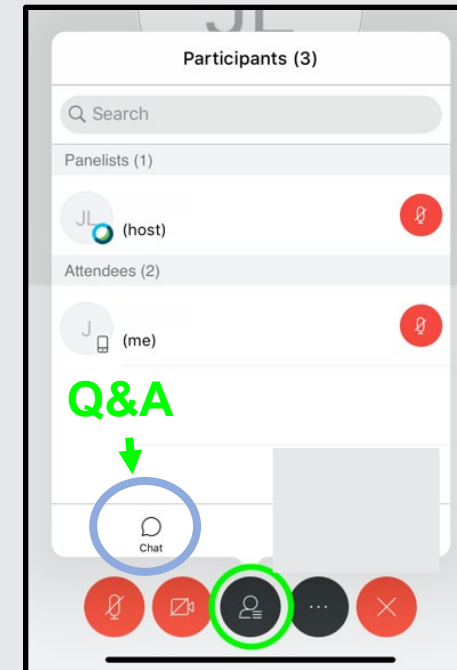
Click the Participants panel button at the top right corner of the screen. Then click “Q&A” at the bottom right of the screen.

Type your question



## For tablets

Click the Participants panel button at the bottom of the screen. Then click the “Q&A” button at the bottom right.



# Participating by Phone

- If you are joining by phone and cannot access the WebEx chat function, email your question to **wastestrategy@toronto.ca**
- This email address should be used for questions related to the federal Plastics Prohibition Regulations during the Webinar only.

# Code of Conduct

## Be Patient:

Virtual meetings don't always run as smoothly as planned.

## Be Brief:

Limit yourself to one question or comment when called on to speak.

## Be Respectful:

The City of Toronto is an inclusive public organization. Discriminatory, prejudicial or hateful comments and questions will not be tolerated and you will be removed from the meeting.



**We want to hear from you –  
all questions are good questions!**

# What the Federal Single-Use Plastics Prohibition Regulations Mean for Food Service Businesses

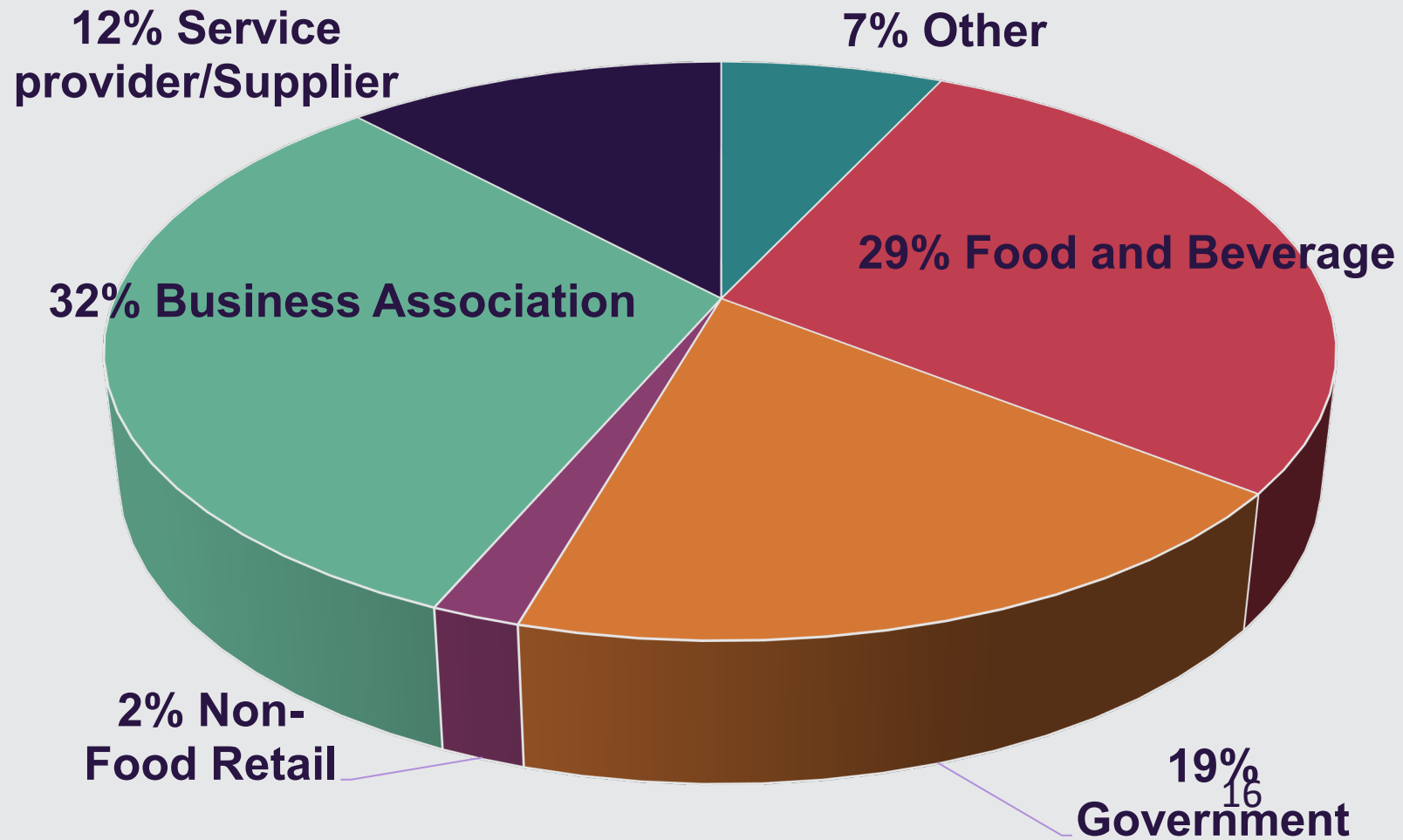
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# A Breakdown of Webinar Registrants





# Federal Single-use Plastics Prohibition Regulations



How familiar are you with the requirements of the federal Single-Use Plastics Prohibition Regulations?

Somewhat Familiar	Unfamiliar	Very Familiar
67%	14%	18%

Have you implemented any measures to comply with the federal Single-Use Plastics Prohibition Regulations?

N/A	Not Sure	No	No, working on it	Yes
29%	13%	7%	15%	31%

# Federal Single-use Plastic Prohibition Regulations



What would you like to learn from the Webinar?

Enforcement measures	Implementation and enforcement timelines	What are acceptable material alternatives	What products are being banned
1%	5%	16%	74%

# City of Toronto's Reducing Single-Use Program



# Reducing Single-Use Program

## Stage 1 – City of Toronto Single-Use and Takeaway Items Reduction Strategy



### What are single-use and takeaway items?

- A single-use or takeaway item is any product designed to be used once, after which it is disposed of, either into the garbage, Blue Bin (recycling) or Green Bin (organics).
- Typically, these products are not designed for durability or reuse.

# The City's Reducing Single-Use Program



In June 2021, Toronto City Council approved the updated **Single-Use and Takeaway Items Reduction Strategy – Stage 1**, taking into consideration the social, financial, and health-related impacts on Toronto residents and businesses due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Three program objectives:

1. Voluntary measures
2. Recognition
3. Education and support for the public

# Objective #1:

To encourage and enable businesses to take small, **voluntary** steps to eliminate the unnecessary use of single-use and takeaway items in their day-to-day operations.

# In the City of Toronto Biodegradable/Compostable Plastic



- The City of Toronto does not accept the following items marketed or labelled as compostable or biodegradable in its Green Bin organics program:
  - containers/packaging, coffee pods, coffee cups, utensils
- In the City of Toronto bioplastics labelled “recyclable”, “compostable” or “biodegradable” cannot be placed in the Blue Bin or Green Bin and must be placed into the garbage or returned to retailers/manufacturers that offer take-back programs
- The City uses anaerobic digestion technology to process Green Bin waste. Before organic material goes into the anaerobic digesters, it goes through a pre-processing phase to remove any contamination. In this phase, anything that behaves like a plastic, regardless of what it is made of, is removed and sent to landfill.

# Objective #2:

To recognize and celebrate businesses that are demonstrating leadership in reducing single-use and takeaways items



# Objective #3:

Public education to encourage the use of reusable cups and containers

# Ongoing Public Education, Engagement, and Awareness

- Raise general public awareness.
- Promote single-use waste reduction and support organized community efforts to reduce waste.
- Solidify the message that waste-reduction and a transition to zero-waste will be achieved through collaborative efforts with the entire community.

An infographic with a blue header and footer. The header contains the title "Let's choose to reduce single-use items" in white. The main content is on a white background with blue text. It is divided into three sections: "Say 'no thanks'" with a smartphone and cutlery, "Bring your own" with a reusable bag and mug, and "Plan ahead" with a clear food storage container. The footer contains the Toronto logo and the URL "toronto.ca/single-use".

## Let's choose to reduce single-use items

**Say "no thanks"**  
Only accept single-use items like cutlery, napkins, condiments and straws if you need them, whether in store or online.



**Bring your own**  
Use reusable bags and travel mugs.



**Plan ahead**  
Bring your own bags, cups and containers to pick up takeout, and ask restaurants if they have reusable containers that you can borrow or rent.



Bring food storage containers when dining out in case you have leftovers, and ask for a reusable cup or dish when dining in.

 TORONTO

[toronto.ca/single-use](https://toronto.ca/single-use)

# Get Involved: Become a Program Participant

Exciting opportunities for businesses to register and to become an official Program Participant.

- Complete and submit an online application form by visiting:  
[www.toronto.ca/reducingsingleuseprogram](http://www.toronto.ca/reducingsingleuseprogram)
- Upon approval as a Program Participant,\* your business will receive **branded promotional materials** to display in your place of business including official window clings and posters

\*Terms and conditions apply



# Thank you!

## Contact Information:

You may contact us for more information or to provide feedback:

Email: [WasteStrategy@toronto.ca](mailto:WasteStrategy@toronto.ca)

Telephone: 416-392-3760



# *SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PROHIBITION REGULATIONS*

City of Toronto

January 27, 2023

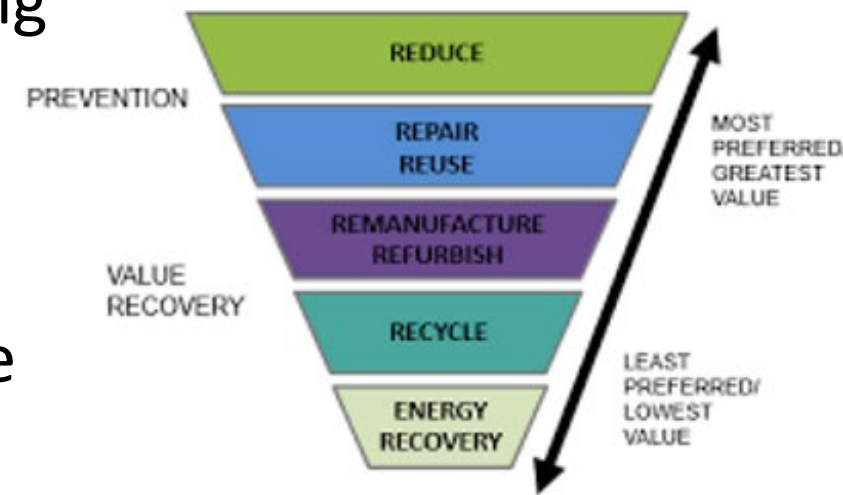


Canada 

# Canada's Zero Plastic Waste Agenda

The government is undertaking multi-faceted approaches to transition Canada to a circular economy, including targeted actions to prevent or reduce plastic waste along the value chain

- Regulations – SUP ban, Recycled Content & Labelling
- Science and Technology
- Innovation – Canada's Plastics Innovation Challenge
- Reuse Symposium



# Context

## Evidence-Based Decision-Making

Foundational instruments were developed to support evidence-based decision-making and the development of Regulations

### Science assessment of plastic pollution

The Science Assessment presented a thorough scientific review of the occurrence and potential impacts of plastic pollution on human health and the environment

### A proposed integrated management approach to plastic products

The discussion paper was used to seek input on the proposed integrated management approach to plastics

### Management framework for SUPs

The Government developed a management framework that provides a transparent and evidence-based approach to determining how to manage risks to the environment posed by single-use plastics

# Overview of the Regulations

The *Single-use Plastics Prohibition Regulations*, published in June 2022, are part of the Government of Canada's comprehensive plan to reduce plastic pollution and move towards a zero plastic waste future

## Purpose

To prevent plastic pollution by eliminating or restricting six categories of single-use plastics (SUPs) that pose a threat to the environment, are difficult to recycle and have alternatives

## Target

The Regulations prohibit the manufacture, import and sale of single-use plastic checkout bags, cutlery, foodservice ware made from or containing problematic plastics, ring carriers, stir sticks, and straws, with some exceptions for single-use plastic flexible straws





# Who is subject to Regulations?

- Manufacturers of SUPs
- Importers of SUPs
- Exporters of SUPs
- Sellers of SUPs (either online or in a physical location)
- Distributors of SUPs (e.g. restaurants and other food vendors)

## Sale

- The prohibition on sale in the Regulations includes a range of legal activities that may go beyond the common understanding of the verb “to sell”
- Section 3 of CEPA defines “sell” as including “to offer for sale or lease, have in possession for sale or lease or deliver for sale or lease,” and subsection 93(2) of CEPA states that “sell” includes “the transfer of the physical possession or control of a substance”
- This means that no monetary exchange needs to take place in order for the activity to be considered a sale



# Targeted Single-use Plastics

## Checkout bags

- designed to carry purchased goods from a business
- typically given to a customer at the retail point of sale

## Cutlery

- knives
- forks
- spoons
- sporks
- chopsticks

## Foodservice ware

1. formed in the shape of a clamshell container, lidded container, box, cup, plate or bowl
2. designed for serving or transporting food or beverage that is ready to be consumed
3. contains:
  - a. expanded polystyrene foam
  - b. extruded polystyrene foam
  - c. polyvinyl chloride
  - d. carbon black
  - e. an oxo-degradable plastic

## Ring carriers

- flexible
- designed to surround beverage containers in order to carry them together

## Stir sticks

- designed to stir or mix beverages, or to prevent a beverage from spilling from the lid of its container

## Straws

- straight drinking straws
- flexible straws (have a corrugated section that allows the straw to bend) packaged with beverage containers (juice boxes and pouches)



# SUP Foodservice Ware

- These are items that have typically been given to customers at restaurants, food vendors and grocery stores to hold a variety of food and beverages for takeout or to-go meals.
- SUP foodservice ware that meet all 3 of the criteria are prohibited by the Regulations

## Examples of non prohibited foodservice ware

- Not in one of the shapes listed
  - Plastic trays without a lid, typically used for raw meat, fish and vegetables, wrapped in plastic film
- Not designed for serving or transporting food or beverage that is ready to be consumed
  - Plastic foodservice ware containing frozen food that requires preparation before it can be consumed
  - Containers used for the long-term storage of food, typically found in the middle aisles of a grocery store
- Does not contain one of the prohibited plastics
  - Paper and fibre-based coffee cups with a plastic lining not containing one of the prohibited plastics
  - Clamshell containers, lidded containers, etc. made from non-prohibited kinds of recyclable plastics (e.g., PET, HDPE, PP) or compostable plastics (e.g., PLA)



# Exceptions for SUP Flexible Straws

- The manufacture and import of SUP flexible straws are allowed
- Retail stores (e.g., grocery stores, pharmacies and online retailers) can sell SUP flexible straws in packages of 20 or more, if
  - not on public display
  - only provided if requested
- Individuals can give SUP flexible straws to others in a family or social setting
- Care institutions can provide SUP flexible straws to their patients or residents
- A business may sell SUP flexible straws in packages of 20 or more to another business

## **For example:**

A customer can bring a SUP flexible straw to a restaurant and provide it to someone in their group. However, a restaurant is prohibited from providing SUP flexible straws to customers, as that would be considered a sale in a commercial setting.



# Non-conventional plastics

- **The prohibitions apply equally to conventional and non-conventional (e.g., biobased, compostable and biodegradable) plastics**
  - SUP checkout bags, cutlery, ring carriers, stir sticks and straws made from non-conventional plastics are prohibited under the Regulations
  - Performance criteria differentiate between single-use and reusable items, and also target non-conventional plastics
- **For foodservice ware, only items made from problematic plastics are prohibited**
  - Problematic plastics are polyvinyl chloride, polystyrene foam, oxo-degradables, and black plastics made with carbon black
  - Foodservice ware made from other types of conventional and non-conventional plastics are not prohibited under the Regulations



# Coming into force of the prohibitions

Item	Manufacture and import for sale in Canada	Sale	Manufacture, import and sale for export
Checkout bags, cutlery, foodservice ware, stir sticks, straws*	December 20, 2022	<b>December 20, 2023</b>	December 20, 2025
Ring carriers	June 20, 2023	June 20, 2024	December 20, 2025
Flexible straws packaged with beverage containers	Not applicable	June 20, 2024	December 20, 2025

\*Single-use plastic flexible straws that are not packaged with beverage containers are excluded from the prohibitions under certain conditions.

# Enforcement Approach

- ECCC enforcement officers will, when verifying compliance with the Regulations, act in accordance with the *Compliance and Enforcement Policy for CEPA, 1999*
- Verification of compliance with the Regulations could include site visits, review of records, product testing (if applicable), and review of written transit documents
- Following an inspection or an investigation, if an enforcement officer discovers an alleged violation, the officer will choose the appropriate enforcement action based on the following factors, as outlined in the Compliance and Enforcement Policy for CEPA, 1999:
  - Nature of the alleged violation
  - Effectiveness in achieving the desired result with the alleged violator
  - Consistency
- To compel compliance, enforcement officers may choose to issue enforcement measures including warnings, tickets, environmental protection compliance orders, directions or recommending prosecution to the Public Prosecution Service of Canada



# Exceptions and recordkeeping

## ➤ Exemptions to the prohibition on manufacture, import and sale

- Regulations do not apply to plastic items that
  - are waste
  - transiting through Canada
- Reusable substitutes made of plastics (i.e., certain checkout bags, cutlery and straws)

## ➤ Recordkeeping for export

- Manufacturers and importers, who export, must keep records demonstrating all prohibited items manufactured or imported have been or will be exported
- Records must be maintained in Canada and kept for five years after the date they are created





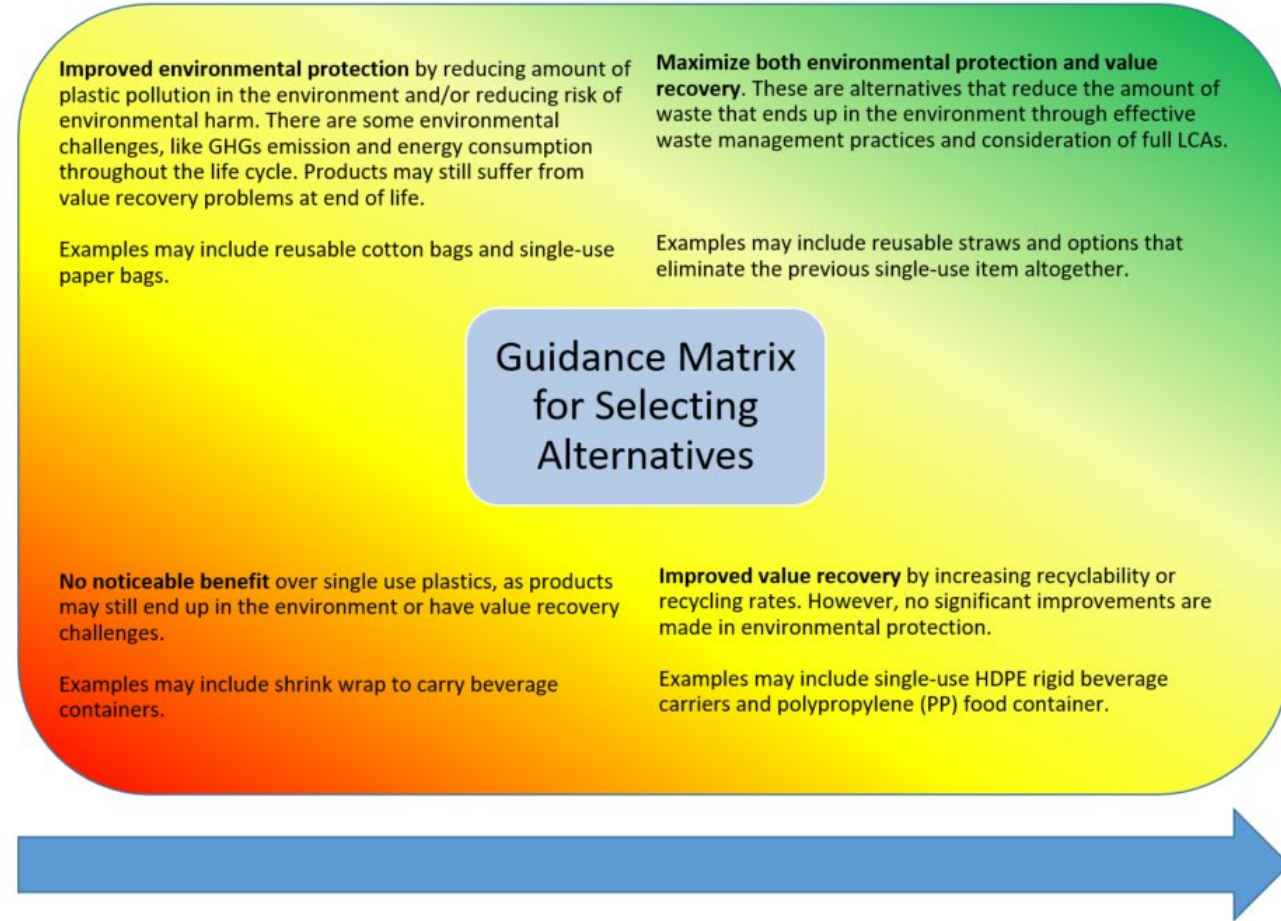
# Alternatives

➤ The *Single-use Plastics Prohibition Regulations* – *Guidance for selecting alternatives* reflects best practices for choosing alternatives to the 6 categories of single-use plastic items identified in the Regulations

➤ According to the Matrix, consideration of two factors is suggested when selecting alternatives:

1. Environmental protection
2. Value recovery

Improved  
Environmental  
Protection



Improved Value Recovery



# Useful links

- [Canada Gazette, Part 2, Volume 156, Number 13: Single-use Plastics Prohibition Regulations](#)
- [Single-use Plastics Prohibition Regulations: Overview - Canada.ca](#)
- [Single-use Plastics Prohibitions Regulations fact sheet - Canada.ca](#)
- [Fact sheet: Exceptions for Single-use Plastic Flexible Straws - Canada.ca](#)
- [Single-use Plastics Prohibitions Regulations Technical Guidelines - Canada.ca](#)
- [Single-use Plastics Prohibition Regulations – Guidance for selecting alternatives - Canada.ca](#)
- [Science assessment of plastic pollution - Canada.ca](#)
- [Canada's Zero Plastic Waste Agenda - Canada.ca](#)
- [A proposed integrated management approach to plastic products: discussion paper - Canada.ca](#)



# Contact us

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*Thank  
you* 

