

District of Saanich

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March 30, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

**Re: Checkout Bag Regulation Bylaw**

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At its meeting of March 15, 2021, Saanich Council directed staff to bring forward the Checkout Bag Regulation Bylaw, 2019, No. 9589 (the "Bylaw"), for consideration of adoption at its meeting of June 21, 2021.

If adopted by Council on June 21, 2021, the Bylaw will come into effect on **August 20, 2021** (60 days following the date of its adoption).

Among other things, the Bylaw:

- prohibits a business from selling or providing a customer with a plastic checkout bag;
- prohibits a business from providing a customer with a reusable or paper checkout bag free of charge (unless it has already been used and returned to the store for reuse);
- requires a business to charge a minimum of .15 cents for a paper checkout bag and \$1.00 for a reusable bag during a twelve-month transitional period and .25 cents and \$2.00 thereafter;
- requires that a paper checkout bag must be made out of paper and contain at least 40% of post-consumer recycled paper content and must also display the words "Recyclable" and "made from 40% post-consumer recycled content" (or other applicable amount) on the outside of the bag; and
- contains exemptions to the plastic bag prohibition for specific types of goods (such as packaging or wrap for fruit, vegetables and meat).

To learn more and to read the Bylaw in full, please visit the District's website at:

<https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/community/sustainable-saanich/reducing-single-use-plastic-bags.html>

The District is in the process of developing materials about the Bylaw for businesses to make available to customers and clients. Once finalized, they will be available through the website.

If you have any questions about this letter or the Bylaw, please contact me at 250-475-5419 or at [brent.reems@saanich.ca](mailto:brent.reems@saanich.ca).

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Reems".

Brent Reems  
Director, Building, Bylaw,  
Licensing & Legal Services