

THE PROBLEM WITH SINGLE-USE PLASTICS





The Great Pacific Garbage Patch

An estimated up to 3.5 trillion pieces of plastic in an area twice the size of Saskatchewan. (and it's just one of five)



'Not a bin': Cambodia to return plastic waste to US and Canada

Indonesia followed their lead by returning garbage to us

Canadians use 15 billion plastic bags a year.

We asked 3 companies to recycle Canadian plastic and secretly tracked it. Only 1 company recycled the material



Waste Connections dumped it in landfill. GFL incinerated it. Merlin plastics recycled it.

[Katie Pedersen](#), [Eric Szeto](#), [David Common](#) and [Luke Denne](#) · CBC News ·

Posted: Sep 28, 2019 4:00 AM ET | Last Updated: October 9



An underwater photograph showing a large amount of plastic waste floating in the water. A large white plastic bag is prominent in the foreground, with other pieces of plastic and debris visible in the background. The water is a deep blue-green color.

Microplastics

Found in:

- * Drinking water
- * Nearly all fish
- * Beer

Great Lakes:
22 million
pounds

of plastic every year

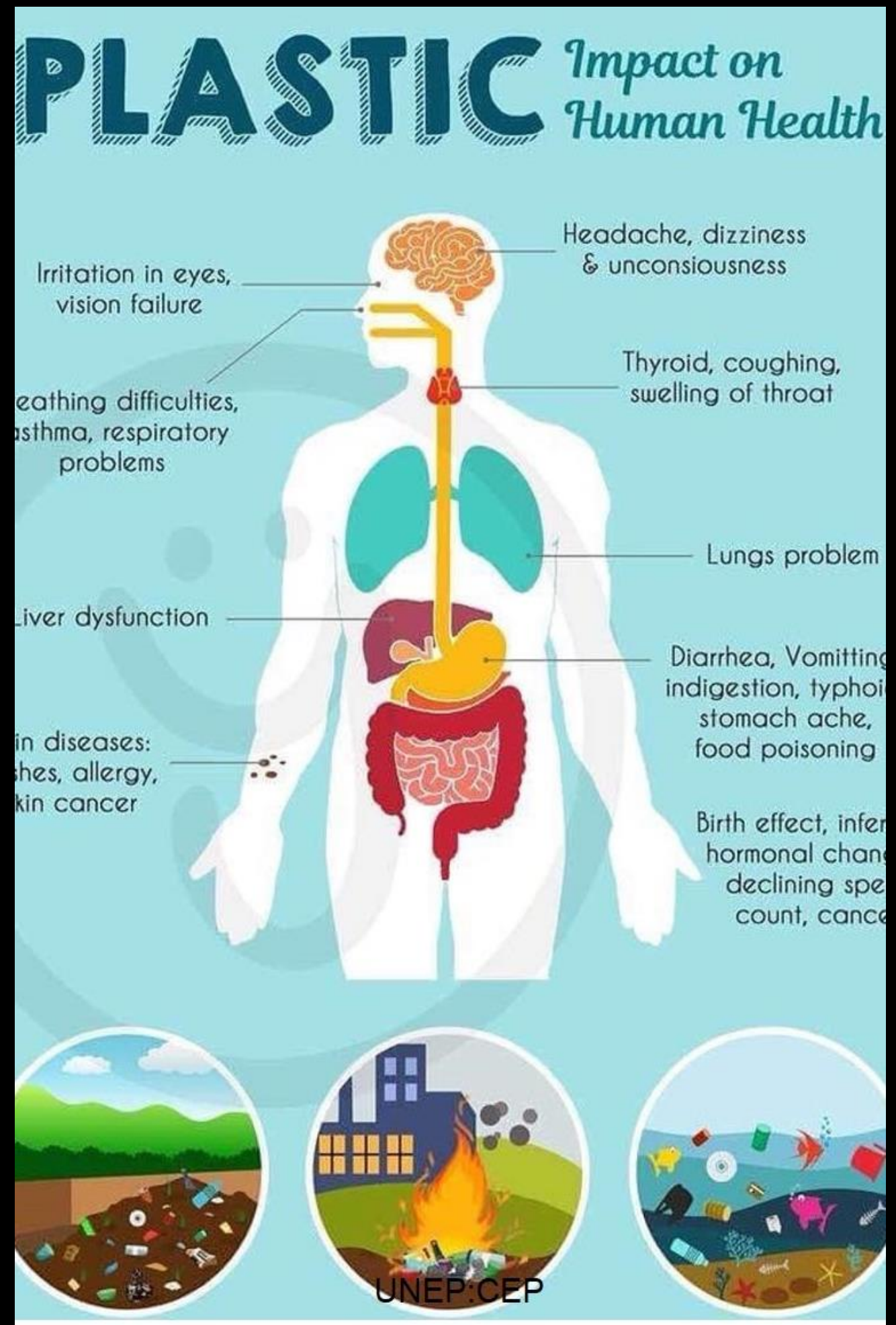
Preliminary Studies
show plastics in our
bodies might be
contributing to :

Hormone problems

Heart issues

Diabetes

Cancer



Plastics and the Climate Crisis



Emissions from plastic in 2015 were the equivalent of 1.8 million metric tons of CO₂

From oil extraction to plastic manufacturing, distribution, and disposal: dumping, incineration, recycling and degradation.

Annual Emissions from the Plastic Lifecycle

189
Coal
Plants

0.86
Gt CO₂e

2019

295
Coal
Plants

1.34
Gt CO₂e

2030


615
Coal
Plants

2.80
Gt CO₂e

2050

Source: © CIEL

Note: Compared to 500 megawatt coal-fired power plants operating at full capacity.

A photograph of a grocery store aisle. The shelves are stocked with various products, including boxes of cereal and bottles of laundry detergent. In the foreground, there is a large pile of discarded plastic waste, including plastic bags and containers, scattered on the floor. A teal text box is overlaid on the image, containing the text:

86% of Canadians want politicians to take more action on plastics as a way of reducing greenhouse gases (GHGs)

Learn more about plastics pollution in Canada

Woodstock poised to ban plastic bags, first in Ontario



Kathleen Saylor

[More from Kathleen Saylor](#)

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**Woodstock Sentinel
Review, Aug. 21, 2019**



Woodstock council approved a ban “in principle” but asked staff for a report on the logistics of implementing that ban.

Some Municipalities in Ontario taking action:

Peterborough

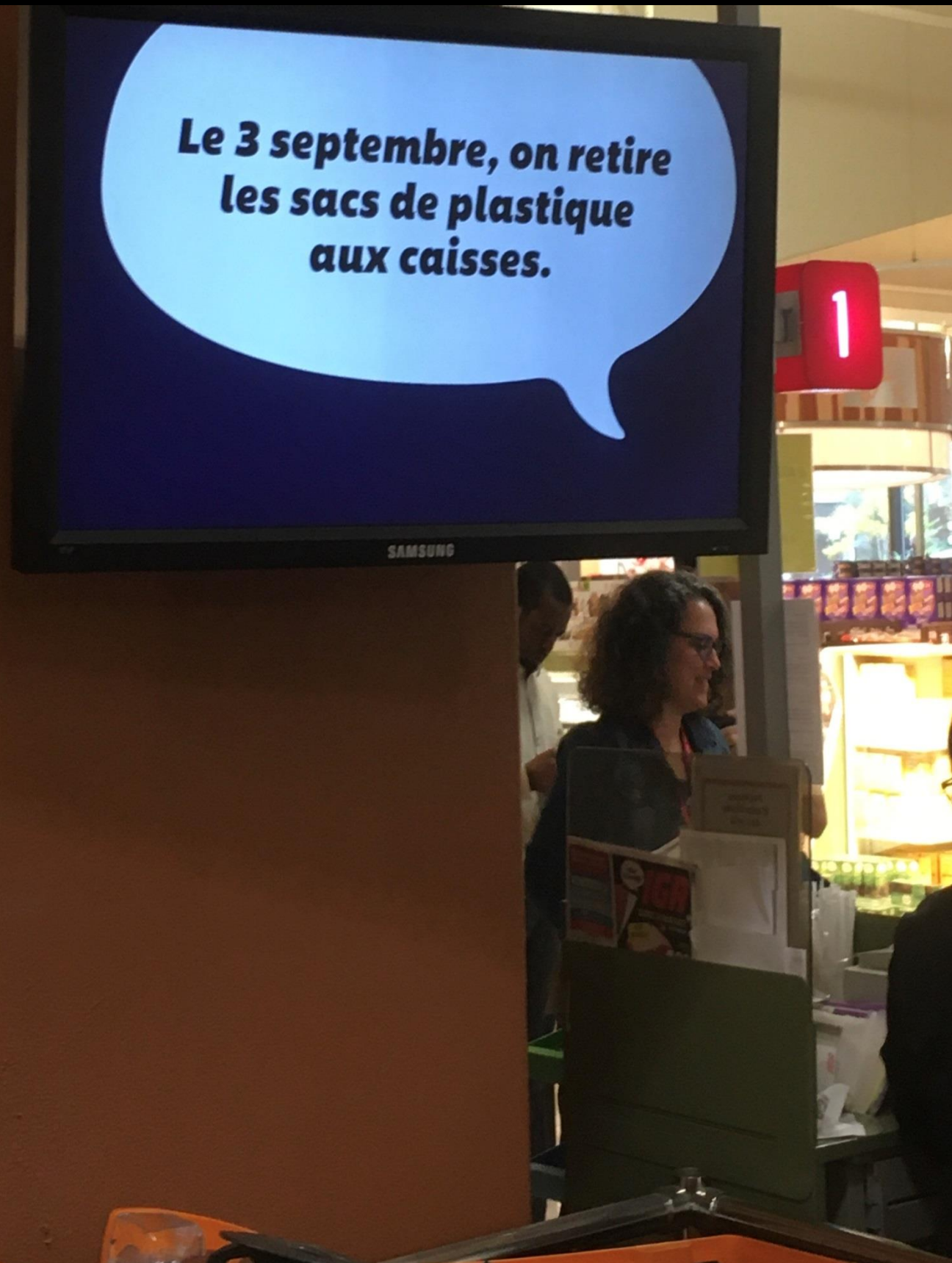
Kingston

Blue Mountains

Markham

Woodstock

Grocery store in Montreal



P.E.I. plastic bag recycling troubles disappear with ban



“We’ve seen the volume go from, it would probably be about 30 to 40 million bags a year to almost nothing.”

Island Waste Management CEO Gerry Moore says the Plastic Bag Reduction Act has been helpful. (Brian Higgins/CBC)

Plastics in CKL



THE COSTS OF PLASTICS:

Recycling and disposal

Climate costs (through emissions)

Harm to wildlife

Potential harm to human health

Contamination of air, soil, water

Alternatives Exist



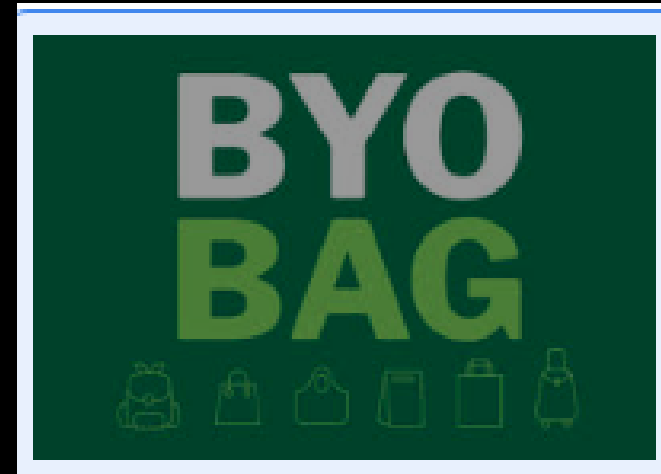
The Environmental Action Committee encourages

Council to pass a resolution to:

- implement a phased-in ban of single-use plastics
(starting with shopping bags and straws)
and styrofoam in 2020
- implement a public education strategy for eliminating
single use plastics and styrofoam in 2020

2020 : What Can Be Done?

Start a BYOBag Campaign



Promote alternatives to plastic and styrofoam

Promote through City outreach and waste calendar

Assist in identifying sources of alternative packaging

**Recognize successes with Green Awards and
Certificates**

The Kawartha Lakes Environmental
Advisory Committee also encourages
CKL council to pass a By-law to ban the
use of single use plastics and Styrofoam
by January 2021.

**REMEMBER
YOUR
REUSABLE
BAGS!**



**¡RECUERDE
SUS BOLSAS
REUTILIZABLES!**