

THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick
706 Queen Street, P.O. Box 6000
Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 1C5

Telephone: (506) 453-2506
Facsimile: (506) 453-7154



GREFFIER DE L'ASSEMBLÉE LÉGISLATIVE
Assemblée législative du Nouveau-Brunswick
706, rue Queen, C. P. 6000
Fredericton (Nouveau-Brunswick) E3B 1C5

Téléphone : (506) 453-2506
Télécopieur : (506) 453-7154

April 10, 2019

Mr. David Coon, MLA
Green Party Members' Office
West Block, Departmental Building
Legislative Assembly Complex
96 St. John Street
Fredericton, New Brunswick

Dear Mr. Coon:

Enclosed is a copy of the response to your Petition 4, which was tabled in the Legislature on March 20, 2019.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Forestell'.

 Donald J. Forestell
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Enclosure

DJF/dma

c: Léopold Mallet
Josh O'Donnell ✓
Sterling Wright
Amy Whittaker

APR 10 2019

Clerk's Office
Legislative Assembly

April 2, 2019

Mr. Donald Forestell
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
706 Queen Street
P.O. Box 6000
Fredericton, NB E3B 1C5

FILED
7:10:00 PM

APR 10 2019

CLERK'S OFFICE /
BUREAU DU CLERK

Mr. Forestell:

This letter is in response to Petition 4, calling for a province-wide ban on plastic shopping bags. The petition was tabled in the legislature by Mr. David Coon on March 20, 2019.

By now, it is evident to most New Brunswickers that the low cost and convenience of plastic packaging has led to an undesirable proliferation of single-use plastics. Harm to marine and terrestrial wildlife caused by abandoned plastic waste, the visual impact of litter, and the amount of plastic waste occupying landfills are among the major driving forces behind recent, world-wide efforts to reduce plastic use.

In keeping with Government's platform commitment to ensure responsible stewardship of the environment, and consistent with the desire we share with other New Brunswickers to leave the environment in a better condition than we found it, I have previously stated that it is time for New Brunswick to consider appropriate ways to reduce plastic waste.

On June 8, 2018, Prince Edward Island became the first (and so far, only) Canadian province to legislate a province-wide ban on plastic bags. This legislation is scheduled to come into effect on July 1, 2019. We will be paying close attention to how this initiative unfolds, to help determine how best to respond to the significant challenge of plastic waste.

Sincerely,



Hon. Jeff Carr
Minister

C. Mr. Jeff Porter, Department of Environment and Local Government

