

Ocean Wise National Plastics Dialogue

Virtual Town Hall



8:50 - 9:10 MT/ 10:50 - 11:10 ET

8:50 MT - Login

9:00 MT - Welcome, CGE & Ocean Wise

9:05 MT - Opening Keynote - Dr. Peter Ross - VP Research, Ocean Wise & Executive Director, CORI

9:15 MT Introductions & Land Acknowledgements**

1. Kamloops
2. Fort McMurray
3. Edmonton
4. St. Albert
5. Calgary - CTC
6. Calgary - Robert Thirsk
7. Yellowknife
8. Brampton
9. New Brunswick

9:25 MT - Student Keynote #1 - Kelsey, Robert Thirsk

9:35 - 9:55 MT/ 11:35 - 11:55 ET – BREAKOUT #1

Questions #1:

What are your greatest concerns about single-use plastics in Canada?

A. How do these concerns reflect Canadians on an individual, community and global level?

B. How does Canadian plastic use impact ocean health?

Resources:

- The Immense, Eternal Footprint Humanity Leaves on Earth: Plastics - New York Times <http://nyti.ms/2vDfVJ1> Most of the plastic that has been made is no longer in use — about 6.3 billion metric tons of plastic have been thrown away since 1950. About 12 percent of that has been incinerated, which is the only way to permanently dispose of plastic; 9 percent has been recycled, which only delays final disposal; and 60 percent — about

4.9 billion metric tons — is in landfills or scattered in the environment.

- Plastic is Everywhere and Recycling Isn't the End of It - Christopher Joyce <http://n.pr/2FjZgm8> University of California, Santa Barbara ecologist, Roland Geyer, explains that plastic is extremely versatile, and is therefore found in common household objects and in everyday use items. He calculated that there has been about 8.3 billion tons of plastic created since it was invented a few decades ago.
- What Really Happens to the Plastic you Throw Away - Emma Bryce https://youtu.be/_6xINyWPpB8 This video depicts that when plastic is thrown into a landfill and rainwater infiltrates the material, this can make the toxic chemical leachate. Another fate of plastics is ending up in one of five plastic patches that collect in certain parts of the world's oceans.
- Plastic Pollution in the Ocean. <https://youtu.be/aFUHLtaTazQ> According to this video, we use plastic because it is durable and cheap to make. Only 10% of the plastic that is made gets recycled, and more than 70% of the plastic goes into natural ecosystems.

Google Doc Links:

*Red, Blue, & Green Groups: Divide your youth evenly, with no more than 10 students per colour group. [If you have more than 40 youth, then create a second red, second green, etc.]

- [Red: Water Dialogue](#)
- [Blue: Water Dialogue](#)
- [Green: Water Dialogue](#)

9:55 - 10:05 MT/ 11:55 - 12:00 ET

Student Keynote #2: Mansi, Suzuki

10:05 - 10:20 MT/ 12:00 - 12:20 ET - BREAKOUT #2

Questions #2:

Who do you think are the plastics stakeholders in your school and/or community?

A. How would you communicate with these stakeholders about targeting single use plastic?

B. What evidence will you use to support your argument?

Resources:

- A Wonder Material You Can't Get Rid Of - Caitlin Johnson <http://cbsn.ws/2l1BQjR> This article explains that plastic bags are very frequently used by consumers, but can be a material that is difficult to

recycle. Most people are unbothered by plastics littering the environment and therefore have a false idea about the difficulties of getting rid of plastics due to their long-lasting nature.

- Toward a Global Treaty on Plastic Waste - Nils Simon and Lili Fuhr <http://bit.ly/2oJsWS2> According to these authors, plastic is a large part of the economy, though it is extremely harmful to the environment. This problem can be especially toxic to wildlife that is susceptible to consuming large quantities of plastic such as fish and marine birds. Plastic can also create toxic agents, which could cause public health problems.
- Spotlight TEDx Talk: Why I Live a Zero Waste Life <http://bit.ly/2F6nktw> Lauren Singer tells her personal story about why she decided to live a plastic free life, and eventually a zero waste life. She includes several tips on how the use of plastic can be eradicated.
- An Artist Whose Mentors are Scientists - Dianna Cohen <http://theatln.tc/2giBcW5> Dianna Cohen is an artist who realized the danger of plastics in the ocean, in particular with the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. She helped start the Plastic Pollution Coalition in order to help end the use of single use plastics.

Google Doc Links:

- [Red: Water Dialogue 2](#)
- [Blue: Water Dialogue 2](#)
- [Green: Water Dialogue 2](#)

10:20 - 10:30 MT/ 12:20 - 12:30 ET

Snack and Body Break

10:30 - 10:40 MT/ 12:30 - 12:40 ET

Student Keynote #3 - Katie, Renee & Gabi, EMSSY

10:40 - 11:00 MT/ 12:40 - 1:00 ET - BREAKOUT #3

Questions #3:

What S.M.A.R.T strategy to reduce single-use plastic would you suggest for your school/community? (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time Based)

A. How could you measure the success of your initiative?

B. How will you encourage/inspire others to participate?

Resources

- Plastic Pollution Coalition www.plasticpollutioncoalition.org This organization strives to end the use of single use plastics. They educate the public on how toxic plastic can be and informs on what everyone can do to eradicate plastic pollution.
- Plastic Oceans www.plasticoceans.org Plastic Oceans strives to educate audiences about plastics in the recent news. This nonprofit organization aims to start discussion on the negative impacts of plastic pollution and the effect that this has on the oceans.
- The Plastic Disclosure Project www.plasticdisclosure.org The Plastic Disclosure Project was launched by Ocean Recovery Alliance as a way to bring about large-scale prevention of plastic waste. This is an investor and multi-stakeholder driven program to encourage companies and other institutions to measure their plastic footprint and develop plastic management strategies to create a world where plastic adds value to businesses without negatively impacting the environment. This can be done on a global basis, without needing to change legislation, create bans, or impose taxes. It can be rapidly successful if we all look at ourselves, and our operations, “in the mirror,” and measure what we use, and how we reuse it. Video: Plastic: from waste to resource | <https://youtu.be/5poEAA3g36w>
- The Zero Waste International Alliance www.zwia.org was established to promote positive alternatives to landfill and incineration and to raise community awareness of the social and economic benefits to be gained when waste is regarded as a resource base upon which can be built both employment and business opportunity

Google Doc Links:

- [Red: Water Dialogue 3](#)
- [Blue: Water Dialogue 3](#)
- [Green: Water Dialogue 3](#)

11:00 - 11:20 MT/ 1:00 - 1:20 ET

Student Presentations – Each school will present a summary of one of the breakout groups

School	Colour Group
Kamloops	#1 Blue

Fort McMurray	#1 Green
Edmonton	#1 Red
St. Albert	#2 Blue
Calgary - CTC	#2 Green
Calgary - Robert Thirsk	#2 Red
Brampton	#3 Blue
Yellowknife	#3 Green
New Brunswick	#3 Red

11:20 - 11:45 MT/ 1:20 - 1:45 ET

Students return to their colour groups:

- looking at the priorities they have identified,
- keywords, thoughts, or quotes
- create a brief written reflection on the panels and keynotes throughout the day

Summary document link: [HERE](#)

11:45 - 12:00 MT/ 1:45 - 2:00 ET

Student Keynote #4 - Peyton, HVHS

11:55 - 12:00 MT/ 1:55 - 2:00 ET

Wrap-up & “Looking Beyond Today’s Town Hall”