

June 2, 2018

**President
Présidente**

Jenny Gerbasi
Deputy Mayor
City of Winnipeg, MB

**First Vice-President
Premier vice-président**

Bill Karsten
Councillor
Halifax Regional
Municipality, NS

**Second Vice-President
Deuxième vice-président**

Garth Frizzell
Councillor
City of Prince George, BC

**Vice-President at Large
Vice-président hors cadre**

Edgar Rouleau
Maire
Cité de Dorval, QC

**Past President
Président sortant**

Clark Somerville
Councillor
Regional Municipality
of Halton, ON

**Chief Executive Officer
Chef de la direction**

Brock Carlton
Ottawa, ON

The Honourable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A2

The Honourable Minister Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Centre Block, Suite 433C
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister McKenna:

Municipal support for a national marine litter strategy

On the eve of the 44th G7 Summit in Charlevoix, Quebec, I am writing on behalf of Canadian municipalities to convey our support for Canada's international leadership in tackling plastic pollution in the world's oceans.

At this weekend's FCM's Annual Conference in Halifax, municipal leaders from across Canada endorsed a resolution calling for a national marine litter strategy. This resolution calls on the federal government to assert global leadership on this issue, working in partnership with other countries. This leadership can build on the steps Canada has committed to take through its G7 presidency in prioritizing the health of the world's oceans.

Last month, joining with the City of Montreal and international local government networks, FCM co-signed a letter to all G7 leaders—emphasizing municipalities' vital role in driving local solutions to global challenges. Municipal governments are the last line of defence against waste entering our oceans, lakes and waterways. And while local waste collection and recycling programs will remain part of the solution, meaningful progress requires action further upstream.

As waste managers, municipalities recognize that the global community must change how it designs, manufactures, uses and recycles plastic products and packaging. It's time to transition toward a more circular product lifecycle. And within Canada, we know that tackling this challenge will require strong partnerships across all levels of government and industry.

24, rue Clarence Street,
Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 5P3

T. 613-241-5221
F. 613-241-7440

www.fcm.ca

.../2



FCM's membership has identified the following elements for a successful Canadian marine litter strategy:

- Reduce plastic packaging.
- Improve the recyclability and compostability of consumer materials.
- Build on existing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs to manage materials throughout their life-cycle.
- Set national targets to reduce plastic waste in the ocean.
- Clean up Canada's coastlines.
- Educate the public about plastics and marine health.
- Support local innovation in waste management.

The G7 summit is a critical opportunity to make progress on marine litter. The resolution that FCM members passed today confirms that municipalities stand behind your government in seeking the strongest possible international commitment in Charlevoix. And here at home, local governments are ready to work with their counterparts—federal, provincial and territorial—and with industry, towards an ultimate goal of zero plastic waste.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J Gerbasi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jenny Gerbasi
Deputy Mayor, City of Winnipeg
FCM President