

April 1, 2022

Re: Solid Waste Management Master Plan

To Mayor Cam Guthrie and members of City Council:

The Guelph Chamber of Commerce met with the Environmental Services staff and their consultants to provide insight and feedback for their consideration. The Chamber supports the vision of the Solid Waste Management Master Plan where we transition to a cleaner and more efficient economy that provides an environment that fosters innovation and economic opportunities.

We applaud the fact that our concern regarding businesses having sufficient time to transition and adjust to different service levels and subsequent fees is reflected in the recommendation of a phased approach to the ban of single-use items in 2023. As stated at the time of consultation, we strongly urge the City to engage with individual businesses leading up to the implementation of different components of the plan.

The Guelph Chamber of Commerce, and its members, support environmental initiatives to reduce waste which goes to the landfill. However, every decision henceforth should continue to consider the implication on the cost and ease of doing business in Guelph; both in-light of continued challenges many sectors are facing and generally, to ensure a competitive business climate. The support provided to the business community as they transition to a cleaner and more environmentally sustainable model will be critical to the success of the Master Plan's recommendations.

Sincerely,



Shakiba Shayani
President & CEO