

To whom it may concern:

My name is Avery Green, a grade 9 student taking environmental science. There was a guest speaker in my Environmental Science class a few weeks ago and I was inspired to share my new knowledge about waste and plastics in the environment to the LICA program.

Plastics impact people and our environment greatly. They pose potential health risks to humans and pollute our Oceans. There is currently 75 million tons of plastic floating around in the ocean. The greatest plastic causing health risk is called Endocrine Disruption. This causes cancer and even changes hormone activity, which can lead to reproductive, growth, and cognitive impairment.

Microwaving plastics is very dangerous because the plastics from your container can leak into your food, increasing your risk for cancer. Bamboo can be used to make a wide variety of environmentally friendly items which is surprising because you can make cutlery, tissues, straws, trays, etc. all out of Bamboo. I know we don't have very much Bamboo in Canada so stainless steel or recycled paper might work better. The most effective way to remove plastics from the ocean is to get a large net shaped like a U and slowly tow it to shore. This process is done over and over to remove as much plastic as possible.

To help the environment in our own community we could do things like an annual garbage pickup with prize money for who picks up the most. This would

encourage more people to join making the job a lot easier. Another idea is to use reusable straws instead of plastic or paper which would decrease the use of plastics. This would end the debates over plastic and paper straws at different restaurants. Another way to influence people such as students to devote time to our environment is to have more opportunities or lessons in our school about pollution. This has an impact on many kids and may actually help them to be more aware of our destructive behavior.

I thank you for your time you took to read my ideas and comments about this situation and hope you take them to account. If you have any questions or concerns about what I have said you can contact me at 111-223-6767 or agreene@gmail.com.

Sincerely, Avery Greene