# 20 Pollution Probe 18 Gala Living in The Plastic Age

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Program

# Message from Pollution Probe CEO

Welcome to the 2018 Pollution Probe Annual Gala.

This year's gala Living in The Plastic Age is different in many ways from previous years. We focus on a specific issue rather than a broad theme.

Plastics are arguably one of the greatest innovations of modern society. They offer numerous economic and environmental benefits. Some of the plastic products we take for granted were developed to address environmental problems. For example, plastic piano keys were developed to protect elephants. Plastic shopping bags were, in part, meant to help reduce air pollution.

Yet there have been unintended consequences. We are finding concentrations of plastics and microplastics in our freshwater and oceans in alarming quantities. We know it is having an impact on aquatic ecosystems and are concerned about the potential human health impacts.

Plastics pollution has quite simply captured public concern, at home and abroad, at a

scale and pace that has rarely been seen with other environmental issues. And the message is quite clear. Plastics do not belong in our water. People want plastics pollution addressed now.

One of the ways we can make significant progress is to create a circular economy for plastics. We need to ensure that plastics become a valuable resource that are not discarded after a single use, but are reused, recovered, recycled and turned into new valuable products. We also need to change our wasteful behaviours.

This evening we gather together, industry, government, academia and civil society to celebrate the early leadership that our broad environmental community is demonstrating. We are fully aware of the challenge before us, resolute in our conviction to address the issue, and, I hope, committed to each doing our part to make plastics pollution a thing of the past.

Please enjoy the evening. We thank you for your support and friendship.

Yours truly, Christopher Hilkene

# **Evening Program**

# 7:15 PM – Welcome Remarks

Christopher Hilkene Chair of Board, Pollution Probe Ingrid Thompson CEO, Pollution Probe

# 7:30 PM – Ambassador Sponsor Remarks

Sarah Marshall Leader, Technical Services, NOVA Chemicals

### 7:45 PM – Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Remarks

**The Honourable Rod Phillips, MPP** (Ajax) Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

# 8:45 PM - Silent Auction closes

### Presentation of the Pollution Probe Award Living in The Plastic Age

Ocean Wise, represented by Dr. John Nightingale, CEO

### 9:30 PM – Closing Remarks





### Appetizer

Young Spinach, Maple Roasted Squash and Grapes, Ontario Goat Cheese, Toasted Pumpkin Seeds, White Balsamic Vinaigrette

### Entrée

9 oz Honey Habanero Glazed Roasted Organic Chicken Breast, 100 km Yellow Potato Pave, Seasonal Vegetables, Apricot and Pear Chicken Jus

### Dessert

Milk Chocolate Cremeaux with Chocolate Crunch, Tahitian Vanilla Bean Ice Cream, Fresh Berries

# **Award Recipient**

Plastic Wise is an Ocean Wise® initiative to raise awareness and share solutions to address the crisis of ocean plastic. In spring 2018, Ocean Wise launched this initiative to expand efforts to understand and combat the growing global crisis of plastics in our oceans. The Plastic Wise initiative involves multi-facetted research. outreach and education. and solutions-oriented partnerships with business and industry to influence large-scale change in plastic use. These efforts aim to increase knowledge of microplastic contamination: raise awareness of plastic pollution problems and solutions, and help to change behaviour and break patterns of plastic use to prevent it from entering the ocean. Plastic Wise created the #BePlasticWise challenge, where participants receive monthly challenges, inspiring stories and practical tips for reducing single-use plastic items. After years of plastics research and reduction efforts, Ocean Wise is well positioned to enable industry, government and citizens to implement real and impactful solutions.



Ocean Wise is a not-for-profit organization whose vision is a world in which oceans are healthy and flourishing.



# **Minister Rod Phillips**

The Honourable Rod Phillips was sworn in as Ontario's Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on June 29, 2018.

Minister Phillips, MPP for Ajax, assumes his current role following a successful business career. Most recently, he was Chair of Afiniti Canada, a global artificial intelligence company, and Postmedia, Canada's largest news media company.

The minister is a former President and CEO of the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation, and of Shepell. fgi, a Canadian-based international employee health company. As well, he was volunteer chair of CivicAction, which brings together business, labour and community leaders to address challenges facing the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area.

The minister has also served as chief of staff in the offices of then-Minister of Labour Elizabeth Witmer and former Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman.

Born in Newmarket, the minister has an Honours BA in political science and english from the University of Western Ontario and an MBA from Wilfrid Laurier University.





### Ambassador



### Champions



THE **GEORGE AND HELEN VARI** FOUNDATION

### Friends







**Canadian Stewardship** Services Alliance









Suncor Energy Foundation



**Bullfrog Power** CAA South Central Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association Cement Association of Canada / Lafarge Canada Delphi Group & GLOBE Series Enbridge Fasken Global Automakers of Canada Ice River Loblaw Companies Limited Nuclear Waste Management Organization **Oxford Properties** Parsons Inc. Power Workers' Union RBC Ryerson University The Harbour Group of RBC Dominion Securities WestRock-MPS Packaging York University

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# **Silent Auction Donors**

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# Volunteers

Jennie Brown Corinna DeBeer Anna Kim Erinn Young Linh Yuen



# About Pollution Probe

Pollution Probe is a Canadian charitable environmental organization that is a leading agent of change at the intersection of communities, health and environment. Since 1969, we have been defining environmental problems through research, promoting understanding through education and pressing for practical solutions through advocacy.

# Our Mission Statement

# Our Mission

We seek to improve the health and well-being of Canadians by advancing policy that achieves positive, tangible environmental change.

# Our Vision

We aspire to be recognized as a leading source of information on environmental issues, to partner credibly with government and industry in developing environmental solutions, and to be a trusted voice on environmental policy.

# Our Values

#### Inclusive:

We consider the interests of all those with a legitimate stake in an issue, and with them we seek opportunities to partner and to build coalitions of support for progressive policy.

#### Independent:

In all business activities, we work to maintain our capacity to act independently in representing the needs of the general public.

#### Non-Partisan:

We seek to work cooperatively with all levels of government and with all

political parties to ensure that the environmental needs of current and future generations are addressed.

#### **Results-Oriented**:

We choose issues and engage in activities when we judge that we may reasonably expect tangible results that improve the environment from our participation.

#### Focused:

We undertake activities that are fundamentally directed at supporting and enabling policy change.

#### Evidence-Based:

We are led by science, basing our positions upon sound research and objective analysis, rather than ideological labels.

#### Learning:

We build our knowledge and capacity by constantly testing our assumptions and validating our impact by surveying our colleagues, by consulting experts and by maintaining an open mind when engaging stakeholders.

#### Innovative:

We always seek new and effective means of achieving our mission, adapting our approach to advocacy as issues emerge and the market evolves.



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Please join thousands of committed Canadians who are helping to ensure that clean air and clean water remain high on the national agenda.

DONATE NOW

