

Ref: DOE.ENV.19

MINISTRY OF HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE & HOUSING CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

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12th October, 2018

Cayman International School (CIS) PO Box 31364 Grand Cayman KYI-1206 Cayman Islands

Dear Principals Melody Meade, Melissa Kay, & Doug Murphy

Re: Single-use plastics

I am writing to convey how very impressed I am by the zealous display of appreciation and concern for the environment raised by your cohort of students, in the form of individually composed letters. I commend your current efforts and encourage your continued endeavors to broaden the minds of our youth as to the need for the protection and preservation of our natural environment.

I wish to thank these students for bringing the very serious issue of single-use plastic pollution to the forefront of our attention. The passion they have conveyed in their concern for the well-being of our marine wildlife and environment is as honorable as it is inspiring. In particular, their vibrant display of evidence based knowledge and clearly formulated arguments have inspired us here at the Ministry of Health, Environment, Culture and Housing, to deeply investigate this issue. Our team is working on developing suggestions for potential solutions and we remain hopeful of the outcome once these are put forward.

I find comfort in knowing that such an ambitious set of bright young minds with such powerful agendas will serve as the bearers of our future. The generations before these young people have left scars on the earth and environment in ways that cannot quickly be repaired. It is up to their generation and those that follow them to be kind to their environment and to interact with it in such a way as to ensure sustainability for all generations to come. From this generation, I envision this and more. Please, allow them to take pride in their initiative and know that they have been heard by those of us here at the Ministry.

With gratitude,

Hon. Dwayne S. Seymour, MLA. JP.

Minister for Health, Environment, Culture and Housing