

ECOPOLITICS PODCAST: Additional Pedagogical Resources (Episode 3)

[Episode 3: Environmental Change in Canada - Plastics Case Study](#)

Overview: Jay Sinha of Life Without Plastic shares how businesses, governments and individuals can help tackle the enormous challenge of plastic pollution.

Key Takeaways

- Individuals, governments, businesses, and civil society each have a role in addressing environmental challenges in different ways.
- While some businesses are clearly responsible for environmental problems, an increasing number of them have sought solutions to such problems (including businesses expressly founded to address environmental problems).
- Given their ubiquity, plastics are a particularly challenging environmental problem, but this issue is being tackled at multiple levels, from reducing individual consumption, to changing business practices and increasing government regulation.

Discussion Questions

1. What do you see as the role of business(es) in environmental politics?
2. What are the possibilities and limitations of individual action for addressing environmental challenges through changing our consumption habits?
3. How much plastic do you use in your own daily life? Is it worth trying to cut down on your individual plastic consumption, or do you see this as a job for governments and corporations to make it easier for you to live without generating plastic waste?

Episode 3: Environmental Change in Canada - Plastics Case Study

Learn more about our Guest

Jay Sinha

- <https://lifewithoutplastic.com>

Recent Publications & Speaking engagements:

- **Sinha, Jay** and Chantal Plamondon. *Life Without Plastic: the Practical Step-by-Step Guide to Avoiding Plastic to Keep Your Family and the Planet Healthy*. Page Street Publishing Co. 2017.
- **Jay Sinha** “Nature: Its Sacred Powers and How to Access Them” *Ottawa Creative Mornings*. June 17 2020. <https://creativemornings.com/talks/jay-sinha>

Learn more about Zero-Waste and Plastic Policies:

- Government of Canada. “Zero Plastic Waste: Canada’s Actions.” May 25, 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/managing-reducing-waste/zero-plastic-waste/canada-action.html>
- Government of Canada. “Ocean Plastics Charter.” June 8 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/managing-reducing-waste/international-commitments/ocean-plastics-charter.html>
- United Nations. “Goal 12: Ensure Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns.” n.d. www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-consumption-production/
- Dauvergne, Peter. 2018. “Why is the global governance of plastic failing the oceans?” *Global Environmental Change* 51: 22-31