

Media Release -- Back to School, Zero Waste Style!

For Immediate Release (August 22) – This fall, the Recycling Council of British Columbia (RCBC) invites you to kick off the new school year on a green note. “From kindergarteners all the way to post-secondary students, there are lots of ways each of us can do to reduce our impact on the earth,” says Brock Macdonald, RCBC Chief Executive Officer. Here are some easy tips on going green during the back to school season:

Plan Ahead: Before shopping, make a list of what you or your children already have and what you actually need to avoid overspending on unnecessary supplies. Sibling hand-me-downs for clothing, backpacks, and durable goods are always the go-to choice, but if you’re looking for something different, check out thrift/consignment stores for fresh threads or the refurbished section at local electronics stores for deals on last year’s laptops and tablets. What could be better than saving money while getting ready for whatever the new school year brings?

Buy Green: If you do need to buy new supplies, choose eco-friendly brands and products with minimal or recyclable packaging. Pick cardboard and paper notebooks over vinyl binders. Buy writing instruments that are easily refillable or made from recycled materials. Futureproof your purchases by choosing high-quality products that will be sure to last for years to come!

Start with One Thing and Keep Building Momentum: Walk, bike, or take transit to school. Organize a carpool. Set time aside to make healthy lunches. Pack them in reusable bags. Check out the RCBC Zero Waste Lunch Challenge for classrooms and schools. Practicing greener choices and building momentum ensures a more sustainable world for future generations.

Got other eco-friendly ideas around going back to school? Share them with us on Facebook or Twitter, or call the BC Recycling Hotline at 604-RECYCLE in the Lower Mainland, and toll-free at 1-800-667-4321!

About RCBC:

Founded in 1974, RCBC is Canada's longest serving recycling council, but its mandate extends beyond just recycling. Its primary role: To provide the public with waste reduction options and information in their communities via the Recycling Hotline, BC Recyclepedia, and the Recyclepedia smartphone app.

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