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THE WHOLE TRUTH FROM AN INDEPENDENT PERSPECTIVE from
National Organization Responding Against WUJE that seek to harm the Green Space Industry (NORAHG)

The Wisdom of Lorne Hepworth



Canadian Cancer Society Anti-Pesticide Stance WRONG and MISLEADING

February 17th, 2011

Lorne Hepworth

The Terrace Standard
(British Columbia)

Selected and adapted excerpts



Letter to the Editor

Shame on the Canadian Cancer Society for MISLEADING Terrace residents about urban pest control products.

If the Canadian Cancer Society has information to back up its pest control product claims, it is IRRESPONSIBLY SQUANDERING ITS EFFORTS ON MUNICIPAL CAMPAIGNS.

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*Canadian Cancer Society should
present its « proof » to Health Canada*

Canadian Cancer Society should be presenting « *proof* » to Health Canada, which regulates the products, or to the industry, which runs hundreds of tests on each and every product seeking federal government registration.

What many people don't know is that before any pest control product can be sold in Canada, it must undergo a **RIGOROUS SCIENTIFIC REVIEW** and **RISK ASSESSMENT** by Health Canada.

Through this process, pest control products receive a greater breadth of scrutiny than any other regulated product to ensure they will not harm the health or environment of current or future generations.

Only those products that meet Health Canada's strict health and safety standards are registered for sale and use.

The fact of the matter is, if the concerns raised in the letter were valid, the pest control products that are currently available for use in British Columbia would not have passed through Health Canada's comprehensive review process.

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*The weight of scientific research
PROVES that pest control products
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Furthermore, if the Canadian Cancer Society had even a shred of relevant, compelling information, Health Canada would be all over it.

After all, the health of Canadians is Health Canada's top priority and it is mandated to assess all scientifically-credible evidence available regarding the pest control products it has approved for sale and use.

If the Canadian Cancer Society does know something about the safety of pest control products that the rest of us do not, they have an obligation to bring it to Health Canada so it can be investigated.

As it stands now, the weight of scientific research proves that pest control products can be safely used, and Canadians should feel comfortable if they choose to use them.

Lorne Hepworth

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Dr. Lorne Hepworth is President of CropLife Canada (formerly Crop Protection Institute of Canada) since 1997, as well as its past Vice-President.

CropLife Canada is the trade association representing the manufacturers, developers, and distributors of plant science innovations — pest control products and plant biotechnology — for use in agriculture, urban and public health settings.

Hepworth is chief spokesperson, responsible for overall strategic direction and management.

Hepworth is a member of the Canadian Agri-Food Research Council.

He has served on the federal government's Pest Management Advisory Committee and National Biotechnology Advisory Committee; and chaired CropLife International's Stewardship and Sustainable Agriculture Committee.

Hepworth is a graduate of Western College of Veterinary Medicine at University of Saskatchewan.

He was a veterinarian in Alberta and Saskatchewan until 1982, when he was elected Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Constituency of Weyburn, Saskatchewan.

Hepworth served nine years in the Saskatchewan Cabinet, holding portfolios for Agriculture, Education, Finance, and Energy and Mines.

Hepworth maintains a grain farm near Assiniboia, Saskatchewan.

In Letters to the Editor across Canada, Hepworth has personally spoken out against activists and prohibitions on a very frequent basis.

Here are examples of some of Hepworth's media comments —

« It's a shame that the Ontario government is unwilling to do the hard work of giving due consideration to the many sides of a thorny issue when there is a vocal minority to appease. Such is the case with Ontario's decision to ban pesticide use on lawns and gardens — a decision that is both short-sighted and misguided. »

« [The ...] misleading characterization of the Ontario College of Family Physicians' review of pesticide literature is a disgrace, although it is typical of activist groups, such as the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment, which search far and wide for support of the extreme anti-pesticide position, and yet continue to find themselves unable to point to anything better than the 2004 family physicians' report which is a literature review, not an actual scientific study. »

*Knowledge is
of no value
unless you put it
into practice*

