

# Science lesson

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## **Editor:**

Re: "[B.C. committee rejects pesticide ban](#)," Richmond Review, May 18.

The B.C. Special Committee on Cosmetic Pesticide use should be commended for examining the issue of urban pesticide use so thoroughly.

The committee received 8,675 submissions and held 22 meetings where presentations were made by dozens of witnesses including experts from Health Canada, environmental groups, industry organizations, scientific organizations and academics.

In the end, the committee made 17 recommendations but came to the conclusion that scientific evidence does not warrant preventing British Columbians from buying and using approved pesticides so pesticides should not be banned in B.C.

The committee did its due diligence on this topic and discovered that pesticides in Canada are regulated by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency which employs over 350 scientists who are experts in their field. The review process involves a comprehensive set of 200 tests and a review of all scientifically credible studies that exist to ensure the product will not cause harm to people, animals or the environment.

If the report from the committee had been different and they had instead recommended a ban, the groups that are unhappy with the actual outcome would be commending the government on a thorough process that looked at all available science before making the decision they did.

It's ironic that these same groups only like the "growing and suggestive body of evidence" when it yields the answer they want—fortunately for Canadians science doesn't work that way.

The B.C. Special Committee on Cosmetic Pesticide Use did look at all available science and made the right decision to continue to ensure British Columbians have access to useful tools to protect private and public properties from pests.

**Lorne Hepworth**

**President, CropLife Canada**

## COMMENTS

Dr. Hepworth is Canada's MOST EFFECTIVE and CONSISTENT SPOKESMAN on the subject of public policy and pest control products.

In Letters To The Editor across Canada, Dr. Hepworth has effectively and consistently spoken out against activists and anti-pesticide prohibitions on a very frequent basis.

Dr. Hepworth speaks the truth — and deserves CONGRATULATION.

NORAHG has archived references and reports concerning Dr. Hepworth on The Pesticide Truths Web-Site ...

THE WISDOM OF HEPWORTH, LORNE - THE NATION'S MOST EFFECTIVE AND CONSISTENT SPOKESMAN ( Web-Page )

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-2eG>

NORAHG has also archived information pertaining to The Myths About Anti-Pesticide PROHIBITION ...

MYTH-BUSTING - PESTICIDE BANS - THE MYTHS ABOUT ANTI-PESTICIDE PROHIBITION ( Web-Page )

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-3jm>

WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G

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THE PESTICIDE TRUTHS WEB-SITE

<http://pesticidetruths.com/>

PESTICIDE BANS ARE A FARCE ( Report )

<http://wp.me/p1jq40-4mS>

THE COMPLETE LIBRARY OF REPORTS & REFERENCES

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-2rr>

**Kazimiera J Cottam PhD**

I am retired federal public servant familiar with the pesticide review process in Ottawa. CropLife Canada is a branch of the US CropLife, chemical industry's major lobby group. Predictably, Hepworth praises the Special Committee on Cosmetic Pesticides for listening to and adopting the industry's point of view. Hepworth is full of praise for Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), which has no labs of its own and merely examines data submitted by the industry. The scientists at the PMRA are usually toxicologists (rat specialists). Note that rats have detoxification genes missing in humans. On the other hand, the PMRA is very weak in epidemiology (human studies). Hepworth's view of the role PMRA plays in the pesticide review process is a myth. I see nothing wrong in taking into account "growing and suggestive body of evidence". Being cautious is far more honest than misleading the general public about the true nature of pesticides.

**Norah G Fon ·**

There is NO federal public servant named Cottam. Cottam is part of a group of GHOST-WRITERS who are listed among CANADA'S PROMINENT ANTI-PESTICIDE ACTIVISTS. They have been PRINCIPAL ARCHITECTS in the CONSPIRACY TO PROHIBIT pest control products used in the Urban Landscape. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-46L> Their ANTI-PESTICIDE ACTS OF SUBVERSION have EXTENSIVELY DAMAGED the Professional Lawn Care Industry. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-26P> Are we to believe that an assessment from an ANONYMOUS group of Ghost-Writers is somehow worth more than Health Canada?!?!