

## Pesticide ban a reality for Coquitlam



Coun. Selina Robinson listens to colleague Coun. Terry O'Neill as he speaks against her proposal for a pesticide ban in the city.

JANIS WARREN/THE TRI-CITY NEWS

[Buy The Tri-City News Photos Online](#)

Share this story

By [Janis Warren - The Tri-City News](#)

Published: February 21, 2012 12:00 PM

Updated: February 22, 2012 9:35 AM

Coquitlam is one step away from adopting a pesticide ban, bringing the city in line with many Metro Vancouver municipalities — including all its closest neighbours — that have already outlawed the chemicals.

This week, city council voted 7-2 to give three readings to the Pesticide Use Control Bylaw, a policy that council has [debated](#) for more than three years since Coun. Selina Robinson first brought it forward for public input.

At that time, council voted against her motion, saying enforcement would be difficult and the matter was outside municipal jurisdiction. The topic later returned to the council table and, last year, it was pushed to the newly created environmental advisory committee for consideration.

On Monday, Coun. Lou Sekora reiterated his opposition while Coun. Terry O'Neill gave a passionate speech, arguing that Health Canada continues to support cosmetic pesticides.

O'Neill cited the "precautionary principle," saying that's when people overreact to unscientifically based health and safety issues. He quoted a Vancouver Coastal Health doctor who O'Neill said wrote a letter to Richmond city council saying the "aesthetics of urban landscapes has public health value."

"So we have health benefits associated with the use of cosmetic pesticides," O'Neill said, adding that since Ontario has banned the chemicals, there have been reports of an increase in allergic reactions due to an increase in weeds and pollen.

A flabbergasted Robinson, who said O'Neill's speech of "theatrical histrionics" left her speechless, noted her distrust of Health Canada, which in the past encouraged pregnant women to smoke in their first trimester and to take thalidomide.

She said senior governments have been stalling on the topic of cosmetic pesticide use even though many municipalities across the country have banned them, including nearly 40 in B.C. such as Port Moody (2003), [Port Coquitlam](#) (2011), Burnaby (2008), New Westminster (2009) and Pitt Meadows (2011).

The province, which has the power to prohibit the sale of pesticides in retail stores, "has been striking one committee after another committee after another committee," Robinson said, "and at some point they really have to get the message from the ground up."

"We're not going to be able to ban the sale," Coun. Craig Hodge said, "but, if nothing else has come from the work that Coun. Robinson has done over the last years, I think we have raised awareness... I think we're setting an example. We're showing some leadership. I think at the end of the day, citizens are going to make a conscious decision whether they're going to follow the bylaw."

Final adoption of the pesticide use bylaw is expected next month.

[jwarren@tricitynews.com](mailto:jwarren@tricitynews.com)

#### PESTICIDE BYLAW POINTS

- Bans the use of non-excluded pesticides to maintain outdoor trees, shrubs, flowers, other ornamental plants or turf on private residential and city land
- Stores that sell pesticides must post information about the bylaw at the point of sale
- The bylaw does not apply to excluded pesticides in the B.C. Integrated Pest Management Regulation; management of a pest that transmits a human or animal disease or affects farming or forestry; buildings or inside buildings; and the use of a biological control to eradicate a pest
- Repeat violators will be fined \$300.

FEBRUARY 21ST AND 22nd, 2012.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR — MEDIA RELEASE.

RESPONSE TO COQUITLAM CITY COUNCIL.

THE TRI-CITY NEWS.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

PROHIBITION IS NOT NECESSARY.

City of Coquitlam is moving towards the NEEDLESS, SENSELESS, and MALICIOUS PROHIBITION against pest control products used in the Urban Landscape.

In fact, pest control products that are HEALTH-CANADA-APPROVED, FEDERALLY-LEGAL, SCIENTIFICALLY-SAFE, and PRACTICALLY-NON-TOXIC.

Anti-Pesticide Councillor and Therapist Selina Robinson, and her buddies, have been PERPETUATING NOTHING BUT MYTHS regarding the need for PROHIBITION.

For more information concerning MYTHS ABOUT PROHIBITION, go to the following web-page...

...

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

ANY PROHIBITION of pest control products is NOT supported by health and policy experts, and is not supported by local residents.

Scientific research shows, as reported through Health Canada's vast toxicology database, that NO harm will occur when pesticides are used according to label directions.

If/when Coquitlam IMPOSES Anti-Pesticide PROHIBITION, it will have done so in DEFIANCE of Health Canada's ASSESSMENTS proving that pest control products are SCIENTIFICALLY-SAFE... a process that can take up to TEN YEARS and COST HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS.

City of Coquitlam DID NOT SPEND ANY MONEY on the ASSESSMENT of pest control products.

Health Canada, and NOT Coquitlam, and NOT Anti-Pesticide Activists like Robinson, has THE ESSENTIAL EXPERTISE on the subject of pest control products.

Overall, when pest control products are used properly, there are NO harmful irreversible effects to health and the environment!

There is NOT ONE KNOWN ILLNESS or DEATH from the proper use of pest control products used in the Urban Landscape.

According to Dr. Leonard Ritter, the nation's LEADING EXPERT in the field of toxicology and pesticide safety, pest control products DO NOT CAUSE CANCER, and there is NO increase in cancer deaths in Canada when you consider that the population is aging and

increasing.

For more information about CANCER, go to the following web-page...

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

The Fraser Institute, one of the top 25 leading think-tanks in the world, has said that the proposed bans ILL-CONCEIVED, and do NOT accurately reflect the current state of scientific knowledge.

For more information about THE FRASER INSTITUTE, go to the following web-page...

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

A recent poll conducted by Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association showed that the vast majority of residents are OPPOSED to PROHIBITION, and they actually favour the continued use of these products around their homes and in public green spaces.

For more information about CANADIAN CONSUMER SPECIALTY PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION, go to the following web-page...

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

Moreover, Canadian Cancer Society's own web-site states that scientific research does NOT provide a conclusive link between pesticides and human cancer.

## EXCEPTION STATUS

If/when Coquitlam IMPOSES Anti-Pesticide PROHIBITION, it may wish to consider providing an EXCEPTION STATUS to ALL CERTIFIED APPLICATORS, including those in the Professional Lawn Care Industry.

EXCEPTION STATUSES have been adopted in jurisdictions like Kamloops, Kelowna, and Salmon Arm, where Government Officials have left pest control products in the hands of professionally-trained applicators.

Without EXCEPTION STATUSES, Anti-Pesticide PROHIBITION has led to CATASTROPHIC CARNAGE for businesses operating in the Professional Lawn Care Industry.

For more information about CARNAGE, go to the following web-page...

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-26P>

« ENGAGING » COLLEAGUES.

According to Anti-Pesticide Councillor and Therapist Selina Robinson, her TENACITY on the issue of PROHIBITION was achieved by « engaging my colleagues in discussion ».

AUDIO RECORDINGS of presentations made by Robinson, and her buddies, paint a picture of SCREECHING MONKEYS who will SAY ANYTHING TO GET THEIR WAY.

Robinson's strategy of « engaging » her colleagues on City Council basically amounted to COERCION, INTIMIDATION, SCREECHING, and TERRORIZING.

Selina Robinson, and her buddies Mae Burrows and Ashley Duyker, are Non-Expert Anti-Pesticide Activists who are SUPPORTED, FINANCIALLY OR OTHERWISE, by Canadian Cancer Society and Toxic Free Canada.

These organizations are FUND-RAISING, LOBBYING, and PROFIT-ACCUMULATING organizations that have NO expertise in science or research.

Robinson and her buddies could DO NOTHING ELSE but MIS-INFORM Coquitlam City Council since NONE OF THEM are COMPETENT to talk about pest control products.

For more information about AUDIO RECORDINGS, go to the following web-page, and look under the title PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, COQUITLAM, CITY OF...

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

For more information about SCREECHING MONKEYS, go to the following web-page...

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

TENACITY AND PROFIT.

On the issue of PROHIBITION, the TENACITY of Anti-Pesticide Councillor and Therapist Selina Robinson was most likely achieved through PROFIT.

The ultimate winners of this debacle in Coquitlam are the Anti-Pesticide Activists themselves, who BENEFIT from PAY-OFF PROGRAMS provided by Canadian Cancer Society.

Activists operating with Canadian Cancer Society receive PAY-OFFS in the form of an INCENTIVE OF 2,000 DOLLARS by for the ORGANIZATION of EVERY Anti-Pesticide Forum.

Anti-Pesticide Activists also receive PAY-OFFS in the form of BONUS OF 1,000 DOLLARS by Canadian Cancer Society FOR EVERY PRESENTATION MADE TO EACH MUNICIPAL TOWN COUNCIL.

Ultimately, they will be given a BOUNTY OF 5,000 DOLLARS by Canadian Cancer Society upon SUCCESSFUL PROHIBITION LEGISLATION by City of Coquitlam.

For more information about CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY, go to the following web-pages...

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-1OW>

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-2I8>

IT IS TIME TO INVESTIGATE ROBINSON.

Perhaps it is time for Coquitlam City Council to DEMAND copies of Selina Robinson's TAX-RECORDS for the last three years, which covers the period of time that she was operating as a LOBBYIST for Canadian Cancer Society.

Moreover, taxation agencies should be contacted to VERIFY whether Robinson is declaring her income as a LOBBYIST for Canadian Cancer Society.

For more information about COMPLAINT CHANNELS and TAXATION AGENCIES, go to the following web-page...

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-1PE>

WARNING TO ACTIVISTS.

Anti-Pesticide Activists and Government Officials are advised that all names, statements, activities, and affiliations have been ARCHIVED for eventual CRIMINAL CHARGES.

When criminal charges for FRAUD and CONSPIRACY are laid, legal experts say that there is sufficient information to lead to a SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTION!

WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G.

NORAHG is the National Organization Responding Against HUJE that seek to harm the Green space industry.

<http://pesticidetruths.com/toc>

