

The Province

'It's a shell game': critics say B.C.'s rules on cosmetic pesticides are looking pretty lame

BY JENNIFER SALTMAN, THE PROVINCE JANUARY 11, 2015

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This March 22, 2014 photo shows a ladybug on a residential property in Langley, Wash. Many gardeners use pesticides — organic or otherwise — only as a last resort. Premier Christy Clark promised a ban on cosmetic pesticides in 2011, but little has happened since, critics point out.

Photograph by: Dean Fosdick , AP Photo

Despite B.C.'s reputation as a "green" province, environmental groups say that its rules governing cosmetic pesticide-use are weak and do little to protect the public.

"It's really disappointing and even surprising that B.C. finds itself among the laggards on this file," said Lisa Gue, senior researcher and analyst with the David Suzuki Foundation.

Unfortunately, she said, the province's "laggard" status won't change when new provincial regulations for pesticide-use are introduced sometime this year.

"Frankly, what B.C. is proposing misses the mark," said Gue. "It's too little as well as too late."

For a number of years, there has been widespread support in B.C. for a provincewide ban on cosmetic pesticides.

In 2008 and 2009, delegates to the Union of B.C. Municipalities twice voted in favour of resolutions calling on the government to ban the use and sale of cosmetic pesticides. Over the years, more than 40 municipalities have implemented their own bylaws governing cosmetic pesticides.

A poll conducted on behalf of the Canadian Cancer Society in 2010 showed that more than 70 per cent of British Columbians supported provincial legislation to restrict pesticide use.

However, the issue got a lot of attention in February 2011 when Premier Christy Clark said during her bid for the Liberal leadership that she wanted a ban on cosmetic pesticides.

"These dangerous pesticides are proven to increase the likelihood of childhood cancer and other illnesses, and have no place near our homes," she said in a campaign statement.

"I don't want to see my son playing on a lawn with toxic pesticides. I don't want to see anyone's child playing on a lawn with toxic pesticides."

She said that she wanted to want a bipartisan committee to look at the issue.

In November of that year, 22 health and environmental organizations called for a provincewide ban on lawn and garden pesticides.

The Special Committee on Cosmetic Pesticides released a report in May 2012, concluding that regulations restricting the use of cosmetic pesticides should be tightened, but there was not enough evidence to support an outright ban on the sale of pesticides.

The response from environmental and health organizations was immediate and critical.

“If these recommendations become law, they will not protect all children in B.C. from being exposed to unnecessary chemicals and possible carcinogens,” Barbara Kaminsky, CEO of the Canadian Cancer Society, B.C. and Yukon, said at the time.

“We waited years for the B.C. government to follow the lead of other provinces and B.C. municipalities, and this is the result? The report was slow in coming and is weak in content. It is disappointing overall.”

The proposed revisions to [the Integrated Pest Management Regulations](#) include: Requiring a licence in order to apply most pesticides in private landscaped areas; requiring licence holders to employ trained pesticide applicators and practise integrated pest management; notifying residents when pesticides are used on private landscaped areas; and developing a list of pesticides considered safe for use by people who don't have a licence.

Municipalities and First Nations with law-making authority can opt out of the requirement for a licence to apply pesticides to private residential properties, except multi-residence properties.

Pesticide Free BC has called B.C.'s approach one of the weakest in Canada, and Gue agreed.

“The real concern is these measures are not designed to reduce the use of cosmetic pesticides or reduce the exposure to these chemicals,” she said. “It's a shell game. It's just changing who will be applying them.”

Andrew Gage, staff counsel at West Coast Environmental Law, said there is no evidence that such regulations reduce levels of pesticide use.

“Our position has always been that a ban protects the public interest better, the public health better, and is easier to administer and enforce than the licence-based regulations the province is proposing,” said Gage. “It just makes more sense.”

The Ministry of Environment said in an email that it is currently taking into consideration the feedback it received from the public in late 2013 and is still determining its final policy approach.

The regulatory changes are expected to come into effect sometime later this year.

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<http://www.theprovince.com/technology/rules+cosmetic+pesticides+looking+pretty+lame/10720177/story.html>

NORAHG RESPONDS AGAINST LAME ACTIVISTS WITH CLEAR VESTED INTERESTS - BC IS PART OF THE NORTH AMERICAN TREND

What is TOTALLY LAME is that the Province article quotes ABSOLUTELY NO ONE who has ANY competence, expertise, training, or background in matters concerning pest control products. All of these activists represent organizations that possess CLEAR VESTED INTERESTS in CONSPIRING to PROHIBIT against pest control products. They have MERCILESSLY TERRORIZED, BASELESSLY SMEARED, FALSELY ACCUSED, GROTESQUELY PUNISHED, INNOCENTLY CONVICTED, SHAMELESSLY PERSECUTED, and WRONGFULLY DEPRIVED those DECENT AND TAX-PAYING PEOPLE relying upon businesses in the Professional Lawn Care Industry.

Canadian Cancer Society has officially and publicly stated repeatedly that scientific research does not provide a conclusive link between pest control products and cancer, on the following dates • August 21st, 2008 • November 2nd, 2009 • March 8th, 2010 • June 9th, 2012 • January 29th, 2013. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-4qC> What is Canadian Cancer Society's problem ?!?!?! Why is Canadian Cancer Society wasting everybody's time on the issue of pest control products ?

The trend continues against pesticide bans in British Columbia (BC), and across North America. British Columbia granted an exception status to

businesses operating in the professional lawn care and golf industries. Only specially-trained experts working within these industries are permitted to use pest control products in the urban landscape. The government of British Columbia made the right choice, and deserves congratulation. The government's decision was based upon the work of one of its special committees. On May 17th, 2012, British Columbia's Special Committee On Cosmetic Pesticides stopped the trend towards needless, senseless, and malicious prohibition. The Special Committee announced that it would not recommend prohibition against pest control products used in the urban landscape. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-2c2> British Columbia's decision confirms that the public rejects prohibition. This public attitude was also confirmed in a recent poll conducted by Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association (CCSPA). <http://wp.me/p1jq40-2bo> The poll confirmed that the vast majority of residents in British Columbia are opposed to the prohibition. The only people who want prohibition are a small group of activists with vested interests in concocting imaginary danger against pest control products. Moreover, there are dozens of jurisdictions that are stopping or rescinding or limiting anti-pesticide prohibition, or granting professional lawn care businesses with an exception status — Alberta (Province), Altona (Manitoba), Ashland (Oregon), Beaumont (Alberta), British Columbia (Province), Calgary (Alberta), Campbell River (British Columbia), Chicago (Illinois), Durango (Colorado), Edmonton (Alberta), Everett (Washington), Guelph (Ontario), Guelph-Eramosa (Ontario), Kamloops (British Columbia), Kelowna (British Columbia), Merritt (British Columbia), New Brunswick (Province), Newfoundland & Labrador (Province), Port Alberni (British Columbia), Portage La Prairie (Manitoba), Quebec (Prohibition Invalidated When Lawsuit Defeated Ban), Regina (Saskatchewan), Rossland (British Columbia), Salmon Arm (British Columbia), Scarborough (Maine), Saint John's (Newfoundland & Labrador), Steinbach (Manitoba), Stuartburn (Manitoba), Vernon (British Columbia), Winkler (Manitoba). <http://wp.me/P1jq40-1JO> The trends against pesticide bans continue. No one can afford this #@!!% nonsense !

There is NO RECOURSE but OFFICIAL COMPLAINTS AND LITIGATION against Environmental & Anti-Pesticide Organizations like Canadian Cancer Society. They DO NOT DESERVE ANY DONATIONS OR SUPPORT. Nor do they deserve any TAX-EXEMPT status. They DO deserve to FACE THE SPOTLIGHT OF SCRUTINY and TERROR OF THE COURTS ! To COMPLAIN about Canadian Cancer Society and their co-conspirators, go to the following web-page ... <http://wp.me/P1jq40-1PE>

We are the National Organization Responding Against HUJE that seek to destroy the Green space and other industries (NORAH G). We are dedicated to reporting PESTICIDE FREE FAILURES, as well as the work of

RESPECTED and HIGHLY RATED EXPERTS who promote ENVIRONMENTAL REALISM and PESTICIDE TRUTHS. Get the latest details at

<http://pesticidetruths.com/> <http://pesticidetruths.com/toc/>

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-2rr> <https://www.facebook.com/norah.gfon> WILLIAM

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