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Debate on cosmetic pesticide ban to start in two weeks



JUNE 12, 2012

BY MICHELE YOUNG DAILY NEWS STAFF REPORTER

City council will debate whether to ban cosmetic pesticides from all lawns within Kamloops in two weeks.

Coun. Donovan Cavers gave a notice of motion for the prohibition Tuesday afternoon, not long after council heard from a representative of the Canadian Cancer Society, which is lobbying for pesticide bans across the country.

Cavers's motion says the ban would "prohibit the use of cosmetic pesticides on all lawns within municipal boundaries as of Jan. 1, 2013."

It also calls for the City to provide residents with a list of less hazardous pesticides that would be allowable.

It will be brought forward for discussion on June 25.

Jerilynn Maki, health promotion co-ordinator for the Canadian Cancer Society in the Southern Interior, told council more than 100 studies have linked pesticide exposure to various cancers, including leukemia, non-Hodgkins lymphoma, brain, kidney, prostate and pancreatic cancers.

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Should Kamloops seek permission from the provincial government to ban plastic bags?

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"We want a prohibit on cosmetic pesticides."

Children are particularly vulnerable, she said.

"Cancers develop as people get older," she said.

"From our society's point of view, we're requesting strong legislation that would allow municipal governments to still have pesticide bylaws."

The society is supported in its anti-pesticide efforts by such groups as the B.C. Lung Association, Greenpeace, David Suzuki Foundation, Canadian Institute for Child Health, Interior Health, the Canadian Medical Association and the pediatric department at the University of B.C.'s medical school.

In addition to cancer, pesticides can cause learning disabilities, birth defects and acute chemical sensitivities, said Maki.

Plus there are impacts on the environment and wildlife.

"We see it as an unnecessary risk. We don't believe its necessary to apply these chemicals."

While Kamloops has pesticide restrictions, and only allows licenced applicators to use them, it's still more use than the cancer society would like, she said.

Maki said the society would like Kamloops to be on a list with other B.C. cities that have banned all cosmetic pesticides.

"Any use is not necessary. It doesn't matter if its used to the manufacturer's instructions, these chemicals are still being used. We're saying don't use them."

Council voted to send a letter of thanks to Maki for her presentation.

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Vuse

Our society is often to quick to jump on the ban-wagon. Toronto wants to ban plastic bags, bullets, large size soft drinks, and large sized popcorn and asked that the rest of Canad follow suit.

If you have children or pets it's best to use non-toxic pesticides.

1 day ago 1 Like Like Reply

Richard Clarkson, I am retired scientist, federal public servant

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My friend, the EnviroEd, to the rescue of truth and credibility! First, I didn't "promote" myself as a scientist. It was Disqus that describes me in this manner. I happened to have had expertise in military matters and dealt with highly technical and scientific material pertaining to military intelligence. So get lost and get off my back for good.

1 day ago Like Reply



WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE & NORAH G, WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE A...

Clarkson is part of a group known AS COTTAM GHOST-WRITERS, which is merely an ANONYMOUS CONDUIT for Anti-Pesticide Activists like Gideon Forman, Meg Sears, Jean Sergent, and Richard Clarkson. Cottam Ghost-Writers often give themselves a PLETHORA OF CONCOCTED TITLES, such as doctor, federal public servant, high-ranking civil servant, honorary observer, intelligence analyst, PhD, retired deputy chief of a military intelligence section, or retired scientist — NONE OF WHICH ARE TRUE OR PERTINENT. NONE of the Cottam Ghost-Writers has ANY recognized training, education, or credentials in matters concerning pest control products. Are we to believe that an assessment from an ANONYMOUS Ghost-Writer is somehow worth more than Health Canada ?!?! <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2V6>

0 minutes ago in reply to Richard Clarkson Edit Reply



nofabians

Quick google search reveals one SEO result on this name. Ex-spook you may or may not be; current troll you are for sure.

1 day ago in reply to Richard Clarkson Like Reply



EnviroEd

Yeah, okay. Disqus writes your bio, sure.

1 day ago in reply to Richard Clarkson Like Reply



EnviroEd

Could someone clarify what the debate is really about? Is it about the product or the necessity of use?

1 day ago Like Reply



Richard Clarkson, I am retired scientist, federal public servant

GenghisKan: City Councils are at the bottom of the political totem pole--they cannot ban Conservatives. In fact, most of them are conservatives. I am a former Progressive Conservative but I have no use whatsoever for the current type of federal Conservatives--they are bad for Canada.

2 days ago Like Reply



EnviroEd

Oh so now your a Scientist? Come on, you have a PhD in Russian and East European history. Hardly a Scientist!

1 day ago in reply to Richard Clarkson Like Reply



Richard Clarkson, I am retired scientist, federal public servant

Pothead 99: Everything you list should be banned! Certainly smoking should--it's harmful. But we have done quite a bit to prevent non-smokers from being exposed. This is the crux of the problem: if people want to harm themselves that's one thing but harming others is criminal. Second-hand pesticides are crux of the problem. If my neighbour sprays his yard his poisons contaminate my body and my drinking water.

Nofabians: GMO beans cannot be organic! No GMO item is organic. You are saying nonsense by distinguishing pesticides and herbicides as if they were two different chemicals. "Pesticides" is a general category including all the "cides": Pesticides means: herbicides, insecticides, algaecides, fungicides, rodenticides, etc.

2 days ago

Like Reply



pothead99

if they ban pesticides because they can cause cancer, the city council has the duty to ban all other cancer causing products, such as tobacco, diesel, laundry soap, household cleaners, makeup and hair dye, hot dogs and milk

2 days ago 1 Like

Like Reply



Richard Clarkson, I am retired scientist, federal public servant

Nofabians blames pesticide applicators for creating a myth that pesticides are highly toxic when applied by homeowners instead of professionals. The myth is supposedly intended to persuade homeowners to refrain from spraying pesticides themselves and instead hire professional applicators. All this is highly far-fetched. It is independent scientists who determine the toxicity of pesticides. Yes, there is such a thing as independent science and there are reliable science-based and pesticide-related data.

2 days ago

Like Reply



GenghisKan

I read recently that you are from Ottawa. Is there anything in the works with the Ottawa's city council to ban conservatives from entering and working in your city?

No, I am deadly serious. If you think that "cosmetic" pesticide/herbicide use is bad for Canadians then you must agree that the conservatives (in their present form) are going to be twice (or more) as bad for the health and well-being of the average Canadian citizen.

If Ottawa's city council bans them, they can't go to work therefore saving us!

Ok, that was just a thought, but semi-seriously, do I have a point?

2 days ago in reply to Richard Clarkson

Like Reply



Livin in the Loops

No.

2 days ago in reply to GenghisKan

Like Reply

Richard Clarkson, I am retired scientist, federal public servant



 Without a doubt, some people are simply in love with pesticides--they are mesmerized by them and would start kissing them if it were convenient and possible. On a more serious note, we have a very strong pesticide lobby in the U.S. and Canada and some gullible people, including prominent politicians, are conditioned to consider pesticides, safe, wonderful, God's gift to the Creation, etc., etc. Some tell us that the problem stems from pesticides being used incorrectly. Supposedly, pesticides are simply wonderful when used correctly and terrible when used incorrectly. In other words we are being fed utter baloney! Pesticides are toxic period, whether applied correctly or incorrectly. Applying pesticides correctly protects only the applicator from ingesting, inhaling, etc. of the pesticide he or she applies. The comparison with incorrect use of milk is just as phony. It is not the incorrect use of milk that causes harm, it is whether this is cow's milk and includes lactose, etc. I am allergic to milk so I drink organic soya milk rather than cow's milk. It seems that the issue of pesticides brings the worse and the most irrational in people. I just love being told that pesticides are harmless in comparison with gravel, salt, aspirine, etc. Perhaps no other product has ever resulted in such a lack of logic on the part of certain rather gullible people.

2 days ago

Like Reply

**nofabians**

So Mr. Retired Bureaucrat, do some research of phyto-estrogens and male health. When you've completed that project check out what "ORGANIC" as per federal regulation actually means and then question how in hell GMO soya beans can be organic.

While you're at it stop obfuscating, there is a significant difference between herbicides and pesticides. If there wasn't my lawn would die when I applied herbicides.

2 days ago in reply to Richard Clarkson

Like Reply

Parklover1

There is no question that you can prove that almost anything is toxic if used incorrectly. Some people suffer from a lactose intolerance but most of us drink milk without problems. If you have an allergy to a pesticide you should not use or come in contact with it....common sense I would suggest. A lot of products on the market today and in regular use by the vast majority of the population are more toxic than most pesticides which would be available for use for cosmetic purposes. Salt, gravel, caffeine, nicotine, codeine, aspirin, gasoline to name a few are much more toxic than 2,4-D, Glyphosate, dicamba again to name a few. The EPA (regulatory body in the USA) and the Province of Quebec (the first jurisdiction in Canada to make the cosmetic use of pesticides illegal) have both recently said that there is record of human health issues caused by 2,4-D when used according to label instructions. Label instructions are very extensive but easy to understand.

I am a licenced pesticide user (not seller) and have been for 40 years. I have used herbicides, fungicides, miticides, rodenticides, and insecticides. I have used them on public property (with permission) and I feel fine (70 now) and have never had a complaint from anyone about what I was doing. Now the kicker.....EACH AND EVERYTIME I USED A PCP PRODUCT I WOULD READ THE LABEL – not simply the first time I used any product – I said EVERY time and every time I followed the instructions to the letter. If you are a user who simply pours some in the sprayer and believe that more is better then you should not use pesticides. If you do it like I do it then it is OK to use pesticides for cosmetic purposes and Mr. Covers and the Canadian Cancer Society and every other person out there who does not know what "PCP" or what "LD-50" stands for should do a little more study on this subject.



2 days ago 2 Likes

Like Reply

**nofabians**

I would strongly suggest the Canadian Cancer Society focus their resources on the elephants in their living room and take on High Fructose Corn Syrup, mandatory GMO content labling and artificial sweeteners...or, would that impact funding from their money pipeline?

There are tens of thousands of well designed studies that clearly demonstrate the efficacy and safety of non-chemo, non-cut and burn cancer treatments yet the Cancer Society buries it head in the sand an denies the studies, or dismisses them.

Despite the overwhelming good intentions of "civilians" who contribute to their cause, the Cancer Society remains the captive attack dog of their corporate masters and the closed club oncology/radiology community.

To imply that a two or three time per year application of consumer purchased broad leaf weed herbicides to lawns, at parts per million concentrations is a health risk, when we have six or seven decades of real world data that proves the risk is on the same order as being struck by lightning defies logic and common sense.

The truth of the matter is the multi-billion dollar cancer industry needs scape goats to blame their staggering multi-decadal failure on and the low hanging fruit of cosmetic herbicides is a convenient target.

Useful idiots in the "green movement" are merely an easily bamboozled pressure group to harness for their continued agenda of extremely profitable failure.

2 days ago 4 Likes

Like Reply

**Pierre Filisetti**

Your analysis on the Canadian Cancer Society may indeed, have some merits.

The problem with pesticides/herbicide is not the single use is the compounded effect of many, many little doses. Furthermore they effects do not stop with you (the user) they easily "creep" into everybody else "space".

"Cancer" comes in many forms and from many places.

A wholesome, healthy lifestyle of moderation, proper eating, exercise and limiting exposure to harmful substances like pesticides/herbicides will lessen the chances of contracting it.

I do not need the Canadian Cancer Society to tell me that.

And a hint on a discussion we should have soon. Limiting fossil fuel burning (i.e. driving unnecessarily large vehicles, especially diesel) should also be implemented.

2 days ago in reply to nofabians 1 Like

Like Reply

nofabians

The sad reality is the commercial applicators' lobbyists, in a classic rent seeking tactic, created a false perception of potential harm from non-professional use, to feather their nests. They foolishly trusted their advisors and to their dismay discovered they couldn't put the genie back in the bottle once uncorked. The "problem" was always a commercial tactic to selectively enrich a special few, it was never a serious problem. (I am only referring to herbicides here, I am not well informed about pesticides, but will

unequivocally state that insect crop predation has led to millions upon millions of deaths from starvation.)

2 days ago in reply to Pierre Filisetti 1 Like

Like Reply



Pierre Filisetti

There is definitely some truth to your statement. The soccer game is about to start. I will hopefully feel to write a more in depth response a little later.

2 days ago in reply to nofabians

Like Reply



nofabians

I'm beginning to understand...don't know if it's 16:9 ratio, or HD, but I've watched the Italy/Spain and Poland/Russia matches and just been amazed at the excitement and skill...it really is a beautiful sport...I'm guessing the pitches are weed free :)

2 days ago in reply to Pierre Filisetti

Like Reply



shanerloops

The alternatives have yet to be commercialized and cancers have yet to be derived from them. Motion a genetic harness from which cancer stems from Council. It's not in anything used but more what your not used to using. Call it, Evolution. Asses.

2 days ago 2 Likes

Like Reply



Grouchy1

HUH ???

2 days ago in reply to shanerloops 3 Likes

Like Reply



Pierre Filisetti

Second that.

2 days ago in reply to Grouchy1 1 Like

Like Reply



Guest

Comment removed.

2 days ago in reply to Grouchy1 3 Likes

Like



Pierre Filisetti



You need some fresh air.

2 days ago in reply to Guest 1 Like

Like Reply

Dale Danielson, I enjoy thought and dialogue. I encourage you to engage in bo...

"It also calls for the City to provide residents with a list of less hazardous pesticides that would be allowable."

Remarkable! They state what their concern is, why it is so, and offer a means to provide alternatives. Support is being given by bodies that substantiate with great credibility. What more could possibly be desired?

It's even being debated to communicate this information. Well done! You have my support thoroughly.

2 days ago 4 Likes

Like Reply



Pierre Filisetti

"It also calls for the City to provide residents with a list of less hazardous pesticides that would be allowable."

The list of less hazardous pesticide at the very top should say in big bold letters: Embrace diversity, never mind the weeds!

2 days ago in reply to Dale Danielson 4 Likes

Like Reply



WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE & NORAH G, WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NOR...

A Mere 100 Undisclosed Studies ?!?!?! Jerilynn Maki and Canadian Cancer Society have NO CREDIBLE EXPERTISE. Maki and Canadian Cancer Society ALLEGE having A MERE 100 UNDISCLOSED, NON-EXISTENT AND UNVERIFIABLE SECRET EVIDENCE about the safety of pest control products. How could this Anti-Pesticide Organization obtain studies that have somehow been withheld from the entire world ? Moreover, pest control products like 2,4-D Herbicide have been the subject of over 40,000 STUDIES. 40,000 ! Canadian Cancer Society has STATED REPEATEDLY that scientific research does NOT provide a conclusive link between pest control products and cancer. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-4qC> What is their problem ?!?!?! Why is Canadian Cancer Society WASTING EVERYBODY'S TIME on the issue of pest control products ? Canadian Cancer Society is a FUND-RAISING, PROFIT-SEEKING, and LOBBYING organization, and NOT a science, research, or health organization. Health Canada, and NOT Canadian Cancer Society, has THE ESSENTIAL EXPERTISE on the subject of pest control products.

0 minutes ago

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