

Yes to pesticide ban

By: [Kamloops This Week](#) in [Letters](#), [Opinion](#) June 17, 2015 [6 Comments](#) 213 Views

Editor:

Below are just some of the important reasons Kamloops' new pesticide ban should be adopted.

UBC School of Population and Public Health wrote a letter to the B.C. members of the Legislative Assembly. It stated, "I am writing in support of the need for strong pesticide legislation in British Columbia.

"As professor and Canadian Cancer Society chair in cancer primary prevention, my role includes evaluating the research evidence regarding factors that increase the risk of cancer. Cosmetic pesticides are among these risks."

In a report by the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment, they mention a study published in the official journal of the Canadian Paediatric Society.

It "found that 2,4-D — the most commonly used weed killer in Canada — is linked to cancers, neurological impairment and reproductive problems."

The Ontario College of Family Physicians' landmark study concluded, "Pesticides are associated with some extremely serious illnesses — especially in children."

The OCFP found children exposed to insecticides and herbicides used on lawns and gardens had an increased risk of leukemia, a form of cancer.

Dr. Margaret Sanborn of McMaster University stated,

"Many of the health problems linked with pesticide use are serious and difficult to treat."

Many studies reviewed by the Ontario College show positive associations between solid tumours and pesticide exposure, including brain cancer, prostate cancer, kidney cancer and pancreatic cancer, among others.

In a *Globe and Mail* article, the Ontario College of Family Physicians mentioned 12,000 studies that were conducted worldwide.

The researchers found “there is no evidence that some pesticides are less dangerous than others, just that they have different effects on health that take different periods to show up.”

Interior Health wrote, “The risks to public health posed by pesticide use in urban environments has been the subject of several reviews in recent years, most notable the City of Toronto health department, the College of Family Physicians of Ontario and some U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reviews.

“These reviews highlight the debate in the scientific community regarding the potential health risks associated with exposures to commonly available household pesticides.

“It is reasonable to encourage government jurisdiction to apply a precautionary approach for ensuring the health of the population they serve and as a risk management strategy.

“The precautionary principle states that the absence of scientific certainty should not be used as a reason to postpone or negate action when faced with a potential health hazard. With this in mind, and the studies noted above which suggest reason for concern, IH encourages actions to prevent potential adverse health effects from household pesticide exposures in urban settings.”

There is so much more material I could add, but I think the people of Kamloops realize the importance of having a ban in place. The majority of the population wants it.

I hope our mayor and council will adopt this new bylaw in July and lead all of us into a new healthier future. Please let our council know that you want the ban.

In closing, I'd like to share 3 quotes :

“Our generation has taken to the cosmetic use of pesticides and I think, perhaps unwittingly, not fully understanding the dangers it represents to ourselves and, most importantly, to our children. It's the right of kids to play in the grass . . . without compromising their health.” — Dalton McGuinty

“People who wouldn't dream of abusing a child think nothing of giving their children and grandchildren an environment that has been abused.”—Richard J. Jackson M.D., M.P.H., director, National Center for Environmental Health, Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, U.S.

"We find it strange that anyone would be opposed to protecting the air, water, land and biodiversity that we need for our health and survival."— David Suzuki Foundation

Please let our Council know that you want the ban.

Thank you.

D. Czyzewski

Kamloops

9 COMMENTS

1. *Linda Davidson*

June 17, 2015 at 8:24 pm

Thank you D. Czyzewski for this well written, intelligent and informed letter. The continued contamination of our environment with toxic chemicals that serve no useful purpose must end. Cosmetic Pesticides have been banned in Quebec, Ontario, and BC will hopefully follow. Sri Lanka, France, the Netherlands, have banned glyphosate and next Brazil. I hope that the dandelion haters will take some time and think about what you have said, and maybe do a little research.

86

14 Votes

Reply

o *WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G*

June 19, 2015 at 6:31 pm

Your comment is awaiting moderation.

TO LINDA DAVIDSON — Your prayers have been answered. Scientific research shows that, as reported through EPA's and Health Canada's vast toxicology database, NO harm will occur when pest control products are applied properly in the urban landscape. There is NO health risk associated with the proper application of pest control products. The risk assessment of pest control products indicates that they are practically-non-toxic. Consequently, it is a fact that pest control products will cause NO harm, including chronic effects such as cancer. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2nl> There are NO pest control products that are known or probable carcinogens. All pesticides have been evaluated for their carcinogenic potential. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-6yf>

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2. *Les Evens*

June 17, 2015 at 9:51 pm

Stated: The Ontario College of Family Physicians' landmark study concluded, "Pesticides are associated with some extremely serious illnesses — especially in children."

There you go for those of you that don't agree and may? think that pesticides are as safe or safer than table salt.

And please don't say the Ontario College of Family Physicians are not qualified to make the above statements. If so? good luck with that

108

18 Votes

Reply

o *AjaxFax*

June 18, 2015 at 5:56 am

Les, I find your ability to place Physicians on a pedestal of omnipotent knowledge when they share your point of view quite entertaining. Yet, when local Dr's try to inform the public about the respiratory damages caused by the environmental externalities of open pit mining you protest that they are unqualified. You seem confused or unwilling to think critically about the role of Doctors in public health and education as do the most vociferous of Ajax supporters, but I do appreciate the irony particularly as it underscores the Ajax debate.

Ah well, at least you haven't tried to convince us that pm 2.5 is as benign as table salt – yet – but I suppose there is still time for that.

56

11 Votes

Reply

▪ *WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G*

June 19, 2015 at 6:26 pm

Your comment is awaiting moderation.

TO AJAXFAX — Physicians have absolutely NO expertise, NO training, and NO background in matters concerning pest control products.

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Reply

o *jason*

June 18, 2015 at 7:56 am

Les – I totally agree with you. When the Drs and the public health officers speak out, we should listen. What I don't understand is why you would listen to them on this issue, but argue against them regarding Ajax. There are children in Aberdeen and Sahali, Les. We should protect them from the harmful effects of environmental pollution, whether it is mining related or pesticide related. And, when we actually had a medical officer of health he actually tried to have the Ajax assessment process halted as he thought it constituted a public health hazard: <http://www.kphe.ca/Full-Text-DrBarss-email-June212012.pdf>

85

13 Votes

Reply

▪ *WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G*

June 19, 2015 at 6:24 pm

Your comment is awaiting moderation.

TO JASON — Activists Jason and AHHH (a.k.a. politician Donovan Cavers or a fanatical member of his Green Party entourage) are NOT scientists and are NOT a researchers. There are NO anti-pesticide activists who are scientists or researchers with credentials in the field of pest control products. They are THE LEAST QUALIFIED TO PROVIDE ANY ADVICE about pest control products. ANY PROHIBITION against pest control products is NOT supported by any of North America's respected and highly rated scientific and policy experts. They have THE recognized expertise, training and background in

matters concerning pest control products. The following LEADING EXPERTS have recognized expertise, training and background in matters concerning pest control products. These EXPERTS have publicly stated, in one form or another, that pest control products are SCIENTIFICALLY-SAFE • Dr Bruce Nathan AMES • Dr Josh BLOOM • Mr Steven E BOULTBEE • Mr Nigel BOWLES • Dr Bruce BRANHAM • Mr Rob BREAKENRIDGE • Dr James S BUS • Mr Doug CHORNEY • MPP Ted CHUDLEIGH • Ms Jacquie DOHERTY • Dr William Richard Shaboe DOLL • Juris Dr Paul K DRIESSEN • Mr Art C DRYSDALE • Dr J Gordon EDWARDS • Dr Allan S FELSOT • Dr Ernesto GUZMAN • Mr Ron HALL • Mr Lindsay HANSON • Dr Lorne HEPWORTH • MPP Randy HILLIER • Dr Angela HOFSTRA • Mr John J HOLLAND • MPP Tim HUDAK • Dr Geoffrey C KABAT • Ms Doreen LAYMAN • Mr Brian LILLEY • Mr Jeffrey P LOWES • Mr Howard MAINS • Mr Ted MENZIES • Dr Mike MERCHANT • Juris Dr Steven J MILLOY • Mr David MONTGOMERY • Mr Todd MYERS • Mr Randy OLIVER • Mr Pierre PETELLE • Dr Leonard RITTER • Dr Gilbert L ROSS • Dr Joseph A SCHWARCZ • Dr Cynthia SCOTT-DUPREE • Dr Keith Ross SOLOMON • Dr Gerald R STEPHENSON • Dr Clayton M SWITZER • Mr Peter Shawn TAYLOR • Mr Simon E TAYLOR • Mr Lee TOWNSEND • Mr Paul VISENTIN • Dr Katharine T VON STACKELBERG • Professor Rob WAGER • Dr Elizabeth M WHELAN • Dr Joel WOOD • The 350 Expert Scientists At Health Canada • The 1000s Of Expert Scientists At U.S. Environmental Protection Agency • The Industry Task Force II On 2,4-D Research Data • Uncle Adolph & Pesticide Truths • WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAHG & Force Of Nature.<http://wp.me/p1jq40-8DV> Consequently, pest control products are SCIENTIFICALLY-SAFE, and will NOT CAUSE HARM TO CHILDREN, ADULTS, ANIMALS, OR THE ENVIRONMENT.<http://wp.me/p1jq40-7HR> <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2ha> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-5ni>

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Reply

o *anita*

June 18, 2015 at 1:00 pm

Les,

I do agree that it would be nice if you were able to address the mine with the same logic you address the pesticides issue. If only our Performing Arts Centre referendum could include an opportunity to express our views about the mine and the pesticides issue. Maybe then we would be able to make some really positive life affecting decisions for our community.

41

5 Votes

Reply

▪ *AHHHHHHHHHHH!*

June 18, 2015 at 9:16 pm

Other cities didn't need a referendum in order to ban the use of pesticides. They just took the initiative, and put in a ban for lawn and gardens.

21

3 Votes

Reply

▪ *WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G*

June 19, 2015 at 5:58 pm

Your comment is awaiting moderation.

AHH CONVENIENTLY IGNORES THE TRENDS AGAINST PESTICIDE BANS — Kamloops is part of a GROWING TREND AGAINST PROHIBITION ! Children need pest-free turf to avoid hurting themselves. There are dozens of jurisdictions like Kamloops that have kept children safe by stopping or

rescinding or limiting anti-pesticide prohibition, or by granting professional lawn care businesses with an exception status. The trend against prohibition has continued again and again. No one wants this #@!!% dangerous ban nonsense that places children at risk ! The following jurisdiction have kept children safe — Alberta (Province), Altona (Manitoba), Ashland (Oregon), Beaumont (Alberta), Belleville (Ontario), 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), Ogunquit (Maine), Ontario (Beginning Of Repeal Of Ontario Anti-Pesticide Prohibition & Stopping Of Provincial Prohibition Against Neonicotinoid Insecticides), Port Alberni (British Columbia), Portage La Prairie (Manitoba), Prince Edward Island (Province), Quebec (Imposed Provincial Prohibition Limited With Permitted Active Ingredients, And Also Invalidated Because Ban Defeated By Lawsuit), 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). THE TRENDS AGAINST PESTICIDE BANS ARE RELENTLESS AND UNCEASING. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-1JO><http://wp.me/P1jq40-85B> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-85R> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-6h1><http://wp.me/p1jq40-81t> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-5ni> Pest control products are SCIENTIFICALLY-SAFE, and will NOT CAUSE HARM TO CHILDREN, ADULTS, ANIMALS, OR THE ENVIRONMENT. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-7HR> <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2ha><http://wp.me/p1jq40-5ni> No one wants this #@!!% ban nonsense in Kamloops !

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Rate this

Reply

- o WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G

June 19, 2015 at 6:28 pm

Your comment is awaiting moderation.

RESPONSE TO LES EVANS — The OCFP Anti-Pesticide Literature Reviews have absolutely NO CREDIBILITY since none of their PAID-FOR-PROFIT authors and reviewers had ANY recognized expertise, training or background in matters concerning pest control products. Moreover, among the authors and reviewers of a previous Anti-Pesticide Literature Review, there were ● doctors who WERE FOUND GUILTY OF PROFESSIONAL MIS-CONDUCT OVER SEXUAL ACTIVITIES (i.e. raping patients) ● doctors whose LICENSE WAS SUSPENDED ● doctors who DENY HAVING REVIEWED THE DOCUMENT. There is a GROWING BODY OF EVIDENCE that the authors and reviewers of the BOGUS-OCFP-Review were not only SCIENTIFICALLY IGNORANT, LAZY and OBTUSE, but also UNETHICAL, UNPROFESSIONAL, and even CRIMINAL.

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Reply

- 3. Snuffy the SEAL

June 18, 2015 at 12:59 pm

Oh good...more Internet "facts".....May be....could be.....yadda yadda. As for me ?....NO to a pesticide ban. Why ?....because I think I am fully capable of buying...READING...and applying any pesticide, safely. What should we ban next ?

7 Votes

Reply

4. AHHHHHHHHHHH!

June 18, 2015 at 9:57 pm

Snuffy –

I hope your family and neighbours will be spared any health problems due to your insisting on using harmful toxins.

When you become ill, just remember, you can't go back in history.

You can't undo the damage.

Those who are suffering with asthma, cancers, MS, Autism, Parkinsons, and any other illnesses connected to pesticides, should be helped by all of us.

If using less poison in this city helps even one person breathe easier, or have more 'good days', it adds a great deal to that person's and their family/caregiver's lives.

None of these people take anything for granted.

None of them deserve to be ill.

They struggle with their illnesses every day.

How dare you and your friends joke about something as serious as health.

'What should we ban next ?' (you asked)

Ignorant people who have no hearts or conscience !

61

7 Votes

Reply

o WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G

June 19, 2015 at 5:56 pm

Your comment is awaiting moderation.

AHH IS WRONG — The ghost-writer named AHHH (a.k.a. politician Donovan Cavers or a fanatical member of his Green Party entourage) ALLEGES that pest control products are somehow making people ill. PROVE IT ! Cavers and his pesticide-hating fanatics are UNABLE TO PROVIDE BODIES, BODIES, BODIES. Where are the bodies ?!?! Bodies of REAL evidence. Bodies of REAL evidence, and NOT JUNK SCIENCE REPORTS intended to DISCREDIT the work of REAL experts, such as Health Canada or Environmental Protection Agency. Bodies of REAL evidence, and NOT « secret evidence » or DEBUNKED REPORTS. More specifically, PROOF that studies are being somehow with-held from the ENTIRE WORLD. Health Canada, and NOT Cavers and his pesticide-hating fanatics, has THE ESSENTIAL EXPERTISE on the subject of pest control products. Cavers et al are RIDICULOUSLY IMPLYING that its NON-EXPERT ASSESSMENT is somehow being withheld from Health Canada and EVERY other regulatory agency in the world. Cavers et al are conveniently IGNORING the expertise of ANY leading authority on matters concerning pest control products. They do so when it suits THEM ! The following educational, regulatory, research, scientific, and trade agencies have CONCLUSIVELY SUPPORTED or VALIDATED the concept that pest control products are SCIENTIFICALLY-SAFE • American Chemical Society • American Council for Science and Health • American Cancer Society • British Columbia's Special Committee on Cosmetic Pesticides • Canadian Cancer Society • Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association (CCSPA) • Canadian Honey Council • Canadian Medical Association • CropLife Canada • Environment Alberta • Government of Alberta • Government of British Columbia • Government of Quebec • Government of Saskatchewan • Health Canada • Institute of Public Affairs • International Agency for Research on Cancer • Ontario Pesticides Advisory Committee • The Fraser Institute • The Industry Task Force II on 2,4-D Research Data • The Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution • U.S. Environmental Protection Agency • World Health Organization. Even 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> There is NOT ONE KNOWN ILLNESS or DEATH from the proper use of pest control products used in the urban landscape. AHHH (a.k.a. Cavers et al) is merely alarming and enraging the public with MYTHS ABOUT ANTI-PESTICIDE PROHIBITION. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-3jm> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-5zS> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-5DD> Pest control products are SCIENTIFICALLY-SAFE, and will NOT CAUSE HARM TO CHILDREN, ADULTS, ANIMALS, OR THE ENVIRONMENT. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-7HR> <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2ha> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-5ni>

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Reply

5. *WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G*

June 19, 2015 at 3:32 pm

KAMLOOPS MUST SAY YES TO PESTICIDES ! — CZYZEWSKI (A.K.A. CAVERS) IS WRONG !

Pest control products are scientifically-safe and will cause NO harm. Diane Czyzewski, along with politician Donovan Cavers, operate both as the mouthpiece for Green Party, an organization that conspires to recklessly and arbitrarily prohibit pest control products used in the urban landscape. Furthermore, all statements made by Czyzewski (a.k.a. Cavers) have been debunked. Here are some valid responses that support SAYING YES TO PESTICIDES IN KAMLOOPS. (1) CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY (CCS). It is now common knowledge that CCS has NO credible expertise in matters concerning pest control products. CCS is a mere fund-raising, profit-seeking, and lobbying organization, and it is NOT a science, NOT a research, and NOT a health organization. Additionally, CCS interferes with partisan politics, and, by virtue of its charity tax-exempt status, is in violation of taxation laws. Moreover, CCS 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> (2) CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (CAPE). CAPE has repeatedly violated and ignored requests by Canadian Paediatric Society to stop referencing its discredited article attacking 2,4-D herbicide. In fact, the Canadian Paediatric Society does NOT have any position statement on the so-called health risk of pest control products. The CAPE article that attacks 2,4-D herbicide has been disowned, discredited, and refuted by Canadian Paediatric Society. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-8rC> (3) ONTARIO COLLEGE OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS (OCFP). OCFP and its literature review has been discredited, debunked, and refuted by Health Canada and by The Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution. The OCFP review has absolutely NO CREDIBILITY since all of its authors and reviewers have NO recognized expertise, NO training, and NO background in matters concerning pest control products. Unfortunately, OCFP is ridiculously implying that its non-expert review is somehow being withheld from Health Canada and every other regulatory agency in the world. The OCFP review has absolutely NO credibility. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-37C> (4) CHILDREN ARE SAFE WITH PESTICIDES ! Pest control products represent NO threat to children since they are scientifically-safe and will cause NO harm. There is no need for Czyzewski (a.k.a. Cavers) to recklessly conspire to impose arbitrary prohibition against pest control products used in the urban landscape. Leading scientific experts, like Dr Katherine von Stackelberg, say they would NOT hesitate to let their children play on a lawn where lawn care products have been used as long as the products were applied according to label directions. <http://tinyurl.com/mw2fu7u> According to another leading expert, Dr James S Bus, there is NO evidence that common lawn herbicides like 2,4-d cause cancer or any health problems in children. Dr Bus has also stated that there is NO regulatory agency in the world that regards pest control products like 2,4-D as a threat to children's health. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-7W0> According to yet another leading expert, Mr William Jordan, Deputy Director, Office of Pesticide Programs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), parents DO NOT need to worry as long as a pest control product is used correctly. The EPA has spent a lot of time looking at products like 2,4-D, and has concluded that it is safe for kids. <http://tinyurl.com/pe6x3h9> Allegations by Czyzewski (a.k.a. Cavers) about the imaginary danger to

children are totally false, and are untrue mis-representations designed to alarm and enrage the public for mere money and profit given to anti-pesticide & environmental organizations like Green Party. (5) THE REAL DANGER TO CHILDREN ! Any form of prohibition actually harms children and represents a danger to children ! CHILDREN ARE SAFER WITH PESTICIDES ! Because of prohibition, children are forced to play in #@!!% dangerous and pest-infested garbage dumps ! <http://wp.me/P1jq40-44g> <http://wp.me/P1jq40-4z3> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-7C4> In essence, children are at risk from dangerous playing surfaces which are created by #@!!% pesticide bans ! For example, in Hamilton, Ontario, children cannot play on the grass because of the proliferation of weeds. <http://tinyurl.com/qh5e7ve> In jurisdictions like Wallingford, Connecticut, there is a fear of litigation with pesticide-free playing surfaces. Clovers and dandelions have been attracting bees ... what if children get stung and what if they are allergic ? <http://tinyurl.com/o6tx843> Clover attracts bees that can harm children and kill people. Clover attracts killer bees. For people who are allergic to bee stings, a sting may trigger a dangerous anaphylactic reaction that is potentially deadly. Additionally, honey bee stings will release pheromones that prompt other nearby bees to attack. NO ONE in Kamloops wants this #@!!% dangerous ban nonsense that places children at risk ! SAYING YES TO PESTICIDES IN KAMLOOPS WILL KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE AND WILL PROTECT THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT ! We are the National Organization Responding Against HUJE that conspire to destroy the Green space and other industries (NORAH G). As a non-profit and independent organization, we are environmentalists who are dedicated to reporting about NON-EXPERT PESTICIDE-HATING FANATICS, as well as the work of RESPECTED and HIGHLY RATED EXPERTS who promote ENVIRONMENTAL REALISM and PESTICIDE TRUTHS. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-8DV> Get the latest details at <http://pesticidetruths.com/> WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G

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