

KAMLOOPS THIS WEEK

Kamloops council told ban won't stop pesticide use



Kamloops council told ban won't stop pesticide use

By: [Andrea Klassen](#) in [News](#) June 24, 2015 [29 Comments](#) 1325 Views

A pair of Kamloops lawn-care companies say a ban on cosmetic pesticide use would put them out of business, but won't stop the use of weed-killing products in the city.

Jackie Doherty of Grassroots Lawncare and Terry Omrod of NutriLawn were at Tuesday's city council meeting to speak against a pesticide ban proposed by Coun. Tina Lange earlier this month.

Debate on the ban was postponed until at least July to allow members of the public to air their views on the issue.

Both Doherty and Omrod showed council pictures of weed-killing products on the shelves of city stores, which they said would likely still be used by residents under a ban.

“I really doubt the stores are wasting valuable space on pallets of products that are not selling,” Doherty said.

Omrod said lawn-care companies use far fewer pesticides than many people think because they only spray weeds, noting the products are used in conjunction with fertilizer, aeration and other pest-management techniques.

Meanwhile, other products available to the public, such as weed killers meant to be attached to a garden hose for spraying, encourage a “blanket” application, he said

“I don’t think a lot of people really understand what we do and how we do it,” Omrod told council.

The pair said the pesticides they use are already regulated by the federal government to ensure safety and companies that apply them in B.C. face other regulations, including regular inspections.

Doherty said many of her customers are already planning to purchase their own weed killers if the ban is adopted.

She said since they will be operating outside of the law, they won’t be subject to the same regulations or required to post the kind of signage her firm must erect to warn those who want to avoid pesticides.

“The only people who will be targeted are the applicators,” she said of a ban.

If the city is serious about banning cosmetic pesticides, Doherty said, it should strike a committee to look at the issue more closely or put it to a referendum in November when the performing arts centre goes to a vote.

The pesticide debate will continue when council next meets on July 14.

29 COMMENTS

1. *Ron Watt*

June 24, 2015 at 7:11 pm

Enacting a ban is one thing — enforcing it quite another.

125

Rate this

Reply

2. *Joe*

June 24, 2015 at 7:34 pm

Please please please to the current council – have a backbone and ban cosmetic pesticides. The evidence of the harm they do to the environment and health is indisputable.

1322

35 Votes

Reply

o *HOP4ME*

June 25, 2015 at 7:31 am

It amazes me how many people are so concerned about the safety of children from herbicides and pesticides, but then never even think about the food they buy to feed those same kids. I can assure you the chemicals in the food are far and away more dangerous to your kids than the chemicals used on your lawn. Give your head a shake.

1112

Rate this

Reply

▪ *AHHHHHHHHHHH!*

June 25, 2015 at 9:37 am

Some folks do indeed care about the foods their families eat.
That's why organics, and non GMO foods are so popular.
That's also the reason so many people have their own organic vegetable gardens.

BTW.... are you aware that the chemicals used in and on the food (sold in stores) happen to come from the same company that manufactures the lawn pesticides? Give your own head a shake.

93

Rate this

Reply

▪ *Snuffy the SEAL*

June 25, 2015 at 11:09 am

I agree....but people are weird, at the best of times. Some of these fine citizens would never dream of buying and feeding either themselves or their kids, any non-organic foods, for example. They claim that GM foods are the tool of the Devil and will kill us all. Some of these are the same people advocating the legalization of pot because it is "safe & harmless" and they have no issues with smoking / ingesting a substance that started off as 1 or 2% THC and was like smoking a rope. Today's GM pot is about 25% and has never been tested or approved by Health Canada...and that doesn't seem to be a problem for them.....go figure. (i also wonder how many of them smoke tobacco or drink alcohol ?)

54

Rate this

[Reply](#)

- *jason*

June 25, 2015 at 2:41 pm

I don't smoke pot, make most food from scratch, use organic practices in my garden and exercise every day. I choose to have a glass of wine once in a while, but it is not frequent. I am against pesticides/herbicides as I prefer to limit my exposure. I care about my neighbours and the environment.

Please don't pigeon hole us. Some of us are just good people with a different opinion than you!

104

Rate this

[Reply](#)

- *formerlocal*

June 29, 2015 at 1:34 pm

Surprise for you Snuffy, virtually no foods now entering Canada are tested by the federal government anymore. Ditto pesticide, which is left to the manufacturers to tell us the "facts", and that is at least part of the reason municipalities are beginning to act on their own to protect the health of their citizens.

As for pot, if Canada had a rational system to control it, we wouldn't have the situation where the City of Vancouver has found it prudent to licence and control, to some extent the sharp increase in pot retail stores across that city.

I know you are not a mouthpiece for toxin manufacturers who produce some of the most dangerous cosmetic pesticides, but your arguments leave a strong taste of irate residue in your post based through your efforts to lump just about everyone who uses things you obviously don't enjoy, such as pot or booze, into the anti-pesticide camp.

As for pot, it is in relative terms, "safe and harmless" when compared to alcohol. If you don't believe my claim then google deaths per year from alcohol and also from pot.

50

Rate this

[Reply](#)

3. *Les Evens*

June 24, 2015 at 7:37 pm

Answer regarding the pesticide ban as "working". Fine heavily those that are caught breaking this environmental law, if this law is indeed passed. Like you would regarding the lack of seat-belts use, texting while driving and speeding. Make it hurt monetarily for those that are caught harming the environment, and possibly small infant children playing in the grass and pets.

That would be a good start as the first course. If that isn't working all that well, serve up another course of even stiffer penalties. After all Ontario is doing just fine with the toughest laws against pesticide use in – all of Canada.

724

31 Votes

[Reply](#)

- AHHHHHHHHHHH!

June 24, 2015 at 11:42 pm

Adapt.
Changes happen.

Lead has been removed from several products including gasoline and paint.
Asbestos has been removed from building products including flooring and insulation.
Lightbulbs were changed and now LEDs are being used.
Household cleaners are being phased out in order to meet the consumer demand for organic / natural cleaners.
Smoking bans have stopped people smoking in elevators, stores, hospitals, airplanes, & restaurants.
Fragrance-free buildings are multiplying.
Unscented products are everywhere, and very popular.
The demand for organic / GMO free foods is increasing so quickly that several stores are having trouble keeping up with the high demand.
Restaurants and grocers now offer chicken and beef, which contain no antibiotics.

Along with all of these changes, hundreds of cities in Canada have adopted pesticide bans.

If these lawn company owners would take a different approach, and perhaps help their customers adapt to a new way of thinking, there wouldn't be a problem. Instead they cry foul, and go on saying 'they'll lose their business'.

How come other lawn companies across Canada, that are in cities with a ban, have managed to stay open and are still helping their customers ?
The first ban started back in 2003 !

177

24 Votes

[Reply](#)

- o *Snuffy the SEAL*

June 25, 2015 at 11:13 am

It's amazing that anyone survived the DDT years, isn't it ? Judging by all those TD's, I think most people figure you're overreacting just a touch, right ?

45

9 Votes

[Reply](#)

- *AHHHHHHHHHH!*

June 25, 2015 at 1:44 pm

How is pointing out the fact that others in the same line of business are still operating overreacting ?

Go to any Canadian city. You will find lawn companies operating.

93

12 Votes

[Reply](#)

- *WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G*

July 4, 2015 at 5:27 pm



TO SNUFFY — TD = Tangerine Dream !?!?

00

Rate this

[Reply](#)

- 4. *Pierre Filisetti*

June 24, 2015 at 8:30 pm

A bylaw is only as good as its enforcement. If it is related to parking downtown then watch out, otherwise do as you please. I always wonder what bylaws does.

133

Rate this

[Reply](#)

5. *Tom Cruise*

June 25, 2015 at 9:39 am

"I don't think a lot of people really understand what we do and how we do it," Omrod told council.

I don't think Councillor Tina Lang understands much at all. She has taken this holier than thou approach to running our city and assumes she knows what's best for everyone which is total bs. How does operating a restaurant qualify her for anything other than running a small business?

She isn't an expert in pesticide application, mining, forestry, transportation, economics, health or environmental management but she sure wants everyone to think she is. True story: If you look up delusions of grandeur in the dictionary you will see Tina's picture.

148

22 Votes

[Reply](#)

o *formerlocal*

June 29, 2015 at 1:46 pm

So, according to your standards owning a restaurant is not qualification enough to be a city councillor. Well how about getting elected in a democratically run municipal election or do you have other criteria that would end the right of citizens to decide through an election?

And please, review the employment status or business experience of the other 8 council members and explain just what sets them apart and above Tina.

Over the years I have had my eyebrows raised a few time by positions that Tina took on issues, some of them enough to express my opposition to her, but the fact is she has continued to retain the trust of enough eligible voters to get elected. If that's not good enough for you then stop whining and start running for the next election where you can show us just what qualifications you might possess.

31

Rate this

[Reply](#)

▪ *WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G*

July 4, 2015 at 6:09 pm

Your comment is awaiting moderation.

TO FORMERLOCAL — You raise an interesting point regarding the fitness of elected officials based upon their backgrounds and education. In our free and democratic society, ANYONE can run for office, no matter how incompetent or uneducated they are. The public can evaluate their performance, and deem them unfit for successful re-election. THAT is the democratic process. However, we must DEMAND TOTAL TRANSPARENCY from elected officials who conspire to impose prohibition against pest control products. We strongly object to scenarios where elected officials have CLEAR AND CONFLICTING VESTED INTERESTS. For example, Donovan Cavers is a high-ranking official with Green Party of Canada, with ties to Canadian Cancer Society and Pesticide Free BC ... all three are anti-pesticide organizations that impose life-style choices by using fraud and conspiracy in order to create a so-called healthy society. Moreover, Cavers comes from a family of prominent career activists with Green Party of Canada. Cavers is most certainly NOT a scientist and is NOT a researcher. He has NO expertise whatsoever in matters concerning pest control products. In fact, there are NO anti-pesticide activists who are scientists or researchers with credentials in the field of pest control products. NONE in Green Party. NONE in Canadian Cancer Society. THEY are THE LEAST QUALIFIED TO PROVIDE ANY ADVICE about pest control products. Moreover, 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. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-8DV> As an elected government official with the city of Kamloops, Cavers persists in imposing his life-style choices, as well as those life-styles that are dogma within his organizations. Observers have noted that Cavers also seeks to add profit to his vested interests, which include his business interests that would flourish under a pesticide ban. Seemingly, Cavers has demonstrated a HUGE SENSE OF ENTITLEMENT, all involving business interests such as his Organic Business and Carriage Suite. The electorate must tell Cavers to Get Off Their grASS, and throw him out of office. For more information concerning Cavers, go to The Pesticide Truths Web-Page ... <http://wp.me/P1jq40-3mO>

00

Rate this

[Reply](#)

- o WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G

July 4, 2015 at 5:21 pm



Yayy Tom Cruise !

00

Rate this

[Reply](#)

6. *Snuffy the SEAL*

June 25, 2015 at 11:16 am

Once again, I am extremely happy that people like Lange, Cavers and Walsh have our best interests at heart and will save us from ourselves. God bless you....

810

18 Votes

Reply

- *AHHHHHHHHHHH!*

June 26, 2015 at 12:17 pm

Snuff –

Lange, Cavers and Walsh ARE good people.

They try to give balance to council, but they realize a lot about health.

I don't know any of them on a personal level, but, from what I've seen over the years,

I think they are looking at preventative measures to ease up on our already overburdened medical system.

I'm totally 'on board' with that.

One just has to look at the recent announcement about our one and only oncologist that now has the responsibility to care for a possible 80,000 + people.

Someone has to take the bull by the horns, and do the right thing for everyone.

Having the ban is a great step in that direction.

53

8 Votes

Reply

- *Fairminded*

June 26, 2015 at 12:55 pm

I have been reading your stuff AHHHHHH, and I respect you for what you are trying to do. I agree with you other than I think a property owner has the right to do what they want to when it comes to pesticides. I just hope you don't live in an apartment and are against the mine going in. Just remember though, you are fighting for the unborn as if we buy into all concerns with chemicals, the damage is already done to all of us.

Having said that I hope I don't get cancer after all I have said on this subject and given we don't have a medical system that can effectively deal with it.

00

Rate this

Reply

- *Fairminded*

June 26, 2015 at 12:56 pm

for the mine going in, opps

00

Rate this

Reply

- *AHHHHHHHHHH!*

June 26, 2015 at 8:41 pm

Fairminded –

I hope you don't get cancer either.

I wish you a long and healthy life.

10

Rate this

- *WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G*

July 4, 2015 at 6:12 pm

Your comment is awaiting moderation.

WHO THE HECK IS AHHH — Some observers have some ideas. AHHH (a.k.a. politician Donovan Cavers or a fanatical member of his Green Party entourage) is NOT a scientist and is NOT a researcher. 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 DRIESEN • 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>

00

Rate this

[Reply](#)

- o WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G

[July 4, 2015 at 5:24 pm](#)

TO SNUFFY THE SEAL — NO ONE needs to be saved. And the the people you have listed have huge vested interests in this matter, as high-ranking members of Green Party, and other pesticide-hating organizations that profit from this form of conspiracy.

00

Rate this

[Reply](#)

- 7. *Whatever*

[June 25, 2015 at 1:13 pm](#)

The bylaw is just smoke and mirrors, you can by pesticides at on the reserve and use them. What is the point it will not stop anything as they have no way to enforce it.

65

11 Votes

[Reply](#)

- o *AHHHHHHHHHHH!*

[June 25, 2015 at 2:05 pm](#)

Why do the lawn company business people keep assuming people will 'all rush out and break the law' ?

Can you not give your customers more credit than that ?

Because, after all this is mainly about your clients.

And they can think for themselves.

They've had years to start learning about natural or safer ways to garden and landscape, thanks to the city.

This is going the next step.

Catching up with the rest of the world.

Oh, and BTW...'Delusions of grandeur' ?..... "TOM CRUISE" ?!

53

Rate this

[Reply](#)

- *Tom Cruise*

[June 25, 2015 at 5:05 pm](#)

Touche...lol

11

Rate this

[Reply](#)

o *jason*

June 25, 2015 at 2:44 pm

I think most people actually do obey laws and by-laws. Certainly many do. Some people use pesticides due to feeling guilty that their yards don't measure up to the others in the neighbourhood who do use pesticides. A ban may result in people who are illegally applying pesticides being the guilty feeling ones. That would be a great step forward.

41

Rate this

[Reply](#)

8. *OMGG*

June 26, 2015 at 12:38 pm

I seriously do not understand why some people choose to be in a toxic relationship with pesticides. It's time to move on to a new, healthier one.

64

10 Votes

[Reply](#)

o *WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G*

July 4, 2015 at 6:15 pm

Your comment is awaiting moderation.

TO OMGG — There is NO toxic relationship with pest control products. You are being silly. In fact, 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>

00

Rate this

[Reply](#)

9. K. Jean Cottam, PhD

June 26, 2015 at 5:26 pm

"Pesticides" is a general category including all the "cides", for example insecticides and herbicides.

41

5 Votes

[Reply](#)

- o WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G

July 4, 2015 at 7:20 pm

Your comment is awaiting moderation.

WE DEMAND FULL DISCLOSURE ! There is NO SUCH retired senior federal public servant familiar with the pesticide-approval process in Ottawa. There is NO Cottam who is a PhD expert regarding pest control products. The name Cottam is merely used as a shield for anti-pesticide activists. Cottam is part of a group of anonymous ghost-writers who are listed among Canada's prominent anti-pesticide activists. How can they be trusted when they cannot even disclose their REAL names ?!?! They are paid vast sums of money to anonymously coerce, intimidate, and terrorize government officials and the public by concocting fraudulent assessments and imaginary lies about pest control products. They subversively conspire to recklessly and unilaterally prohibit pest control products used in the urban landscape. Their anti-pesticide acts of subversion have extensively damaged the professional lawn care industry. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-5On> Cottam ghost-writers do so without identifying who they are and who pays them. Are we to believe that an assessment from an anonymous group of ghost-writers is somehow worth more than Health Canada ?!?! Cottam ghost-writers cannot be trusted ! <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2V6> WE DEMAND THAT THEY SHOW THEMSELVES ONCE AND FOR ALL !

00

Rate this

[Reply](#)

10. *len moore*

June 30, 2015 at 1:06 am

By-laws a joke,

11

2 Votes

[Reply](#)

- o WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G

July 4, 2015 at 7:26 pm

Your comment is awaiting moderation.

LEN MOORE IS CORRECT — PROHIBITION is a joke because there is a MERE SMALL MINORITY of prominent fanatics who SUBVERSIVELY CONSPIRE to PROHIBIT against the use of pest control products ... holding the public as PESTICIDE-HOSTAGES. These fanatics have vested interests in concocting imaginary danger against pest control products. They are demanding prohibition RECKLESSLY AND ARBITRARILY UNDERMINING the expert assessments performed by Health Canada. Furthermore, no one wants this #@!!% ban nonsense. WE KNOW THE MAJORITY DO NO WANT PROHIBITION BECAUSE OF LEGITIMATE POLLS. These polls clearly demonstrate that the public does not want this #@!!% ban nonsense.

00

Rate this