



NSBIA weighs in on cosmetic pesticide debate

By: Andrea Klassen in Environment, Health, News July 9, 2015 1 Comment 63 Views

With less than a week before council revisits the issue, Kamloops' North Shore Business Improvement Association (NSBIA) is raising red flags about a proposed ban on the use of cosmetic pesticides.

NSBIA general manager Steven Puhallo said members of the association's board are concerned a ban will lead to lost jobs and closed businesses.

Council is set to address the issue on Tuesday after tabling it in late May to allow members of the community to weigh in.

Coun. Tina Lange proposed the ban on behalf of the city's urban agriculture committee.

The ban would apply to ornamental plants, including shrubs, flowers and lawns, on residential properties, but not vegetable gardens or fruit trees.

Puhallo said the NSBIA does have some lawn-care companies in its membership, but has also been talking to other businesses throughout Kamloops who are alarmed by the proposed ban.

His organization's concerns are similar to those raised by lawn care companies that have spoken at council meetings — that, because cosmetic pesticides will still be available on store shelves, residents who want weed-free lawns will take matters into their own hands rather than calling professionals for applications.

"It takes the ability of the regulated and trained professionals to make money that way, and that can be more harmful than the current standard," Puhallo said.

Under the city's existing bylaws, residents can apply pesticides to lawns, but must have a licensed applicator do so and must post signage alerting others the products have been used.

Puhallo called that a better approach.

"This is something that both myself and our board of directors had a lot of concerns about," he said.

"As a society, we've come to accept that there has to be a balance between environmental concerns and commercial priorities. The current bylaw, as it stands, we believe allows for a balance between these two."

Puhallo also questioned how the bylaw would be enforced.

In an earlier interview, bylaw services supervisor John Ramsay told *KTW* that bylaw officers have mostly focused on ensuring signage is posted correctly under current bylaws — 24 hours before application and for 48 hours afterward — rather than cases where someone has sprayed the products on their own.

"For us to get involved, it tends to be after the fact when someone's already sprayed, and for us to determine whether or not it was pesticide use is very hard," he said.

"I do recall I've talked to a couple people about it, but it's not one of the big ones that we manage."

The city doesn't receive many complaints about its current ban — Ramsay said his recollection is fewer than five per year.

He wasn't aware of any tickets given out for violating the existing bylaw.

"Usually we talk about compliance and things like that," Ramsay said.

This isn't the first time the pesticide debate has come to council.

Last term, Coun. Donovan Cavers proposed a similar ban, which failed on a 5-4 vote.

STEVEN PUHALLO IS ABSOLUTELY CORRECT !

In jurisdictions outside of Kamloops, anti-pesticide prohibition has already inflicted catastrophic carnage for businesses operating in the professional lawn care industry. Because of prohibition, an overwhelming number of these businesses disappear into oblivion within 2 or 3 years after prohibition. Because of prohibition, vast numbers of workers in the professional lawn care industry become unemployed. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-43B> Furthermore, because of prohibition, neighborhoods are ruined by pests, and green spaces become dangerous and pest-infested garbage dumps. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-44g> <http://wp.me/P1jq40-4z3> Dandelions become the dominant ground cover. So-called green alternative pesticides are stunningly expensive and simply do not work. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-445> Besides, any prohibition is a farce since residents can obtain conventional products either from other provinces, or from across the border in the United States, or through the Internet. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-4mS> If city of Kamloops decides to impose prohibition, then residents and municipal officials had better get used to crawling on their hand and knees like cotton-pickers for weed-picking and insect-removal. No one wants this #@!!% nonsense of manual weed picking just because there is an arbitrary prohibition ! If a small minority of highly-motivated residents want to spend 40 to 50 hours and more per week of manual weed picking, that's their prerogative. Moreover, manual weed picking is totally ineffective. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-4mI> Imposing the life-style choice of manual weed picking on everyone else is WRONG ! No one wants this cotton-picking nonsense in Kamloops ! STEVEN PUHALLO IS ABSOLUTELY CORRECT ! No one wants this #@!!% ban nonsense in Kamloops ! For more information regarding PROHIBITION INFLICTING CATASTROPHIC CARNAGE, go to ... <http://wp.me/P1jq40-26P> 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

FILISSETTI & HIS MISLEADING STATEMENT ABOUT ALTERNATIVES — When it comes to the appearance of lawns and gardens, the use of safe and

effective conventional pest control products should be a no-brainer. Their reckless prohibition inevitably leads to the catastrophic problems of weed invasion and insect infestation. It is impossible for home-owners or professionals to keep their properties beautiful by using so-called green alternative pesticides & practices. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-24g> There are NO viable, NO efficacious, NO economical, and NO low-risk alternatives to replace conventional pest control products. Green alternative pesticides are bogus and dismal failures — they do NOT work and they are NOT innovative products. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-24g> By definition, alternatives are inferior, which is why they did NOT win the market-place originally <http://wp.me/p1jq40-5r8> Overall, green alternative pesticides are ineffective, inadequate, inferior, high-risk, more toxic, and stunningly expensive ! In many cases, green alternative pesticides are questionably higher in toxicity, and pose higher environmental risks. Green alternative pesticides and even organic fertilizers often contain living pathogenic organisms, fermented materials, or metals that may be deemed unsafe for children, adults, and the environment. A well-maintained conventional lawn and landscape can only be achieved with conventional pest control products and fertilizers. These products are absolutely necessary. Fortunately, conventional pest control products are safe, effective, economical, and low-risk. They are safer and more effective than green alternatives ! If/when prohibition is imposed, residents in Kamloops had better get used to having their children suffering more and more injuries. With prohibition, green spaces become pest-infested dangerous garbage dumps. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-44g> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-4z3> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-7c4> Anti-pesticide activists like Filisetti are absolutely wrong !