

EDITORIAL: Coquitlam should jump on the no-pesticide bandwagon



A tie vote at Monday's Coquitlam city council meeting defeated a proposal to discuss banning of cosmetic pesticides.

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Were brains replaced by dandelion fluff or are some Coquitlam councillors really in favour of cosmetic pesticides?

It's hard to know but Monday's decision to not even consider holding a public meeting on a cosmetic chemical ban shows some minds are already made up.

Come on. Even retailers such as the Home Depot are phasing out these products. Why won't four Coquitlam councillors consider the proposal?

In many ways, Coquitlam is a leader. Its move to quarterly single-item pick-up instead of spring cleaning shows some smarts when it comes to making people responsible for their own garbage.

Why is it a laggard in pesticides?

The private property argument doesn't wash because everyone is affected by these chemicals, not just the homeowner with the nice, green lawn.

Port Moody has long been out in front on this issue and was the first in the region to ban cosmetic pesticides and educate the public about alternatives.

This is one bandwagon Coquitlam shouldn't miss.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Should the city of Coquitlam ban the use of cosmetic pesticides on private property? Go to our question of the week online poll to register your opinion.

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