

*Force of Nature Media Report :
The Environmental Movement
in the Media from an
Independent Perspective.*

Quebec Prohibition of Pest Control Products.

Part 7.

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12/05/2009

Notable quotation.

Quebec must keep its commitment. Decisions about pesticides should be informed by scientific criteria, not political opportunism. >>

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Quote from

James W. Gray

Industry Task Force II on 2,4-D Research Data

March 9th, 2009

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Fair play for pesticides

March 9th, 2009

Letter to the Editor



Last May's decision by **Health Canada's** Pest Management Regulatory Agency was unambiguous : " **2,4-D can be used safely when used according to label directions.** " This rigorous scientific assessment concurs with those of other health-protection agencies, including the European Commission, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the World Health Organization.

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Indeed, the **Quebec** government determined there was no scientific basis for the ban in 2003 and announced that it was placing **2,4-D** on the schedule of prohibited pesticides only pending the outcome of the science-based assessments by the **PMRA** and EPA.

Now that these assessments are in, **Quebec must keep its commitment. Decisions about pesticides should be informed by scientific criteria, not political opportunism.**

James W. Gray
Executive Director

Industry Task Force II on 2,4-D Research Data

Kansas City, Mo.

info@24d.org

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Notable quotation.

<< D esousa says it's a question of public-health : making sure the city can continue protecting the most vulnerable people : seniors, kids and pets. **>>**

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WHAT A GUY !

Montreal Goes to Bat for Its Pesticide Ban

March 3rd, 2009

Kathy Coulombe



The **City of Montreal** has joined a far-reaching coalition including the environmental group **Équiterre** that's fighting U.S.-based **Dow-Chemicals** [sic] and its efforts to continue selling its poisons in **Quebec**.

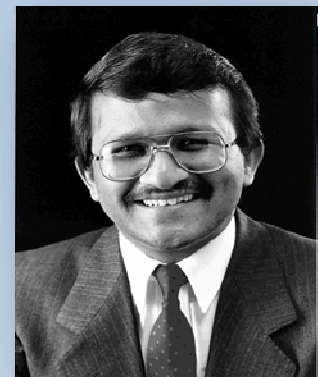
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The Canadian subsidiary **Dow-Agrosciences** is using **NAFTA** to sue for **2-million-dollars** worth of lost profits.

But Montreal's man-in-charge of environmental issues, executive-committee member **Alan DeSousa** says they expect Ottawa to throw its weight behind the **Quebec** law banning pesticide use.

Desousa says it's a question of public-health : making sure the city can continue protecting the most vulnerable people : seniors, kids and pets.



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Alan DeSousa, (1959 –)

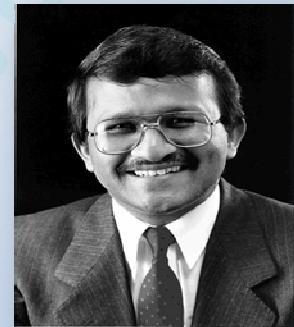
City of Montreal

Web Site

Retrieved in March 2009



Alan DeSousa was appointed to Saint-Laurent Municipal Council for the first time in 1990, and was elected Saint-Laurent Mayor on November 4, 2001. He was initially appointed the member of the **City of Montréal Executive Committee** responsible for sustainable development, and in January 2004 was assigned a second mandate making him also responsible for economic development.



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Within the scope of his dual role on the Executive Committee, Mr. **DeSousa** represents the City of Montréal to various organizations, commissions and pension plans, including the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM), Montréal International (MI), the Conseil régional de développement de l'Île de Montréal (CRDÎM) and the Technoparc Saint-Laurent.

Prior to being elected in November 2001, Mr. **Alan DeSousa** served as Vice-President of Corporate Finance for BioChem Pharma. A renowned expert in the field of finance and taxation, he was responsible for finance and accounting for the corporation, including for its national and international subsidiaries. He previously worked as head of taxation at Ernst & Young.

Mr. **DeSousa** completed a Bachelor of Commerce at McGill University in 1981. He has been a member of the Ordre des comptables agréés du Québec since 1984, and in 2005 was appointed a Fellow of this organization.

Big Daddy Dow and the Weedkiller of Doom

October 28th, 2008

El Dragón

Blog retrieved in March 2009

Ah, **NAFTA** ! What a wonderful web of malfeasance you've wrought. In your efforts to enhance " *free trade* " (one of the greatest examples of real-life newspeak there ever was), you've created a crowbar for multinationals to pop open markets against their will. Cool !

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Take the stand-off currently going on between **Quebec** and **Dow AgroSciences**. **Quebec** has the audacity to tell **Dow**, a company that's roughly 4.5 times the size of God, that they don't want **Dow**'s weedkiller " *2,4-d* " to be used in **Quebec** for merely cosmetic, squirt-it- around-the-lawn purposes. I mean, **who the hell is Quebec** ? **Dow** has divisions bigger than **Quebec**'s GNP, and they're gonna throw down a ban ?

Well, **Dow** doesn't have an army with which to invade (yet), so they submitted a 27-page brief under **Chapter 11** of **NAFTA**, which allows companies and investors to end-run local courts and sue the federal government, if the locals get uppity. In their paper, **Dow** calls **Quebec**'s actions tantamount to " *nationalization* " (??) in an effort to get Canada's federal government to lean on its provinces.

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Dow's legal brief accuses the **Quebec government** of implementing a pesticide ban that *" is not based on science "* and was applied to **2,4-D** *" without providing any meaningful opportunity "* for the company to make its case that the herbicide is safe.

Such nice, polite talk, eh ? *" Here now, my good man, you've done me a disservice by not affording me a meaningful opportunity ! "* What crap. I know a smackdown when I see one, so, here, now, is the Food Fighter interpretation of **Dow's** argument.

Oh, no, no, no, you gonna suck Big Daddy's weedkiller, baby ! Don't like that ? Too bad ! Cuz after the **24D**, we gonna make you buy our breast implants, too ! Someone's gotta take em ! Thank God for **NAFTA** ! Wazzup, Canada ?!

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OK, so they aren't looking to dump breast implants on **Quebec** as far as we know (but where DO you think all those Ziplock bags of silicone went ?).

Anyway, here's the real Kicker. If Big Daddy **Dow** doesn't get his way ?

Dow's going to go crying to the U.S. federal government and claim **\$2+ million** in lost trade damages. That's right. Joe the Plumber is gonna have to pay up to **Dow** because **Quebec** doesn't want people overusing pesticides and tainting their groundwater.

Ah, the rich, syrupy taste of socialism. Nar um num num num num !

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Adapted excerpt from TURF & Recreation Magazine.
Commentary from a Independent Perspective.

The N.A.F.T.A. Chapter 11 scenario has the « ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT » extremely worried. This scenario has dogged the movement for years for other hated products, such as « CHLORDANE », « DDT », and « LINDANE ».

In the next segment, we have an example from 2001.

If this scenario plays out in its entirety, the Canadian federal government may ultimately be forced to dispense **hundreds of millions of dollars** for every pest control product prohibited in every province and municipality across Canada. This scenario is mind boggling to people such as David Suzuki, who has retained the services of lawyers concerning the matter in an effort to pressure the federal government to avert this jurisdictional catastrophe.

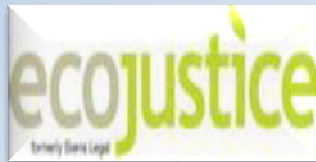
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Sierra Legal challenges NAFTA Chapter 11

September 2001

Sierra Legal Defence Fund (Now called Ecojustice Canada)

Newsletter No. 28



Case alleges that tribunals are unconstitutional SIERRA LEGAL [Now called Ecojustice Canada] RECENTLY LAUNCHED a legal challenge attacking the secrecy of **NAFTA's Chapter 11** tribunals, arguing it violates Canadians' rights to freedom of the press and freedom of expression. On behalf of the **Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)** and **Democracy Watch**, Sierra Legal lawyers filed the challenge in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, defending the rights guaranteed in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

info@ecojustice.ca

Chapter 11 of **NAFTA** gives foreign corporations the power to sue governments for infringing on their investments. The resulting claims are heard behind closed doors by tribunals, the secrecy of which, the groups contend, calls into question the legitimacy of the entire **Chapter 11** process.

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“ The secrecy of these tribunals flies in the face of long-established principles that the judicial system must operate under the penetrating light of public scrutiny. We believe Canada’s agreement to NAFTA is unconstitutional, because it incorporates this secret process ” said Raymond MacCallum, lawyer with the **Sierra Legal Defence Fund** [Now called Ecojustice Canada].

The groups believe Canadians need access to information and the decision-making process to hold public institutions to account — especially on environmental issues, given the poor environmental track record of international trade tribunals. A win in the courts, leading to a declaration that Canada’s agreement to **NAFTA** in its present form is unconstitutional, will force Canada to negotiate with the United States and Mexico to amend the secrecy rules of **Chapter 11**. Any new provisions will have to uphold Canadians’ Charter guaranteed rights. The case is particularly pressing, considering that a leaked draft of the investment chapter of the Free Trade Area of the Americas includes a similar secretive process.

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David Suzuki Foundation

Retrieved at Suzuki web site in March 2009

Click on your province below to tell your Premier that you want strong protections against the health risks of lawn and garden pesticides.



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British Columbia	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Manitoba
Ontario	Quebec	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia
Newfoundland	Nunavut	Prince Edward Island	Yukon Territory
Northwest Territory			

Thank you for taking Canada one step closer to being pesticide-free.

Weed Out Pesticides !

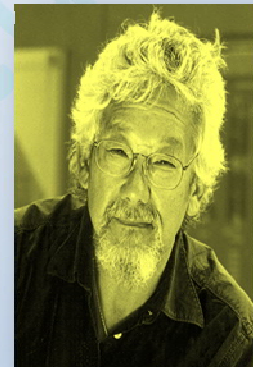
David Suzuki Foundation

Web Site

Retrieved in March 2009

Keeping unnecessary lawn and garden pesticides off store shelves is the best way to stop their use. That's why the David Suzuki Foundation is working to ban both their sale and use in provinces across Canada.

With Ontario and **Quebec** banning unnecessary lawn and garden pesticides, and New Brunswick considering similar action, there is great promise for similar bans across the country.



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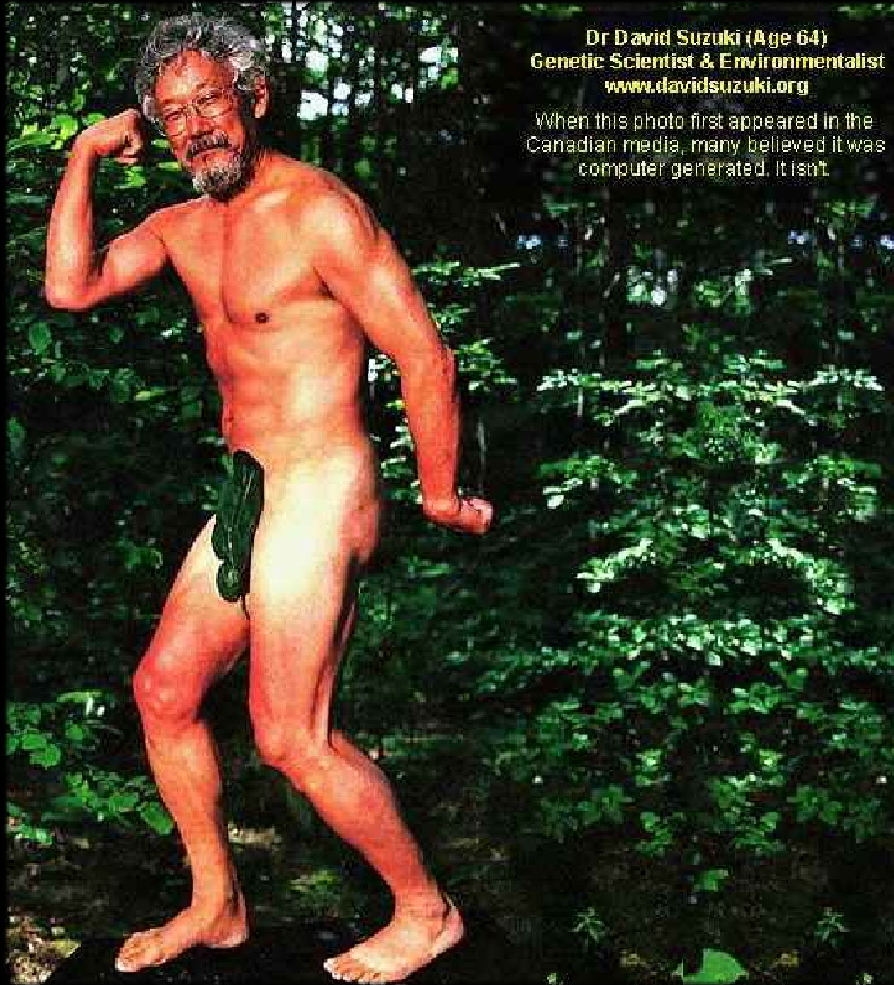
Provincial Pesticide Bans Work !

Quebec is currently the only province to restrict cosmetic pesticide sales (the Ontario ban will not be in place until 2009). Statistics Canada found that the number of households using pesticides in **Quebec** decreased by 50% between 1994 and 2005. Nationwide, pesticide use dipped by only 2 percentage points over the same period.



contact@davidsuzuki.org or solutions@davidsuzuki.org

The Puppet Master says ...



Dr David Suzuki (Age 64)
Genetic Scientist & Environmentalist
www.davidsuzuki.org

When this photo first appeared in the
Canadian media, many believed it was
computer generated. It isn't.

*... this NAFTA stuff is
making me go crazy.*

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Force of Nature was launched for continuous transmission on the Internet on January 1st, 2009. It is a series of e-newsletters destined for the **Green Space Industry**, the **environmental movement**, politicians, municipalities, and the media, nation-wide across Canada, and parts of the United States. **Force of Nature** is produced in two parts. First. **The Media Report** itself that reports on the current events affecting the future of the **Green Space Industry**. Second. **Independent Perspective**, which is a running commentary, sometimes also of a more technical in nature.

Force of Nature is the brainchild of William H. Gathercole and his entourage. The opinions expressed in these e-newsletters, even though from an independent perspective, may not reflect those of everyone in the **Green Space Industry**, or Mr. Gathercole's many associates. Be warned! Mr. Gathercole and his team may sometimes be very irreverent and fearless with these e-newsletters.

William H. Gathercole holds a degree in Horticulture from the **University of Guelph**, and another pure and applied science degree from **McGill University**. He has worked in virtually all aspects of the **Green Space Industry**, including public affairs, personal safety, and environmental issues. Mr. Gathercole has been a consultant and instructor for decades. Mr. Gathercole has been following the evolution of **environmental terrorism** for over a quarter-century. His involvement in environmental issues reached a fevered pitch in the 1990s, when he orchestrated, with others, legal action against unethical and excessive municipal regulations restricting the use of pest control products. (i.e. the Town of Hudson.) Although he can be accused of being **anti-environment-movement**, he is, in fact, simply a strong advocate for the **Green Space Industry**. However, this position has not precluded him from criticizing the industry itself. Nonetheless, his vast knowledge of our long journey with environmental issues is **undeniable**. (Hopefully!) For many years, Mr. Gathercole has been a contributing columnist for **TURF & Recreation Magazine**, Canada's Turf and Grounds Maintenance Authority.

All pictures contained in **Force of Nature** were found somewhere on the Internet. We believe that they are in the public domain, as either educational tools, industry archives, promotional stills, publicity photos, or press media stock.

Information presented in **Force of Nature** has been developed for the education and entertainment of the reader. The events, characters, companies, and organizations, depicted in this document are not always fictitious. Any similarity to actual persons, living or dead, may not be coincidental.

The following titles are currently available. (Or will be available in the near future.) ● Alberta Prohibition. ● British Columbia Prohibition. ● Burnaby B.C. Prohibition. ● Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment. ● David Suzuki Foundation. ● Death and the Environmental Movement. ● Golf and Landscape Trade Industries. ● Kazimiera Jean Cottam. ● Kelowna B.C. Prohibition. ● New Brunswick Prohibition. ● Ontario Prohibition. ● Organic Fertilizers. ● Pets and Lawn Care Chemicals. ● Prince Edward Island Prohibition. ● Quebec Prohibition. ● Richmond B.C. Prohibition. ● Saint Catharines, Ontario. ● Salmon Arm B.C. Prohibition. ● The 9/11 Era of the Green Space Industry. ● The Failure of Integrated Pest Management. ● The Wisdom of the Solomons. ● Victoria B.C. Prohibition. ● White Rock B.C. Prohibition. ● Wisconsin Fertilizer Prohibition. ● **ASK FOR A COPY OF ANY BACK ISSUE TODAY.**

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