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## News

### Alberni city council nixes pesticide bylaw

By Wawmeesh G. Hamilton - Alberni Valley News

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Bark mulching of shrub beds was used with moderate success. The method chokes down weeds while keeping soil moist and cooling roots.

Kenny pointed out the product Fiesta to illustrate how much a holistic measure costs. The city would have to spend \$32,000 to apply four applications of it on city playing fields per year. In comparison, one application of Killex would cost \$1,600 to apply and would last four years.

The bylaw was also cumbersome and nearly impossible to enforce, Kenny said.

The city is taking its cue from the provincial Report of the Special Committee on Cosmetic Pesticides in rescinding its bylaw.

The committee researched the issue by examining regulatory framework, heard from more than 8,600 participants and looked at bans in other cities.

“...despite the intensity of the arguments in favour of the ban on cosmetic use of pesticides.....there is insufficient scientific evidence to support a province-wide ban on pesticides for cosmetic use,” an excerpt from the report notes.

“The majority of the committee supports using science based evidence and will not restrict access to products that are approved for safe use in Canada.”

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