

# SALMON ARM OBSERVER



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## NEWS

### Council requests reports on city's cosmetic pesticide use



by Martha Wickett - Salmon Arm Observer  
Salmon Arm posted Jan 18, 2017 at 3:00 PM



City councillor Tim Lavery — Image Credit: File Photo

A couple of stipulations have been tacked on to the city's Cosmetic Pesticide Bylaw, ready for when city staff decide to spray pesticides on city infrastructure.

During the city's budget deliberations in November last year, city staff proposed a \$10,000 increase in the budget to do a one-time pesticide application. It would be used on some of the islands on the Trans-Canada Highway and some sidewalks, likely starting downtown.

The city's bylaw to regulate the cosmetic use of pesticides was enacted in 2008 and amended in 2011. It contains several exceptions, one that states: "This bylaw shall not apply in respect of the application of pesticides to prevent the deterioration of hard landscapes after alternatives have been utilized without success."

Rob Niewenhuizen, the city's director of engineering and public works, told council in November the time has come for an application of pesticides.

He said two students were pulling weeds – but the weeds prevailed and are wrecking the hard surfaces.

"It is too labour-intensive. It's getting to the point now that weeds and weed seeds are so prevalent we can't keep up with it," Niewenhuizen said.

In response, Coun. Tim Lavery proposed a motion with three parts at council's Monday, Jan. 16 meeting.

The first part would require staff to provide rationale to council for the exception, as well as the mix of non-pesticides and pesticides proposed. The second would ask staff for an annual pesticide usage report for council and the third would seek public input at an evening meeting on the proposed applications.

The first and second parts were supported by council, the third not.

Coun. Kevin Flynn said he could probably support parts one and two, but not another public meeting.

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"But to ask for public input before doing what we've waited eight years to do, I can't support. I think staff has erred on the point of caution," he said, surmising only people who are not in support would show up.

Although Lavery's initial motion proposed that staff provide their rationale before the spraying actually takes place, Coun. Alan Harrison suggested that part be taken out.

"For those of us who have been at the table for a while, I've heard a lot of pros and cons. I certainly don't want to second-guess staff."

Council also stipulated that the initial report staff provide to council be brief. It's not yet known when the pesticide application will take place.

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THE FAILURE OF PROHIBITION IN SALMON ARM, BRITISH COLUMBIA !

On November 21st, 2016, Salmon Arm's government officials admitted that Green Alternative Pesticides & Practices DO NOT WORK after years of FAILURES – all because of a fanatical-prohibition that was recklessly imposed on February 23rd, 2009 ! Students were exploited for manual weed picking, which involved work that was back-breaking & labour-intensive, just like cotton-pickers. ( See link below. ) Manual weed picking was HUGEY UNSUCCESSFUL – the weeds prevailed and have now wrecked Salmon Arm's surface infra-structures. This comes as NO surprise to observers who have repeatedly warned that it is IMPOSSIBLE for home-owners or maintenance professionals to keep their properties weed-free, safe, and beautiful by using practices like weed-pulling. ( See link below. )

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.

Salmon Arm's prohibition has resulted in catastrophic carnage that has inflicted garbage dump green spaces and stunningly exorbitant costs. Prohibitions in Salmon Arm, and everywhere else, have destroyed public and residential green spaces by turning them into garbage dumps. Here is a summary of garbage dump green spaces destroyed by #@!!% prohibition carnage ... • children at high risk of tripping and becoming seriously hurt • dandelions the dominant ground cover • dead mature street trees • hazardous slipping conditions in sports turf • invasive noxious weeds like Japanese Knotweed and Giant Hogweed • lawns decimated by insects like white grubs • lawns in entire neighborhoods ruined by pests • parks infested with weeds • rose plantations dying and removed. ( See links below. ) This is the #@!!% prohibition carnage that can be expected in any community that recklessly and arbitrarily imposed prohibition. NO ONE WANTS TO LIVE IN SALMON ARM'S #@!!% DANGEROUS AND PEST-INFESTED URBAN LANDSCAPES THAT LOOK LIKE GARBAGE DUMPS !

Observers have NO objection to the personal choice of life-style of manual weed picking, which, in this case, is a clear preference to live in an environment that looks like a garbage dump. However, observers DO object to this choice being imposed on the majority of the community that DOES NOT want to live in this manner. The reckless and arbitrary imposition of Salmon Arm's fanatical-prohibition was not in the best interest of health and environment. It is a recognized fact that prohibition is unnecessary since pest control products are Health-Canada-approved, federally-legal, scientifically-safe, practically non-toxic, and will cause NO harm. SALMON ARM'S FANATICAL

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practically-non-toxic, and will cause NO harm. SALMON ARM'S FANATICAL-PROHIBITION MADE OUR GREEN SPACES LOOK SO #@!!% DANGEROUS AND UGLY ! ( See links below. )

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<http://pesticidetruths.com/toc/manual-weed-picking/>

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- Food system dramatically affected by pesticides ([November 23, 2016](#))
- City returns to pesticide use on streets ([November 23, 2016](#))
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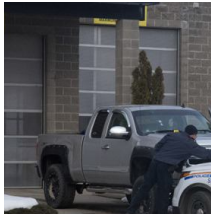
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