

Art Drysdale via uniserve.com

Jul 17 2012

Sir:

From what I have read in the Nanaimo Daily News, I gather that Nanaimo residents, and perhaps visitors/tourists as well, have been complaining about weeds in parks, road cracks and sidewalks, and playgrounds, and so they should. Like many other cities who thought they were doing the right thing by introducing the so-called Integrated Pest Management (IPM) did not realize just who and what organizations were urging this upon them.

It is unfortunate that Councillors like Jim Kipp can be as naïve as he appears to be when he says in your paper (and elsewhere, no doubt) "The growing proliferation of unsightly weeds in cracks in the centre medians of the city's thoroughfares this summer likely has little to do with the city's ban on many toxic pesticides."

I certainly would not be listening to anything the councillor has to say on any subject in as much as he obviously makes comments as the one above on topics about which he knows nothing.

Horticultural advice and information has been my line for fifty years, and I was a personal friend of the late Dr. R. Milton Carleton of Chicago who considered himself the co-discoverer of the chemical 2,4-D for weed control in lawns. 'Milt' as those who knew him well called him was at that time the director of research for the Vaughan Seed Company in Chicago.

If you wish to read more about just how Milt Carleton 'co-invented 2,4-D' just go to my March 14, 2010 article on ICanGarden.com--the largest Canadian gardening Website. It boggles my mind to think that people such as him are making decisions that have turned many of our cities into some of the worst hell-holes to be seen anywhere. Whatever happened to listening to scientists and those in the know rather than many of these anti-pesticide maniacs?

Are your people at the Nanaimo Daily News aware that there is now a sizable list of jurisdictions which have either rescinded their pesticide ban, or have modified it substantially? You can find that list in my ICanGarden.com article of this week. I hope your editors will see the light and publish some

or all of the list to show that there really is another side to this story! Feel free to pick up all or any part of it.

Cordially,

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