

**PREPARED FOR:** 

THE CITY OF GUELPH

**DECEMBER 2002** 

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#### 1.0 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

# 1.1 Principle Recommendations

- The Committee recommends that the City of Guelph commit to a Pesticide Action Plan consisting of three key elements:
  - Be proactive in the protection of human health and the environment through the promotion and endorsement of pesticide-free methods of lawn and garden management;
  - Implement a permit system to regulate the use of cosmetic pesticides only in the case of infestations, to allow tracking and regulation of pesticide use;
  - Implement an effective education program. Lawn care and landscaping companies should be involved in the public education process.

### 1.2 Bylaw

- The Committee recommends that a bylaw restricting the application (by any method, including spray or granular preparations) of cosmetic pesticides to exterior landscaped areas of residential, industrial, commercial and institutional property be established within the City of Guelph.
- Bylaw would not apply to the interior areas of buildings or to swimming pools.
- Application of pesticides for all other outdoor areas (lawns, landscaping, and gardens) would be permitted when there is a serious infestation of landscaped areas by insects, weeds or fungi. The City must confirm the existence of a serious infestation in order for a permit to be issued, and it is at the discretion of the City inspector as to what constitutes a serious infestation. When a permit is issued, there should be a provision on it that allows the City representative to limit the application to a defined, pest-infested area only, rather than the entire property.
- Permits could be valid for 10 days from date of issue.
- Written notification should be provided to neighbouring properties at least 24-hours before the application of any cosmetic pesticide, and warning signs must be posted after the application of a pesticide and remain posted for at least 72-hours.
- Pesticide application (with a permit) would be prohibited under the following conditions:
  - Wind speed greater than 11 kph;
  - Temperatures above 25°C:
  - On trees during their blooming period;
  - When the forecast of rain on a given day is 50% or greater;
  - Within 10 m of any body of water;
  - During an air quality advisory day.

## 1.3 Registry

- The City should continue to maintain and update periodically a registry of chemically sensitive properties. 'Certified' medically sensitive individuals can provide medical documentation to City and add their address on the registry. A permit normally would not be granted to a property that is adjacent to a property on the registry.
- A property containing a public groundwater well is to be considered as a
   'chemically-sensitive' property and will be added to the registry. Pesticide
   application on adjacent properties would normally not be permitted. The
   Committee recommends that the City establish a specific radius around public
   wells in which pesticide application is prohibited, in order to clarify the
   precautionary "buffer zone".
- The City should also examine the use of pesticides on properties surrounding private wells, and determine if permits may be granted. Owners of properties containing private wells could request the addition of their addresses to the registry. The Committee recommends that the issuance of permits to properties adjoining private wells be left to the discretion of the City inspectors on a case-by-case basis, and that the City should establish a 'buffer zone' or protective radius of land around private wells where pesticide application is not permitted.

## 1.4 Special Transitional Considerations

- Lawn care and landscape companies operating within the City of Guelph must comply with permit system. IPM accredited individuals on staff may apply to the City to act as "surrogate inspectors" for Year 1 only as a transitional provision. These accredited individuals would be able to issue permits to use cosmetic pesticides to treat infestations during Year 1, providing that the City is informed of the pesticide application, 24-hour notice is given to neighbours, and all other conditions applying to permit use are respected.
- Golf courses and lawn bowling facilities must comply with permit system, but would have a five year period in which to phase-in, and negotiate pesticide use reduction with the City, with the ultimate goal of pesticide elimination. IPM accredited individuals on staff may apply to the City to act as "surrogate inspectors" for a specific property(ies). These accredited individuals would be able to issue permits at their own discretion on (a) specified property(ies) only during Year 1 of the implementation of the City's Pesticide Action Plan, providing that the City is informed of the pesticide application, 24-hour notice is given to neighbours, and all other conditions applying to permit use are respected.
- Research institutes (e.g. Guelph Turfgrass Institute) that depend upon the maintenance of turf and experiment with cosmetic pesticides must comply with permit system as well. IPM accredited individuals on staff may apply to the City to act as "surrogate inspectors" for a specific property(ies). These accredited individuals would be able to issue permits at their own discretion during Year 1, providing that the City is informed of the pesticide application, 24-hour notice is given to neighbours, and all other conditions applying to permit use are respected.

- Greenhouses and nurseries using cosmetic pesticides must comply with permit system. IPM accredited individuals on staff may apply to the City to act as inspectors for a specific property(ies). These accredited individuals would be able to issue permits at their own discretion during Year 1, providing that the City is informed of the pesticide application, 24-hour notice is given to neighbours, and all other conditions applying to permit use are respected. The Committee notes that most greenhouses and nurseries are likely zoned as commercial agricultural sites, and therefore these sites may be exempt from the bylaw as their use of pesticides does not meet the "cosmetic" definition.
- Application of pesticides would be permitted for plants or crops on private land intended for human consumption (e.g. fruits, vegetables) either when there is a serious infestation of insects, weeds or fungi **or** a where there is a reasonable expectation that such an infestation will occur in the near future. The City will determine if the intended use of pesticide is reasonable, and will discuss methods with the property owner before the permit is granted. Whether a permit will be required for each pesticide application on a property, or annual permits will be granted, is to be determined by the City in the future.

#### 1.5 Other Recommendations

- The City and any future Committees formed should discuss the creation of a list of acceptable, registered pesticide products for use without a permit
- If the City is aware a violation has occurred, reminder notices should be sent to all resident on the street of the property owner about the permit system, without identifying either the violator or the individual who reported the incident.
- A 'watchdog' group should be appointed to monitor the implementation of the Committee's recommendations, and report findings to the PET Committee annually. It is suggested that existing bodies, such as the City's Environmental Advisory Committee or Greenplan Steering Committee, might be appropriate choices.
- The City should also review the City Council resolution of 2000 regarding the use of pesticides on Municipal lands, and ensure that policy is consistent with policy arising from this Committee's recommendations as outlined in this report.

## 1.6 Implementation of Pesticide Action Plan

• The Committee recommends that a bylaw restricting the use of cosmetic pesticides, as described above, be gradually phased-in over a three year period as follows:

#### Year 1:

- Bylaw in effect -no use of cosmetic pesticides allowed, although the City would recognise that it is a transition year;
- Permits granted for serious infestations only, where the infestation is confirmed by the City.
- No charge is levied for permit or educational activities;

- Residents may contact the City about permit violations by other residents.
- Encourage lawn care and landscaping industry to implement IPM practices.
- IPM accredited individuals employed by lawn care or landscape companies, golf courses, research institutes, greenhouses or nurseries may apply to the City to act as inspectors. These accredited individuals would be able to issue permits at their own discretion, providing that the City is informed of the pesticide application, 24-hour notice is given to neighbours, and spray boundaries are maintained.
- Education is focus of enforcement program. In general, fines will not be issued although blatant or serious disregard (multiple applications without permit, improper application of product) of bylaw will result in fines
- Educational activities encourage the use of alternatives and disseminate information about the bylaw;
- Enforcement officers will have to take IPM accreditation training, and develop educational programs. The specific qualifications of these individuals are to be determined by the City.
- During this first year, residents would be able to trade-in pesticide products to the City, and receive free compost, and a pesticide free sign, in return.

### Year 2:

- Permits available at no charge for serious infestations as described above;
- Lawn care and landscaping companies would only get permits if IPM accredited;
- Permits would only be issued by bylaw enforcement officers
- Enforcement and fines in effect:
- Fines for lawn care and landscaping companies increased relative to residents.

#### Year 3:

- Permit granted for a fee;
- IPM accreditation mandatory for lawn care and landscaping companies;
- Enforcement and fines in effect;
- Fines for lawn care and landscaping companies increased relative to residents.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

In 1990, a Pesticide Use Committee was formed to evaluate pesticide use in the City of Guelph. Fifty Guelph residents were sent invitations, and nine individuals volunteered. In 1991, the Pesticide Use Committee recommended that the City reduce pesticide use and implement an Integrated Pest Management Program approach in relation to the operation and maintenance of parks and open areas. It was also recommended that a naturalisation policy be adopted for public property, and a spray registry for Guelph citizens be initiated. These recommendations were approved and implemented by Council.

In other parts of Canada, efforts were also being made to reduce pesticide use. During 1991, the town of Hudson, Quebec enacted a bylaw prohibiting the aesthetic use of pesticides within its boundaries, on both public and private property. This bylaw was unsuccessfully challenged at two-levels of the Quebec courts by a group of Hudson area landscaping and lawn care companies who were found to be in violation of the bylaw. In 1992, these companies made an appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada, and made a motion that the Court declare the Hudson bylaw as "inoperative and outside the Town's authority". In June, 2001, the Supreme Court ruled that the Town of Hudson had the authority to pass and enforce the bylaw, and the appeal was denied. This decision opened the door for other Canadian municipalities to pass bylaws in the interest of public health, in particular, bylaws relating to the use of aesthetic or cosmetic pesticides on public and private land within their boundaries. Since this decision was made, several municipalities have considered implementing bylaws that reduce, restrict or ban the use of cosmetic pesticides. In Ontario, the town of Cobalt was the first municipality to introduce such legislation.

In November, 2001, the Planning, Works and Environment (PWE) Committee of the City of Guelph, passed a resolution to initiate a public review process of pesticide use in the City. As a result, Guelph City Council resolved to establish a Pesticide Review Committee, whose purpose was to conduct the review of pesticide use, consult with the public, and to formulate recommendations for possible alternatives to pesticide use for the PWE Committee. Invitations to participate in the Pesticide Review Committee were sent to fifty Guelph residents chosen at random from the tax rolls. Seven residents

volunteered; however, one member removed themselves from the Committee after the first meeting. The Committee evaluation process began in September, 2002. This report presents a summary of the public consultation the Committee undertook, as well as the findings and recommendations of the Committee.

### 3.0 PESTICIDE REVIEW COMMITTEE

# 3.1 Membership and Organisational Structure

Six Guelph residents participated in the Pesticide Review Committee, with one of the six acting as Committee Chairperson. Profiles of these Committee members have been included within this report.

The following individuals also met with the Committee on a regular basis to facilitate the review of public comments, assist the Committee with scientific interpretation of the information presented and/or were involved in the compilation and generation of reports and presentations generated by the Committee:

# City of Guelph

- Bob Thompson
- Cyndy Garcia
- Jay Kivell

#### GlobalTox International Consultants Inc.

- Dr. Mark Goldberg
- Alison Mather
- Karen Phillipps

# 3.2 Committee Mandate and Responsibilities

The mandate of the Pesticide Review Committee was to review the use of cosmetic pesticides on private property within the City of Guelph, based on an evaluation of public comment, presentations of experts, and independent technical sources.

The responsibilities of the Committee included:

• Selection of a chairperson and establishing meeting dates;

- Establish a forum for public participation from individuals, community groups, special interest groups and experts who wish to present their opinions, technical data and recommendations. The Committee scheduled presentation dates and times for those who wished to participate;
- Obtain information on the recommendations, process and policies from other communities;
- Seek independent advice on issues as necessary;
- Develop draft recommendations on policies and specific actions;
- Hold a public meeting to obtain input on the draft recommendations prior to reporting to PWE and City Council.
- Complete tasks by December 15, 2002

### 3.3 Committee Activities

Six public meetings, scheduled from September 10<sup>th</sup> through to November 5<sup>th</sup>, were held on a bi-weekly basis. Between these public meetings, committee members gathered to review and discuss the information presented. The process of receiving and reviewing public comment the cosmetic use of pesticides on private property was conducted according to the public involvement process using the City of Guelph's Guiding Principles for Public Involvement, outlined in **Appendix A**.

### 4.0 **DEFINITIONS**

**Pesticide**: A substance or mixture of substances used to prevent, destroy, repel or mitigate any pest. Pesticides include chemicals, devices or organisms (PMRA, 2001).

Cosmetic Pesticide Use: The Pesticide Review Committee used the Regional Municipality of Waterloo's working definition of a "cosmetic" use of a pesticide, which is defined as "The use of pesticides for the maintenance of outdoor trees, shrubs, flowers, ornamental plants and turf and the removal of vegetation from sidewalks and driveways

and on other areas on part of the property used for residential, municipal or industrial, commercial and institutional purposes (excluding agricultural).

**Precautionary Principle:** The Pesticide Review Committee applied the Canadian interpretation of the Precautionary Principle as described in Section 2 of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA'99)*:

"where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reasons for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation, and promotes and reinforces enforceable pollution prevention approaches; take preventative and remedial measures to protect, enhance and restore the environment; take the necessity of protecting the environment into account in making social and economic decisions; implement an ecosystem approach that considers the unique and fundamental characteristics of ecosystems; endeavour to act in cooperation with governments to protect the environment..."

#### 5.0 PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS

In May 2002, Guelph City Council adopted a resolution that specified the following:

- Minutes and documents considered by the Committee were available to interested individuals;
- A mailing list be established to circulate the dates of Committee meetings;
- Input from local experts be solicited (including the University of Guelph, the Turf Grass Institute, the Landscape Trades Association, Ontario Public Interest Research Group, Ministry of the Environment and Energy, and the Public Health Unit (City of Guelph, 2002)

At each public meeting, six 10-minute spots were reserved for oral presentations by interested individuals and/or organizations. Additional individuals from the public were invited to speak, if time permitted. Written submissions to the City and/or Committee were accepted until October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2002. Oral presentations and comments were accepted until November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2002.

# 6.0 PESTICIDE USE ON CITY PROPERTY

The table on the following page summarises the pesticide use policies adapted as a result of the recommendation of the Committee in 1991.

Table 1: Summary of the Response to Pesticide Use Committee Recommendations since 1991

Pesticide Use Committee Recommendations	City Recommendations	Status 2002
"That the City implement a turf management programme in order to maintain healthy turf without pesticides. This plan would include de-thatching, topdressing, aeration, fertilization, see application, and revised mowing practices. We recommend that all sports fields be maintained at a 5 to 6.25 cm (2 to 2.5") mowing height, whereas other mowed parklands be maintained at 8.75 cm (3½")."	<ul> <li>Expand existing program to reduce the use of pesticides, yet maintain healthy and safe park facilities.</li> <li>Reduce herbicide usage by 35% in 1991</li> <li>Monitor and make recommendations as to cost implications and develop an integrated Pest Management (I.P.M.) Program. Report back to Council in November 1991</li> <li>3-year goal to eliminate pesticide use</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>75% reduction in pesticide use observed between 1990 and 1992</li> <li>Works eliminated use of herbicides, uses mechanical means only, between 2000 – 2002.</li> <li>Policy developed and implemented in 1991</li> <li>Council resolution in 2000 to phase out pesticide use on City property by December 31, 2005. Pesticides may be used after this phase-out period under specific conditions to control a specific pest that may cause an economic loss of plant materials or cause harmful effects to humans and animals</li> <li>Council resolution to review pesticide use on private property in 2001</li> </ul>
"That when new parklands are developed or park areas are redeveloped, the City require at least 22.5 cm (9") of topsoil, and such other conditions as will promote healthy turf."	As in the above recommendation – by developing the I.P.M. Program, these turf practices can be re-evaluated and developed.	
"That the City implement a naturalization policy to complement its policy on non-use of pesticides and to offer a variety of natural environments in its public lands."	The developer's Park Development Requirements and Conditions be changed to reflect a 9" depth of topsoil.	Implemented in 1991
"That the City implement an immediate ban on 2,4-D and any other chlor-phenoxy herbicides such as mecoprop that may be equally toxic."	Policy to be presented to C.S.C. within next 2 weeks for approval of City Council.	Naturalization policy implemented 1991
"During the 3-year phase out period, we recommend that the City increase the monitoring of spraying contractors and dismiss any contractors who fail to observe safety practices."	<ul> <li>Continue with present policy and utilize other resources to lessen the need for pesticides.</li> <li>The City does not use 2,4-D</li> </ul>	Implemented in 1991
"We recommend further that spraying cease immediately near the homes of chemically-sensitive people."	Continue with present monitoring policy via regular inspection (by staff) of all contractors carrying out work on municipal property.	Implemented in 1991
"That the City, led by the Recreation and Parks Department, Engineering, and Public Works, implement a plan for public awareness and education that encourages eliminating the use of pesticides and increasing the horticultural diversity of our public green spaces. Such a campaign could also encourage individual homeowners to eliminate or reduce spraying around homes."	<ul> <li>Continue with existing policy of remaining sensitive to chemically-sensitive people.         Advise public of policy via Rec. &amp; Parks         Leisure Brochure (persons will be registered with the Dept. as being chemically-sensitive.     </li> <li>A 50-foot buffer around play equipment will not be sprayed</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Registry continues to date</li> <li>Community education program developed in 1999 by City, OPIRG and GEN regarding pesticide use and alternatives</li> <li>Buffers implemented in 1991</li> </ul>
"That the City search for creative ways to involve neighbourhoods and community groups in decision-making and in the care of our parkland. Public involvement might be promoted through such efforts as a weed-pulling session in a specific area of the City or the adoption of a park by a community group."	The Recreation and Parks Department supports efforts made by all levels of government (Federal and Provincial) in reducing pesticide use where possible. The City's role (in our view) is to inform people of our policy and direction.	Council resolution to reduce pesticide use in 2000

Pesticide Use Committee Recommendations	City Recommendations	Status 2002
"That the City strengthen and enforce its policy on the use of sports fields which will protect the fields from use under conditions (such as rain and drought) which might damage the turf, and that this policy be included in the programme of public awareness."	Expand our present policy to include maintenance programs involving neighbourhood groups.	Recreation, Parks and Culture Strategic Plan promoted neighbourhood groups in 1997
"That emergency pesticide use be allowed in the case of uncontrollable infestations, and that limited specific pesticide use be allowed in the City's greenhouses."	Continue operating with present policy.	Council resolution to restrict use over 11 km/hr, above 20 °C and on air quality advisory days in 1999
"That the City, through Council and Recreation and Parks, encourage other major open-space holders to adopt a similar plan to eliminate pesticide use in their settings. Specifically, we recommend that Council approach the Wellington County Public and Separate School Boards; the University of Guelph; the Ministry of Correctional Services; the Grand River Conservation Authority; the golf courses; major industries; and other similar large open-space landholder, inviting them to join the City in this significant effort."	Continue with present I.P.M. Program and continue monitoring and implementing new practices of pest control, which will reduce the use of pesticides.	Council resolution to continue IPM program in 1999
As a long-term goal, we recommend that the City of Guelph move toward establishing itself as a pesticide-free municipality."	City Council advise other major open-space holders in Guelph of the I.P.M. Program once it is in place, and encourage them to do the same.	
	Work with Guelph Turf Grass Institute to experiment with and develop I.P.M. Program to further reduce pesticide use.	
	<ul> <li>Recreation and Parks is committed to developing an I.P.M. Program.</li> </ul>	

#### 7.0 PESTICIDE USE AND REGULATIONS IN OTHER MUNCIPALITIES

The use of pesticides and related regulations of some other municipalities were reviewed, and have been summarised in **Appendices C and D**.

#### 8.0 ISSUES RAISED IN THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Committee has categorized all oral, written and technical presentations under the following categories:

- Quantification of Public Response
- Mandate of Committee
- Human Health
- Environmental Impact
- Precautionary Principle
- Risk versus Benefit
- Quality and Consistency of Data
- Safety of Pesticides
- Off-Site Exposures
- Alternatives
- Education
- Public Rights
- Aesthetics
- Economics
- Regulatory Issues
- Enforcement

Detailed tabular summaries of the comments received are included in this report as **Appendix B**. The following Sections 8.1 - 8.16 include a summary of the Committee's understanding of each issue, and the related recommendation(s) of the Committee for each of the above-identified issues.

# 8.1 Quantification of Public Response

The City of Guelph received public response both in written and oral form regarding the use of pesticides within the City. The responses received from residents of the City of Guelph are summarised in the tables below.

Table 2: Summary of Opinions Regarding a Ban on Cosmetic Pesticides in the City of Guelph

In Favour of ban	Opposed to Ban	In Favour of Restrictions	No Clear Opinion Stated
74	35	5	5

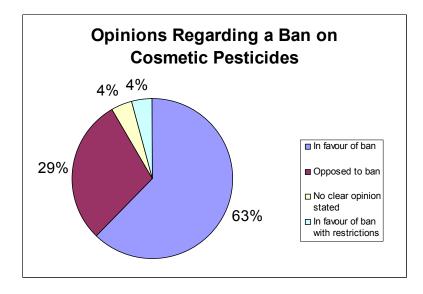
N=119, and includes oral and written submission received. All submissions from one individual were considered as one opinion.

Table 3: Summary of Responses According to Method of Submission

Oral Presentations	Written Submissions
43	104*

In the event that an oral presentation also included a written submission component, the written submissions were included in the total of 104 written submissions above.

The figure below provides a visual representation of the responses received during the public consultation process.



#### 8.2 Mandate of Pesticide Review Committee

## Committee Understanding of Issue

Several residents appear to question the evaluation of pesticide use by the City of Guelph, and whether a decision to ban or restrict pesticide use would be based on science.

## Summary of Public Comment

- A decision on pesticide use by the City must be based on science, not emotion or politics
- There is some question as to why the City is evaluating the use of products that have been assessed and approved by the Federal government.
- Some members of the public are concerned about the ability of a group of citizens to effectively review and interpret the scientific data relating to pesticides.

"...any decision made in regard to pesticide use must be based on strong science" Judy Shaw, Government Affairs Director, Sygenta Crop Protection Canada

"...there is no need whatsoever, for the City to review pesticides, when the City has no scientific expertise on the subject..."

## Marcia Healy, Guelph Resident

- The City of Guelph provided adequate support staff and extended their resources.
- Widespread support was indicated by the public for a review of cosmetic pesticide use in the City.
- The Committee has carefully considered the public's views.
- Both the PMRA and the Commissioner for Sustainable Development have recommended that municipalities take action regarding pesticides.
- The decision made by the Supreme Court regarding Hudson confirms the role of municipalities in this issue.
- The Committee is made up of citizens, and represents a cross-section of the City's population.
- Scientific expertise was made available to the Committee.

#### 8.3 Human Health

# Committee Understanding of Issue

The health effects associated with pesticide exposure are not well characterised. The range of pesticides available must be considered, not just any one pesticide, when health effects are discussed. Different pesticides may cause different effects, which may vary from person to person. Although numerous studies have been completed, clear associations between health effects and pesticide exposure are lacking. The question is whether it is appropriate for the City to 'err on the side of caution', and restrict or ban the use of pesticides in the interest of human health, based on what is known today about the health effects of pesticides. Human health endpoints of possible concern include (but are not limited to):

- Allergy;
- Asthma;
- Cancer;
- Endocrine disruption;
- Immunological effects;
- Neurological effects; and
- Reproductive and developmental effects.

### Summary of Public Comment

- There is increasing concern about the short-term and long-term effects of pesticides in children, due to their physiological (smaller size, developing systems) and behavioural differences from adults and longer potential lifetime exposures to pesticides.
- Several people doubt the quality of the PMRA assessments involved in product registration.
- Others maintain that pesticides that are found to directly cause adverse effects are not registered in Canada.
- The use of pesticides helps to reduce levels of pollen, mould, and weeds, which is beneficial to people with respiratory problems and allergy.
- Without the use of pesticides, weeds on recreational fields may pose tripping or slipping hazards to people, resulting in physical injuries.
- The quality of drinking water is threatened by pesticide use. The effects of the presence of pesticides in our water supply must be considered.
- Several peer-reviewed studies have found strong associations between pesticides and serious health effects.

- There is concern about the lack of data regarding long-term exposure to low-levels and mixtures of pesticides.
- People react to pesticides differently, particularly more sensitive individuals.
- Pesticides can help eliminate pests that pose health risks.

"...continuing to...spray...these chemicals poses a terrible hazard to our children, and theirs"

### Dr. Terry MacIntosh, Naturopath

"Many studies have now shown that maintaining turf on such a life support system is compromising our ground and surface waters, the air we breathe and our immune system health"

# Henry Kock, Guelph Resident

"The use of these chemicals is endangering not only our environment but human health as well"

## Cynthia Folzer, Guelph Resident

"Benefits of pest control to our health and home environments are real"

# Jill Fairbrothers, Scotts Fertilizer

"Pesticides can have a profound impact on humans and the ecosystem and there are far too many uncertainties surrounding their use"

# Clover Woods, Guelph Resident

# Response by the Committee

- The use of cosmetic pesticides is a public health issue.
- The scientific literature indicates that chemicals that are commonly used as cosmetic pesticides may be harmful, although both positive and negative results have been observed
- Differences in speculation versus scientific argument must be recognized.
- The Committee could spend years debating the carcinogenicity of pesticides.
- Science is constantly evolving. The Committee must find a 'middle ground' based on evidence available today.
- Many scientific publications, including ones from the National Cancer Institute of Canada, highlight the general lack of appropriate studies regarding pesticide exposure and cancer and encourage further research in this area.

There are no health benefits associated with cosmetic pesticide use.

# 8.4 Environmental Impact

# Committee Understanding of Issue

Pesticides may harm or kill organisms (amphibians, bacteria, insects, animals, plants) that are not their targets. Given that different pesticides have different targets and modes of actions, both the short- and long-term effects of exposure to several pesticides on the environment must be considered.

# Summary of Public Comment

- The overall impact of these non-target organisms is not well known.
- Several residents were concerned with health risks to their pets from cosmetic pesticides.
- People are concerned about the distribution of pesticides in the environment (air, water, soil), and how pesticide use adds to pollution.
- There is evidence that suggests that pesticides do not persist in the environment, and have low mobility and are therefore less likely to become distributed in the environment.

- Pesticides can have a profound negative impact on the environment.
- Protection of the environment is important.
- Some pesticides are persistent and may accumulate in the environment.
- The behaviour of commercial products in the natural environment may be different than what was observed in a laboratory setting. Possible synergistic effects between various pesticides and other chemicals may occur.

# 8.5 Precautionary Principle

# Committee Understanding of Issue

Is it appropriate to apply the Precautionary Principle in a decision to ban or restrict the use of pesticides in the City of Guelph?

## Summary of Public Comment

- The PMRA conducts extensive evaluations of pesticide products prior to sale. By doing this, the Precautionary Principle is applied.
- Although the risks associated with pesticide use may not be clearly defined, the Precautionary Principle should be applied in the interest of protecting human and environmental health.
- In the past, products that were once considered safe were later discovered to be hazardous, and were withdrawn from the market, but not before consequences resulted. Is it reasonable to wait and find out whether science deems the products used today as safe or unsafe, while risking human health in the meantime?
- Pesticides do not present an unacceptable risk to serious or irreversible effects.

### Laura Colman, Guelph Resident

"If we are to err, let's err on the side of caution, and just not take the risk"

Joan Bruder, Elora Centre for Environmental Excellence

- When chemicals are used to control naturally-occurring organisms or systems, caution should be exercised.
- It is appropriate to apply the Precautionary Principle with regard to this issue.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Let's not wait to see what the health impact is on us – my children are simply too precious for that"

#### 8.6 Risks versus Benefits of Pesticide Use

# Committee Understanding of Issue

Do the benefits of pesticides used for cosmetic purposes outweigh the potential risk to humans and the environment?

### Summary of Public Comment

- The use of pesticides for lawn care does not justify any potential adverse effects, especially when alternatives are available.
- Human health should be of higher priority than a green lawn or economic interests.
- There are some benefits to the cosmetic use of pesticides that substantiates their use, such as on sports fields
- The Federal government has determined that there are no unacceptable risks in the use of the pesticide products

"...I believe that there are some benefits to pesticide use that outweigh many of the perceived risks"

### Dayna Horgan, Guelph Resident

"Pesticides are poisons which may adversely affect...air, water, soil and children. Is it worth it?"

### Elizabeth Snell, Guelph-Wellington Coalition for Social Justice

- Risk= exposure x hazard. The hazards are not clear, although they exist. Exposure is also uncertain; therefore, the risk is also uncertain.
- Although the active ingredients of pesticides are known, the inert ingredients are not.
- More people are assuming the risk than reaping benefits associated with pesticide use.
- People are hesitant to accept risks that they do not choose themselves.
- The risks posed are not acceptable by many in the community
- Everyone's level of risk tolerance is different. As a community we should find a middle ground.

# 8.7 Quality and Consistency of Data

# Committee Understanding of Issue

The database associated with the safety of pesticides is variable and inconsistent. Although it is known that the PMRA conducts detailed reviews of pesticide products before they are sold and used in Canada, there appears to be some speculation as to the reliability of the data used in these evaluations, the association between industry and the PMRA, and the expertise of the PMRA in reviewing pesticide products.

#### Summary of Public Comment

- Concern about lack of information regarding long-term exposures to pesticides, including to low-levels and mixtures of pesticides
- Products approved in the past have now been banned due to improved scientific knowledge.
- The reliability of data produced by the pesticide industry is questionable, as concern about potential bias has been expressed.
- There has also been some concern expressed about the lack of data provided regarding the non-active ingredients present in pesticides.
- The PMRA does require several studies to be submitted, including toxicological information.
- The accuracy and reliability of the pesticide risk assessments is questioned. In particular, the accuracy of predicting the risk of children and sensitive individuals is of concern.
- Some individuals feel that several adequate studies have been completed for certain pesticides, and are confident in the results.

### David Douglas, Guelph Resident

- There is enough data to create cause for concern regarding the health effects associated with pesticides.
- Reducing pesticide use will reduce the likelihood of pesticide poisonings.
- An enormous amount of data has been presented, although it is not conclusive.
- PMRA is currently re-evaluating older products.
- According to the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development to the House of Commons (2002), there has been little progress in re-evaluating existing pesticides. Of the 550 active pesticide ingredients currently

<sup>&</sup>quot;Science advances by proving itself wrong"

approved for use in Canada, over 300 were approved before 1981, and over 150 were approved before 1960. Conditions placed on the use of these ingredients in the past were less stringent, and may have been below current health and safety standards. In 2001, the PMRA agreed to re-evaluate 405 of these older ingredients by 2006. Of the approximately 49 re-evaluations that were initiated, only 17 have been completed or discontinued.

## 8.8 Safety

# Committee Understanding of Issue

There is some speculation as to whether pesticide products have been evaluated appropriately, and if they are really 'safe'. The integrity of the scientific safety data is questioned.

## Summary of Public Comment

- Pesticides pose minimal health risks when used as directed, or by qualified applicators.
- The effects of long-term exposure to low-levels of or mixtures of pesticides and chemicals are not well known.
- Cumulative exposures to pesticides, from several sources, are of concern.
- In the past, some pesticides (e.g. DDT) were approved for use, and then banned later due to observed health and environmental concerns.
- Alternatives used by people instead of pesticides may be more hazardous.
- If the pesticides are harmless, then why is so much protective equipment required?
- Homeowners are not trained in the proper application of pesticides.
- Some individuals seem confident in the PMRA's assessment of pesticides, while others feel that these evaluations are influenced by industry.
- How safe are the 'inert' ingredients contained within pesticides?

- We are not aware of all of the effects of pesticides on the environment.
- The PMRA has distanced itself from industry there is confidence in their assessment of pesticides.
- PMRA is re-evaluating products that were once thought to be safe. To date, some have been found to not be safe.

# 8.9 Off-Site Exposures

# Committee Understanding of Issue

There is some concern that pesticides do not remain at the site of application, and that drift occurs through air, soil and water. As a result, these pesticides may come contact non-target areas and/or organisms. In addition, some people choose to not use pesticides, many believe that they are exposed as a result of application to nearby properties.

# Summary of Public Comment

- Pesticides do not stay where they are sprayed, but drift in the air, leach into groundwater, and accumulate in the soil. Household pets and children in contact with sprayed grass may walk on sprayed grass may carry pesticides into the house.
- Wildlife may be affected by off-site exposures.
- Groundwater and drinking water are affected, as pesticides have been detected in several of Guelph's storm water retention ponds.
- Studies have shown that exposure to lawn care pesticides of homeowners and pesticide applicators was below regulatory guidelines and bystanders were not exposed. People are overestimating their exposure to these pesticides.

# Patrick O'Toole, O'Toole Lawn Care

"Even though we do not use the products....we are exposed to them repeatedly by our neighbours and their lawn care services"

### Lorna Rourke, Guelph Resident

- Given that pesticides have been found in Guelph storm water, pesticides may move in the environment.
- Several anecdotes have indicated that exposure takes place as a result of pesticide application.
- The proportion of lawns treated with pesticides in the City must be considered.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Smell is not exposure"

#### 8.10 Alternatives

## Committee Understanding of Issue

Several methods have been suggested as alternatives to cosmetic pesticides, including Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

## Summary of Public Comment

- Lawns can thrive without using pesticides. Equally satisfactory results can be
  obtained from a variety of alternatives, such as: overseeding, aerating, handpulling weeds, naturalization, mulching, and fertilizing
- Pesticides are only one component of a lawn care program. They cannot be completely replaced with what may be less-effective alternatives.
- IPM is a viable, effective option that reduces the use of pesticides and involves the use of other lawn care methods.
- The risks, both known and unknown, of using chemical pesticides can be reduced through the use of alternatives, which are safer than pesticides

### **Darcy Olds, Landscape Ontario**

"Healthy lawns are not produced with pesticides, they are the result of the interaction of the lawn grasses to a healthy living soil. Pesticides, in fact create an unhealthy lawn and garden by destroying much of the very beneficial and essential life in the soil...it is the mismanagement of lawns that is an issue in creating the conditions that make lawns so prone to pest invasion in the first place"

### Henry Kock, Guelph Resident

"On our property we have demonstrated that there are viable alternatives to the dependence on chemicals for a healthy, attractive, and productive garden, an approach that benefits us and the natural community"

### Ann and Alex L.A. Middleton, Guelph Residents

- There is a need for public education regarding the use of alternative approaches to promote healthy lawns and gardens.
- Lawns appear to become chemically dependent.
- Topsoil depth in new subdivisions should be 9 12" in depth.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Increased use of home made concoctions = increased risk"

#### 8.11 Education

# Committee Understanding of Issue

Education may be used to inform residents about alternatives to pesticides and/or the proper use of pesticides, either in the presence or absence of a bylaw. It must therefore be an essential component of any decision made by the Committee regarding pesticide use.

#### Summary of Public Comment

- Homeowners should be made more aware of the various alternatives for lawn/garden care that are available. This would result in a decrease in the use of pesticides.
- Lawn care companies, through advertising, are encouraging the public in a ecologically unsafe belief, that a perfect lawn is desirable and that weeds and other pests must be eliminated through the use of pesticides.
- Lawn care companies should educate employees in the techniques, safety aspects and applicable knowledge of the trade.

# Oxanna Adams, Guelph Resident

- Education will play an important role in any recommendation the Committee makes on the reduction of the use of cosmetic pesticides
- Education will be especially important during a transition phase.
- The City has excellent resources available for education purposes. Mailouts, advertisements, or print media may also be used to educate the public.
- Education can be a powerful tool.
- Lawn care companies should implement additional training for employees.
- Lawn care and landscaping companies should be involved in the public education process.

<sup>&</sup>quot;...while public education is necessary, it is not enough"

#### 8.12 Public Rights

# Committee Understanding of Issue

The rights of both the individual and the community in relation to cosmetic pesticide use. The debate centres around whose rights take precedent: the freedom of homeowners chose whether or not they should use pesticides on their own private property; or the right of others to not be involuntarily exposed to pesticides.

### Response by the Public

- Several homeowners feel that they have to right to apply pesticides on their private property if they so desire, as the products used are federally regulated and approved
- Other individuals feel that pesticides do not stay where they are applied and can travel in the environment from the site of application. Their choice to not be exposed to pesticides is being compromised by unintentional and/or involuntary exposures.
- It is also thought that a bylaw in favour of a ban is supported by a vocal minority, who are not representative of the majority of Guelph residents.

### A. Miller, Guelph Resident

"Seatbelts, drinking and driving, smoking and more recently, lawn watering bans – these are all things that we have imposed or restricted because as a society we recognised the benefit outweighed the 'personal choice' argument"

# Ben Bennett, Guelph Resident

"...I believe that homeowners have the right to care for their property"

## Karen Sagan, Guelph Resident

"...The City can do what it wants on public property, but has no right to interfere with spraying on private property"

## John Neustaed, Guelph Resident

- The right to enjoy good health takes precedence over the right to use cosmetic pesticides.
- Since exposure isn't necessarily limited to a private lawn following application, public rights must be considered.

<sup>&</sup>quot;I believe we as taxpayers have every right to breathe fresh clean air"

#### 8.13 Aesthetics

# Committee Understanding of Issue

There some concern that a ban in the cosmetic use of pesticides will result in unattractive properties and this may negatively affect property values, business images, and personal satisfaction in owning attractive lawns and gardens.

# Summary of Public Comment

- Some residents are concerned that property values will drop if they cannot use pesticides to improve the appearance of their property
- The appearance of a property is important to businesses, and this may be diminished if pesticides are banned for use in the control of weeds
- The enjoyment home gardeners obtain from a beautiful garden will be reduced if pesticides are no longer available to aid in the creation of such a garden

- There is no evidence that property values are affected by pesticide use.
- Image of a 'golf course' like lawn is not the only acceptable one.

#### 8.14 Economics

# Committee Understanding of Issue

In the event that a bylaw restricting or banning pesticide use is enacted within the City of Guelph, several individuals may be impacted, including the employees of landscaping and lawn care companies, and property owners. Banning pesticide use could result in a loss of business for lawn care and pesticide companies. There are also additional costs associated with instituting and administering such a bylaw. Some of theses costs could be passed on to Guelph taxpayers. Alternative services may also be more expensive for both service providers and consumers.

# Summary of Public Comment

- Lawn care companies should provide more alternatives to pesticides. More environmentally-friendly approaches could be used. These companies wouldn't have to lose clients. Instead, these companies may adapt to an increased market for alternative lawn care.
- IPM is a means of protecting private, public and commercial properties from pests and economic loss.
- There is concern about the potential increased cost of an IPM approach to routine lawn care.
- The City's decision on pesticide use will impact more than just lawn care companies. Grounds maintenance, tree services, City Parks and golf course staff.
- Some residents are concerned with the cost to taxpayers of a bylaw banning or restricting products that are not known with certainty to be harmful.
- The power and resources that are available to industry to advertise its viewpoint is of concern.
- Will a ban prevent new businesses from locating in Guelph?
- Loss of jobs may result from a bylaw.
- The impact of a pesticide ban on property value should be considered.

#### Tracy Rockett, Guelph Resident

"those [lawn care industry] employees can eventually find other work, but those affected by pesticide use can never find our health back"

#### James Gordon, Guelph Resident

<sup>&</sup>quot;A business does not have the right to exist. It has to earn its share of the market every day"

- We are a society of convenience, where people use lawn care companies so that they do not have to do the work themselves. A restriction would not remove this option from the public, although it may increase the cost.
- Costs may be increased at first, but may decrease over time.
- IPM is a compromise solution that helps reduce pesticide use and encourages appropriate use of pesticides, without putting companies out of business.
- Lawn care industry appears to already be in transition, moving towards IPM accreditation and reducing pesticide use.
- There would be a role for lawn care and landscaping companies in the future to provide labour-intensive alternative services.
- We have seen two studies on this issue that indicate that when lawn care companies make the transition to IPM, they are more profitable.

## 8.15 Regulatory Issues

# Committee Understanding of Issue

As a result of the Supreme Court ruling regarding the pesticide bylaw in the Town of Hudson, PQ, municipalities have the authority to enact bylaws in the interest of public health. As a result, the City of Guelph may establish a bylaw that prohibits or restricts the use of pesticides on public and private land within municipal boundaries.

There are a few regulatory options that the Pesticide Review Committee may consider including in a bylaw:

- Prohibition or ban of pesticide use on private and public land;
- Restriction of pesticide use on private and public land;
- Implementing a permit system for pesticide use (by private citizens or professionals);
- Implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Practices
- Encourage use of alternative methods and techniques

It is noted that any potential bylaw could not govern pesticide-related issues that are currently regulated by either the provincial or federal governments, such as provincial applicator licenses, or the manufacture, registration, assessment, sale, or distribution of pesticide products.

### Summary of Public Comment

- Numerous residents appear to be in favour of prohibiting the use of pesticides. Of these individuals, a few suggest that there be some exceptions where pesticide use is allowed.
- Other residents feel that additional restrictions on the use of pesticides are not warranted, as the PMRA extensively examines these products before they are available. If the federal and provincial governments already regulate pesticides and their use, why is regulation by an additional level of government required.
- Some people are confident that the new *Pest Control Products Act* (PCPA) is more stringent and conservative than the previous PCPA. Creating a bylaw would be unnecessary to protect human health.
- There is concern that prohibition or restrictive bylaws will not reduce the total pesticide use in the City, as it may increase the number of homeowner pesticide applications as the sale of pesticides cannot be restricted by a bylaw.

- Compliance and enforcement of any restrictions or ban is questioned.
- IPM is seen by some as self-regulation by industry, and therefore its effectiveness is questioned. The regulation of cosmetic pesticide use should be handled at the municipal level to ensure compliance.
- Bylaw should take the Precautionary Principle into account, and 'err on the side of caution
- The bylaw should be accompanied by education programs about IPM and pesticide use.
- A gradual phase-out or reduction of pesticides is also favoured as an alternative to an outright ban on pesticide use.
- Due to re-zoning of municipalities, agricultural lands may be present within municipal limits. How would the bylaw apply to these properties?
- There is doubt about how effective the Hudson bylaw has been in prohibiting and monitoring the use of pesticides. Few permits have been granted in the Hudson area, and retailers have continued to sell pesticide products.

## Gerry Kelley, Guelph Resident

"...the golf course community would like this committee recommend the city adopt an Integrated Pest Management approach with a public awareness campaign on potential health effects if pesticides are used improperly"

### David DeCorso, Victoria Park Golf Clubs

#### Response by the Committee

• Pesticide use is a health issue, and the protection of human health must take precedence over the property owner's choice to use cosmetic pesticides.

### Recommendation of the Committee

- Committee recommends that a bylaw restricting the application (by any method) of cosmetic pesticides to exterior landscaped areas of residential, industrial, commercial and institutional property be established within the City of Guelph.
- Committee recommends that the City of Guelph commit to a Pesticide Action Plan consisting of three key elements:
  - A policy of being proactive in the protection of human health and the environment through the promotion and endorsement of pesticide-free methods of lawn and garden management;
  - Implement a permit system to regulate the use of pesticides in the case of serious infestations only, and to allow tracking and regulation of pesticide use;
  - Implement an effective education program.
- Bylaw would not apply to the interior areas of buildings or to swimming pools.

<sup>&</sup>quot;...any restriction on the use of chemical pesticides is a step forward..."

- Lawn care and landscape companies operating within the City of Guelph must comply with permit system. IPM accredited individuals on staff may apply to the City to act as "surrogate inspectors" for Year 1 only as a transitional provision. These accredited individuals would be able to issue permits to use cosmetic pesticides to treat infestations during Year 1, providing that the City is informed of the pesticide application, 24-hour notice is given to neighbours, and all other conditions applying to permit use are respected.
- Golf courses and lawn bowling facilities must comply with permit system, but would have a five year period in which to phase-in, and negotiate pesticide use reduction with the City, with the ultimate goal of pesticide elimination. IPM accredited individuals on staff may apply to the City to act as "surrogate inspectors" for a specific property(ies). These accredited individuals would be able to issue permits at their own discretion on (a) specified property(ies) only during Year 1 of the implementation of the City's Pesticide Action Plan, providing that the City is informed of the pesticide application, 24-hour notice is given to neighbours, and all other conditions applying to permit use are respected.
- Research institutes (e.g. Guelph Turfgrass Institute) that depend upon the maintenance of turf and experiment with cosmetic pesticides must comply with permit system as well. IPM accredited individuals on staff may apply to the City to act as "surrogate inspectors" for a specific property(ies). These accredited individuals would be able to issue permits at their own discretion during Year 1, providing that the City is informed of the pesticide application, 24-hour notice is given to neighbours, and all other conditions applying to permit use are respected.
- Greenhouses and nurseries using cosmetic pesticides must comply with permit system. IPM accredited individuals on staff may apply to the City to act as inspectors for a specific property(ies). These accredited individuals would be able to issue permits at their own discretion during Year 1, providing that the City is informed of the pesticide application, 24-hour notice is given to neighbours, and all other conditions applying to permit use are respected. The Committee notes that most greenhouses and nurseries are likely zoned as commercial agricultural sites, and therefore these sites may be exempt from the bylaw as their use of pesticides does not meet the "cosmetic" definition.
- Application of pesticides would be permitted for plants or crops on private land intended for human consumption (e.g. fruits, vegetables) either when there is a serious infestation of insects, weeds or fungi **or** a where there is a reasonable expectation that such an infestation will occur in the near future. The City will determine if the intended use of pesticide is reasonable, and will discuss methods with the property owner before the permit is granted. Whether a permit will be required for each pesticide application on a property, or annual permits will be granted, is to be determined by the City in the future.
- Application of pesticides would be permitted for plants or crops on private land intended for human consumption (e.g. fruits, vegetables) either when there is a serious infestation of insects, weeds or fungi **or** a where there is a reasonable expectation that such an infestation will occur in the near future. Note that this does not refer to commercial agricultural operations, to which the term "cosmetic

pesticide" does not apply. Rather, this refers to backyard fruit and vegetables grown for personal consumption. The City inspector will determine if the intended use of pesticide is reasonable, and will discuss alternative methods with the property owner before the permit is granted. Whether a permit will be required for each pesticide application on a property, or annual permits will be granted, is to be determined by the City in the future.

- Application of pesticides for all other outdoor areas (lawns, landscaping, and gardens) would be permitted only when there is a serious infestation of landscaped areas by insects, weeds or fungi. The City must confirm the existence of a serious infestation in order for a permit to be issued, and it is at the discretion of the City inspector as to what constitutes a serious infestation. When a permit is issued, there should be a provision that allows the City inspector to limit the application to a defined, pest-infested area only, rather than the entire property.
- Permits could be valid for 10 days from date of issue.
- Written notification should be provided to neighbouring properties at least 24-hours before the application of any cosmetic pesticide, and warning signs must be posted after the application of a pesticide and remain posted for at least 72-hours.
- Pesticide application (with a permit) is prohibited under the following conditions:
  - Wind speed greater than 11 kph;
  - Temperatures above 25°C;
  - On trees during their blooming period;
  - When the forecast of rain on a given day is 50% or greater;
  - Within 10 m of any body of water;
  - During an air quality advisory day.
- 'Certified' medically sensitive individuals can provide medical documentation to the City. A permit will only be granted to a neighbouring property if the medically sensitive individual is in agreement, and a specific date for the intended pesticide application is agreed upon by both parties. The City may assist in mediation.
- A property containing a public groundwater well is to be considered as a
   'chemically-sensitive' property and will be added to the registry. Pesticide
   application on adjacent properties would normally not be permitted. The
   Committee recommends that the City establish a specific radius around public
   wells in which pesticide application is prohibited, in order to clarify the
   precautionary "buffer zone".
- The City should also examine the use of pesticides on properties surrounding private wells, and determine if permits may be granted. Owners of properties containing private wells could request the addition of their addresses to the registry. The Committee recommends that the issuance of permits to properties adjoining private wells be left to the discretion of the City inspectors on a case-by-case basis, and that the City should establish a 'buffer zone' or protective radius of land around private wells where pesticide application is not permitted.

- A 'watchdog' group should be appointed to monitor the implementation of the Committee's recommendations, and report findings to the PET Committee annually. It is suggested that existing bodies, such as the City's Environmental Advisory Committee or Greenplan Steering Committee, might be appropriate choices.
- The City should also review the City Council resolution of 2000 regarding the use of pesticides on Municipal lands, and ensure that policy is consistent with policy arising from this Committee's recommendations as outlined in this report.
- The Committee recommends that a bylaw restricting the use of cosmetic pesticides, as described above, be gradually phased-in over a three year period as follows:

## Year 1:

- By law in effect no use of cosmetic pesticides allowed, although the City would recognise that it is a transition year.
- Permits granted for serious infestations only, where the infestation is confirmed by the City.
- IPM accredited individuals employed by lawn care or landscape companies, golf courses, research institutes, greenhouses or nurseries may apply to the City to act as inspectors. These accredited individuals would be able to issue permits at their own discretion, providing that the City is informed of the pesticide application, 24-hour notice is given to neighbours, and spray boundaries are maintained.
- Residents may contact the City about permit violations by other residents.
- Encourage lawn care and landscaping industry to implement IPM practices.
- Education is the focus of the enforcement program. In general, fines will not be issued although blatant or serious disregard of bylaw will result in fines.
- Education will encourage use of alternatives.

## Year 2:

- Permit available at no charge.
- Lawn care and landscaping companies would only get permits if IPM accredited.

## Year 3:

- Permit granted for a fee.
- IPM accreditation mandatory.

## 8.16 Enforcement

# Committee Understanding of Issue

Without enforcement, the effectiveness of a proposed bylaw would be questionable.

There is some question as to how any restrictions or reductions would be reasonably enforced by the City.

# Summary of Public Comment

- A bylaw banning or restricting the use of cosmetic pesticides would only be effective if it was enforced. This would not happen as enforcement would depend on public vigilance in reporting infractions.
- Enforcing bylaws on private property would be very difficult.
- There are existing laws regarding pesticides (e.g., it is illegal to produce spray drift). They should be enforced if there is concern over off-site exposure.
- Pesticide applicators already violate existing regulations self regulation and compliance would not work.
- There appears to be a lack of public confidence in compliance and enforcement.
- There is some concern that the City will not 'stick' to any proposed recommendations.

# Patrick Kehoe, The Beaudry Group

"...to ban pesticide use on private property is not only an unacceptable and drastic action... but it is also not enforceable"

# Jay Bradshaw, President, Sygenta Crop Protection Canada

# Response by the Committee

- It is in the best interests of industry to comply with IPM.
- The majority of people are law abiding, and will be willing to make changes and become educated.
- Enforcement would be best done gradually, and should be incorporated along with education.

## Recommendation of the Committee

- Education should be the focus of enforcement for the first transition year, although serious or blatant violations of the bylaw should result in fines.
- Bylaw should be phased in over a three-year period as follows:

<sup>&</sup>quot;I draw a comparison between IPM and the need for gun control legislation: If I have it [a pesticide] to use, I'm statistically more likely to abuse it"

## Year 1:

- Enforcement officers will have to take IPM accreditation training, education etc.
- First year, enforcement should be more lenient to help gradually implement change. Residents would be encouraged to trade-in pesticide products to the City and receive free compost and a"Pesticide-Free Zone" sign, as incentives.
- Education is focus of enforcement program. In general, fines will not be issued although blatant or serious disregard (multiple applications without permit, improper application of product) of bylaw will result in fines.
- If the City is aware a violation has occurred, reminder notices should be sent to all residents on the street of the property owner about the permit system, without identifying either the violator or the individual who reported the incident.
- Use examples of other bylaw enforcement.

# Years 2 and 3:

- Enforcement and fines in effect.
- Fines for lawn care and landscaping companies increased relative to residents.
- If the City is aware a violation has occurred, reminder notices should be sent to all resident on the street of the property owner about the permit system, without identifying either the violator or the individual who reported the incident.

## 9.0 CONCLUSIONS

## 9.1 What We Heard

The Pesticide Review Committee conducted an extensive public consultation on the issue of the use of cosmetic pesticides, including lawn care herbicides, insecticides and fungicides that are used to enhance the appearance of a property. We heard that people are concerned about adverse health effects from exposure to pesticides. We learned that the "body of scientific evidence" regarding human health impacts of long-term pesticide exposure is not conclusive, and we heard that people prefer to err on the side of caution by reducing human and environmental exposures to these chemicals. We have heard that Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a more environmentally-friendly method of lawn care. IPM uses pesticides only as a last resort in cases of infestation. Consequently, we have recommended a Pesticide Action Plan consisting of (1) a strong, and clearly-worded policy statement, (2) a bylaw restricting the use of cosmetic pesticides to situations were there is a confirmed infestation, and (3) an effective educational program focused on IPM principles.

The majority of those opposed to restricting pesticide use identified themselves as having some vested economic interest in continuing current practices. The majority of those in favour of restrictions seem to have the greater good of public and environmental health as their motivation.

We also heard that a permit system, such as the one we propose, has numerous details to be addressed. For this reason, we have recommended a transition period during which those impacted by a bylaw can begin to comply with the restrictions. We heard that there are certain groups, such as golf courses and lawn bowling facilities that depend on excellent turf to carry out their operations. We have also heard that it will be difficult for the University of Guelph's Turf Grass Research Institute to conduct research while complying with a permit system. For these organizations we have proposed that the bylaw still apply, but that not all of its provisions apply.

# 9.2 The "Big Picture"

The City of Guelph has been moving towards becoming "pesticide-free" in a process that started over a decade ago. The 1991 report of the Pesticide Review Committee recommended that the City "...move toward establishing itself as a pesticide-free municipality." The recommendations contained in this current report reinforce this original recommendation.

The City has also participated in the Nations in Bloom competition for several years. This year, Guelph won the top award for municipalities of our size. One of the elements of the Nations in Bloom competition is that communities are judged on their "Environmentally Sensitive Practices". The recommendations of the Pesticide Review Committee are based on responsible environmental stewardship, and coincide well with the goals of the Nations in Bloom program.

Another major initiative the City of Guelph undertook this year, as part of its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, was the SmartGuelph consultation. This was designed to determine what citizens want the City to look like in 25 years. One of the core principles that emerged from the SmartGuelph process was: "A city with a healthy and sustainable environment, vigilantly demonstrating environmental leadership; a citizenry that values environmental and social advocacy, participation, and volunteerism." Implementation of the Pesticide Action Plan outlined in this report is highly consistent with this core principle.

Another consideration is whether or not restriction of cosmetic pesticide use as recommended is unique to Guelph. During this consultation, we heard that 46 municipalities in Canada are currently considering this same issue. Some, such as Hudson, Baie D'Urfe, Halifax, Ottawa, and Cobalt already have restrictions in place. This is not a new issue, nor is it one that is likely to go away. The Pesticide Review Committee heard from the citizens of Guelph that the time has come to restrict the use of cosmetic pesticides.

## 10.0 REFERENCES

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The public is also accountable to the process and to the enhancement of the capacity to accomplish the project goals. All parties (including council, staff, other proponents and the public) have a responsibility to:

- focus on the real issues and not on the furthering of personal agendas;
- balance personal concerns with the needs of the community as a whole;
- have realistic expectations;
- participate openly, honestly and constructively, offering ideas, suggestions, alternatives, etc.;
- listen carefully and completely;
- identify their concerns and issues early in the process;
- provide their names and contact information if they want direct feedback;
- make every effort to work within the project schedule; if this is not possible then this should be discussed with the proponent as soon as possible. Participants must also recognize that process schedules may be constrained by external factors (e.g. broader project schedules or legislative requirements);
- recognize that there is no single voice that is more important than all others, and that there are diverse opinions to be considered;
- work within the process in an integrated and cooperative manner;
- accept some responsibility for keeping themselves aware of current issues; when possible, participants should also make others aware of project activities and solicit their input; and
- recognize that the measure of the success of the process is the fullness of public involvement and the quality of the outcome.

- ✓ Inclusive not Exclusive
- ✓ Participant Support
- ✓ Purpose Driven
- ✓ Time and Financial Constraints
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Accessibility and Adaptability
- ✓ Access to Information
- ✓ Access to Decision-Making
- ✓ Appreciation and Respect for Diverse Interests
- ✓ Accountability
- ✓ Evaluation
- ✓ Confidentiality

# City of Guelph Decision-Making:

The Public Involvement Process



Information on How to Participate Effectively in Our Processes



For more information on the Public Involvement Process, please contact Information Services, Clerk's Division at 837-5603.

## Objective

Encourage and facilitate people to have meaningful input into the decision-making processes that affect the quality of life in our community.

# **Guiding Principles for Public Involvement**

#### 1. Inclusive not Exclusive

Everyone's participation will be welcome. In addition, anyone with an interest in the issue will be invited and encouraged to be involved early in the public involvement process. New representation from all sectors of society will be encouraged.

## 2. Participant Support

The public involvement process will proactively seek support of participants willing to invest the time necessary to make it work.

## Purpose Driven

The public involvement process must be closely linked to when and how decisions are made. The issues at stake and the relationship between the public involvement process and the decision making process will be clearly communicated to participants.

#### 4. Time and Financial Constraints

The public involvement process will operate within a time frame and budget appropriate to the potential impacts and the level of public concern. All participants will strive to reach a shared understanding about the time frame and budget for public consultation at the beginning of the process.

#### 5. Communication

The issues as well as the decision-making and public involvement processes and their progress will be communicated to participants and the community-at-large. Two-way communications will be encouraged using appropriate methods and technologies. The processes will be clear and easy to understand.

The public involvement process will be both accessible and adaptable, recognizing all limits or constraints and encouraging the level of public involvement to be reflective of the magnitude of the issues and the needs of the participants.

#### 7. Access to Information

The public involvement process will provide participants with timely access to all relevant information in an understandable and user-friendly way. Education and training requirements will be considered.

## 8. Access to Decision-Making

The public involvement process will give participants the opportunity to influence decision-making. The participants will be provided with timely feedback as to how their input influenced the decisions as they are made.

## 9. Appreciation and Respect for Diverse Interests

The public involvement process will foster respect and show appreciation for the diverse values, interests and knowledge of those involved. Participants will be thanked for their involvement.

## 10. Accountability

The public involvement process will recognize that all participants (public, Council, City staff, and proponents) are accountable to both their constituents AND to the demonstrable success of the process. The roles and responsibilities of all participants are attached.

#### 11. Evaluation

The success and results of the public involvement process will be measured, evaluated and communicated back to all participants.

## 12. Confidentiality

Participants have a right to privacy and therefore the public involvement process must accommodate a stated desire for confidentiality.

# **Roles and Responsibilities**

#### Council

City Council is ultimately responsible to all the citizens of Guelph and must weigh each of its decisions accordingly. Councillors are responsible to their local constituents under the ward system, however they must carefully consider the concerns expressed by all parties. Council must ultimately meet the needs of the entire community and act in the best interests of the City as a whole.

During its review and decision-making process, Council has an obligation to recognize the efforts and activities that have preceded its deliberations. Council should have regard for the public involvement processes that have been completed in support of projects, and Councillors should be prepared to discuss their rationale for their decisions in light of that public involvement.

#### City Staff

The future of the City should be designed to meet the needs and priorities of its citizens. Staff responsible for the design and implementation of public participation processes have an obligation to ensure that the Guiding Principles are the backbone of their processes. In addition to the responsibilities established by the Guiding Principles, staff have a responsibility to:

- pursue public involvement with a spirit that recognizes the value it adds to projects;
- in all public involvement activities, work towards fostering long-term relationships based on respect and trust;
- encourage positive working partnerships;
- take-up the challenge to draw out the silent majority, the voiceless and the disempowered;
- ensure that decisions and recommendations reflect the needs and desires of the entire community; and
- ensure that no participant or group is marginalized or ignored.

All Participants (Proponents, Public, Council, Staff)

Appendix B - Summary of Public Consultation - Aesthetics		
Name and/or Organisation	Comments	Code
Dimitre Tochev	"I am truly enjoying the outdoors including gardening, landscaping, and maintaining a beautiful thick and green grass without weeds, insects and disease. These are my main hobbies after work and I am not alone".	N
Marcia Healey	"parts of our city are filled with ugly weedsWe already have a water ban in Guelph re. our lawns (they are not green any more!) and don't want to see ugly weeds growing in it too".	N
Henry Kock	"Aesthetics is not the issue, how we achieve it is".	R
Don McArthur	"Prohibiting the use of a pesticide (by a qualified professional) will result in a less attractive property and personal dissatisfaction to us".	N
Bill Hulet, Green Party	"the grass we place in our yards is an imported plant that only survives through heroic measuresthe lawns that surround most of our homes are nothing more than cultural conventionsthe iconic image of the perfect lawn is that of a green carpet or the felt covering of a billiard tableThis vision is totally at odds with nature".	В
G.L. Lovelock	"I do not want my property to be overrun with weeds like many city boulevards and parks".	N
Dr. Kalman N. Czegledy, President, 174 Stone Road Limited	"We do not feel that we want to have our property overrun with weeds like many boulevards and parksWe are proud of the image our property presents to the public and do not want that diminished".	N
Rod Splane, ServiceMaster Lawn Care Co.	The term 'cosmetic use' trivializes the importance of appearance - when buying a house, how it looks from the street is important.	N
Ray Chyc, Engage Agro Corporation	"Home gardeners: these folks are proud of their gardens and use a variety of pesticides (from organic to conventional) to produce beautiful flower gardens and amazingly productive vegetable gardens".	N
G.L. Lovelock	"I do not want to see my property value drop after my years of investment and hard work".	N
Dr. Kalman N. Czegledy, President, 174 Stone Road Limited	"after a number of years of increased property taxes and increased property assessments we do not want to see pain added to injury, where property value drops due to unsightly and seemingly uncared for landscaping".	N
Rob Witherspoon, Guelph Turf Grass Institute	Grass has many features: recreational, oxygen, cooling, organic matter, erosion prevention. Pesticides are needed when there is extra wear and tear, poor turf management, or drought.	N
Lloyd Cummins, University of Guelph Physical Resources	Appearance is important for students in choosing a university.	N

B: In favour of a ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides

December 2002

- N: Not in favour of a ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides
- R: In favour of a ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides, with restrictions
- A: No clear opinion stated concerning the ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides

Appendix B - Summary of Public	Consultation - Economic Impacts	
Name and/or Organisation	Comment	Code
John Geeza	"If the lawn care companies want to prove themselves as "stewards of our green spaces" there are lots of viable options - including more labor and garden and less lawn - to improve the quality of their stewardship and a better civic image along with new sources of profit".	В
Dr. Paola Rozzi	"[lawn care companies] should be able to maintain their clients, but should be helped through a transition period towards a more environmentally friendly approach".	В
Barbara Martin (a)	"It does not seem that economics should be a high priority for those businesses who spread pesticides on the lawns. Could they not be involved in alternate ways of lawn care as well as alternates to "billiard table" lawns?".	В
Nancy Tout	"Without a doubt, the Canadian federal risk assessment process of pesticides is recognized globally as being the most stringentWhy then would you consider additional taxpayer money to allow the review committee, not consisting of science experts, to reconsider this decision?"	N
John Cruickshank, Owner, Outdoor Services, lawn care and landscaping business	"For lawn care companies and their customers this topic is a matter of pay cheques, pride of home ownership, and property rightsused in many other occupations besides home lawn care, such as grounds maintenance, city parks staff, tree service, and golf course staff. Your decision on pesticide use will affect many more employees in Guelph besides lawn care technicians".	N
Bill Hulet, Green Party	"any ban on the use of pesticides will have its greatest effect on lawn care companies and the homeowners and businesses that buy their services. If any one element of our society has a responsibility for "dumbing down" our knowledge of the ecology of our yards, while at the same time "ramping up" our expectations, it is those businesses".	В
Judy Shaw, Government Affairs Director, Syngenta Crop Protection Canada	"Pest management technologies and integrated pest management (IPM) are important tools in protecting our homes, farms, gardens, schools, railway lands, forests and recreational properties from pest and resulting economic loss".	N
Leslie St. Jacques, Coordinator, Pesticide-free Lawn and Garden Care Project, Ontario Public Research Interest Group (OPIRG)	"Restrictions on the use of cosmetic pesticides, may open a large market to existing lawn care companies willing and able to adapt, and provide organic lawn care services".	В
Dr. Merryl Hammond	"The chemical pesticide industry is part of an even larger, multi-billion dollar global pharmaceutical industry with massive vested interests in the continued use of pesticide products, and virtually unlimited funds to silence potential critics and to influence public opinion and government officials".	В
Dr. R. Stephen Rodd	"There are many companies and individuals which have made large investments in skills, expertise, management, marketing and equipment. It is only fair to give them a periodin which to write off these investments and/or to turn those assets to alternative employment".	R
John Neustaed	A ban on pesticide use will put the lawn care companies out of business.	Ν

Loriann Auswald	Lawn care companies will adapt and use alternatives if cosmetic pesticides are banned.	В
Colleen O'Shea	"There is no accountability for the use of pesticides. The main focus is on the profit and loss statement".	Α
Monique ten Kortenaar	"A pesticide by-law in Guelph will not likely hurt lawn-care companies if they are flexible and willing to adjust their businesses and to start using integrated pest management techniques, and other organic methods, since there will always be people using their services. These organic methods are more labour intensive, so no jobs need to be lost".	В
Monique ten Kortenaar (b)	"As far as the lawn care companies are concerned: there will always be people that need someone to take care of their lawns and gardens. Phasing out pesticide use on private property does not have to cost anyone any jobs in this field".	В
Maggie Treanor	"The cost which "they" [lawn care companies] and you and I are going to have to pay for safe food and water, and the costs yet to be borne for health care because of our exposure to all these pollutants during our ignorant years is the 'economic consequence'."	В
Norah and Richard Chaloner	"We do have safe alternatives to pesticides for healthy attractive landscapes and we will still need lawn care and landscaping companies in this regard".	В
Paul MacIntyre	"economic impact on both the home owner and staff of all companies providing these servicesI worry about their ability to provide for their families and earn monies for school costs".	N
Bill Hulet, Green Party	"The money and power that industry can use to advertise its point of view is simply far beyond that of anyone who is advocating in the public interestMother Nature cannot afford to hire an advertiser".	В
Jay Bradshaw, President of Syngenta Crop Protection Canada	"We [Syngenta] would be very disappointed at being located in a city, which disregards validated science in a decision on the use of pesticides, by homeowners. To ban the use of pesticides on private property would not represent a decision based on science".	N
Doris Taylor	"If Council can be provided with absolute proof that the products used are harmful then shouldn't the matter be first taken up with the Federal Government and not banned until the Federal Government becomes involved? It would be foolhardy and expensive to start something else which would lead to court and cost to taxpayers".	N
Dr. Tim Allman	"If the industry is willing to adapt to a more restrictive regime, they could do very well in providing ecologically friendly lawn care services".	В
Dr. Tim Allman	"[Integrated Pest Management] is probably too expensive for routine lawn care and Landscape Ontario knows this. They have written a code of practice [that] will allow them to continue on much as they do now".	В
Chris Lemcke, Environmental Coalition of Ontario, Pesticide Safety Council, Weedman owner	Livelihood is at risk by this process of banning pesticides.	N
Rod Splane, ServiceMaster Lawn Care Co.	Landscaping can contribute 10-15% to the value of a house. Also, plants and trees are uninsured.	N

Rod Splane, ServiceMaster Lawn Care Co.	Will a ban act as a disincentive in attracting new businesses to Guelph?	N
Elizabeth Snell, Guelph-Wellington Coalition for Social Justice	"If pesticides affected only the user, there might be an argument that we can do what we want on our own property. But given our publicly funded medicare systemeven if only the user's health were affected, the community has a stake".	R
Elizabeth Snell, Guelph-Wellington Coalition for Social Justice	"a statistic that USA spends more on lawn care in a year than all the taxes collected in India for a year. Sometimes a sense of proportion is offered by considering our issues in the context of the world's problems".	R
Elizabeth Snell, Guelph-Wellington Coalition for Social Justice	"Economically, lawn care companies provide jobs. We feel that jobs may be as numerous with organic lawn care and that they'd be safer, saving health system costs and maybe large future damage settlements against the companies".	R
Darcy Olds, Landscape Ontario Lawn Care Commodity Group	"[banning pesticides is] expensiveloss of plant health = loss of property valuesunnecessarily destroy[s] an industry that provides jobs and support for the local economy".	N
David DeCorso, Victoria Park Golf Clubs	"At present we do not have alternatives to protect against all pest problems we may face during the year. What would happen if the City of Guelph banned pesticides and the surrounding municipalities did not? The golf courses in Guelph would not be able to provide acceptable playing conditions and compete with surrounding golf courses. If these businesses become unviable there would be economic repercussions".	N
Oxanna Adams	"Selling pre-packaged spray programs is the assembly line approach to lawn-careThis approach has resulted in healthy profit margins for the lawn care industryWhy should we trust them to abandon such financially lucrative practices in favour of IPM, and to monitor and police their own behaviour?".	В
Patrick Kehoe, Landscape Turf Maintenance and Construction, The Beaudry Group	"Turf care organizations are for the most part call centre generated, high volume based businesses dependant on the ability to get in and get out in a shortest time period possible, even at the expense of applying chemicals that may or may not be required because it is part of their contractual obligation to do soit is easier and less expensive to again blanket spray everything and eliminate the potential for any call back whatsoever".	В
Patrick Kehoe, Landscape Turf Maintenance and Construction, The Beaudry Group (b)	"there is a positive side [to] a ban. It is my belief that not only will my industry survive, but it will thrive as a result. Organic turf care requires greater expertise, closer monitoring and more labour intensive practices. This will result in the creation of more jobs in the local area and demand for even greater services".	В
Evan Ferrari	"Local companies suggest that they are doing the city a fine economic service. As it turns out, a large percentage of the money that is spent by consumers on lawn chemicals actually leaves the city and goes to the large multinationals that manufacture the chemicals elsewhere".	В

Cheryl Anderson	"In the case of banning pesticides, 'lawn care' companies are protesting that they will lose business. I would like to suggest that they become truly lawn care companies and not just pesticide application companies. I think they will find their business increasing, as homeowners hire them to provide environmentally sustainable lawn care".	В
Nolan Humphries	"Arguments that an industry has sprung up to apply these toxins is irrelevant. In our economy industries come and go in response to many factors, including health factors. We no longer use asbestos in buildings, for example, although it undoubtedly cost jobs when it was stopped".	В
Heidi Torreiter	"Lawn and landscaping companies have done enough research into providing alternative lawn and garden care for their clients. They most certainly will not lose clients or money if these methods become their new sources of income".	В
James Gordon	"The argument that banning pesticides will hurt the businesses involved with lawn care is not a very visionary argument. It may lose some jobs in the short term. Those employees can eventually find other work, but those affected by pesticide use can never find our health back".	В
Tracy Rockett	"One of the concerns raised by the lawn care companies is that they would have to change part of the service they provideA business does not have the right to exist. It has to earn its share of the market every day".	В
Ray Chyc, Engage Agro Corporation	"Property values WILL drop in Guelph if our homes and parks are weed and bug infested".	N
Ray Chyc, Engage Agro Corporation	"Also, if Guelph were to ban pesticides, I think we would likely lose some jobs - would the biggest Crop Protection Company in the world maintain its Canadian head office in Guelph?Overall, I would think there would be a loss of industry, a loss of jobs, and possibly, reduced enrolment at the university".	N
Megan Gruner, the Natural Path Garden Design and Installation	"It is true that companies that make a living spraying pesticides will be faced with a tough situation if this bylaw goes throughI am constantly being asked by my clients for natural lawn care and sadly have few people to refer them toThese companies and individuals will have to change their approach but I assure you the demand is there".	В
Ben Bennett	"We have heard that you can only have a tidy property and sell your home for top dollar if you use pesticidesas more and more people become concerned about pesticides trying to sell a house which has been regularly sprayed may well become more difficult, not easier".	R
Sheila O'Reilly	"The proponents of a 'freedom to pesticide' choice have predominantly argued their case based on economic principles. Many arguments have come from the manufacturers and pesticide companies themselves so, of course, it is in their interests that people should be allowed to continue using toxic chemicals on their lawns".	В

B: In favour of a ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides

N: Not in favour of a ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides

R: In favour of a ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides, with restrictions

December 2002

A: No clear opinion stated concerning the ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides

Appendix B - Summary of Public Consultation - Regulatory Issues		
Name and/or Organisation	Comments	Code
Clover Woods	"I believe a pesticide by-law could develop a process in which the public would have confidence and that a by-law would ensure that we are all protected and would outline parameters that everyone must follow and provide a vehicle for education".	В
Bill Hulet, Green Party	"any ban on the use of pesticides will have its greatest effect on lawn care companies and the homeowners and businesses that buy their services. If any one element of our society has a responsibility for "dumbing down" our knowledge of the ecology of our yards, while at the same time "ramping up" our expectations, it is those businesses".	В
Ann Lotter	"an expensive license with a detailed application procedure [should] be required"	В
Leslie St. Jacques, Coordinator, Pesticide- free Lawn and Garden Care Project, Ontario Public Research Interest Group (OPIRG)	"A municipal by-law that incorporates the precautionary principle will ensure that if anything, we err on the side of caution, giving priority to social and environmental health".	В
Leslie St. Jacques, Coordinator, Pesticide- free Lawn and Garden Care Project, Ontario Public Research Interest Group (OPIRG)	"I would like to see the federal government amend the Pest Control Products Act in a way that truly protects the public. I would like to see the federal government overhaul the Pest Management Regulatory Agency".	В
Dr. R. Stephen Rodd	"I feel that legislation is necessary beyond the currently available tools"	
Dr. R. Stephen Rodd	"a system based on voluntary co-operation will not workwater and air are 'Common Property Resources', which are not owned by anyone".	R
Dr. R. Stephen Rodd	"There should be municipal bylaw action. Eventually such municipal provisions should lead to laws at the Provincial level".	R
Dr. R. Stephen Rodd	"There should be a phase-out period from 2002 to 2010, by which time there should be no application of the current herbicides in use to lawns and ground for purely cosmetic purposes. An exception would be available for application of current pesticides by means which are directed at individual weeds or insect infestations by hand-operated and controlled methods which cover areas measured in a few square feet, such as less than five square feet. There should be provision for permits to apply herbicides to selected weedswhich [are] resistant to digging, e.g. poison ivy".	R
Dr. R. Stephen Rodd	"The regulations should apply to all property both public and private".	R
Dr. R. Stephen Rodd	"There should be exceptions allowed, such as selected specified weeds and insects where the infestation is above a specified severity"	R
Dr. R. Stephen Rodd	"There should be no application of chemicals except by special permit to wetlandsthere should be no application of pesticides to lands near municipal water supply wells or in "wellhead protection areas". "	R

Henry Kock	"I would be content to do so [apply pesticides] on a application for permit basis - it would serve to further ensure that I can really justify the reasons for using a limited application of a pesticide".	R
Henry Kock	"Pesticide bans are perceived to be hard to enforce and they are. At the very least a permit should be required for all applications. It would ensure the implementation of a non-biased, lawn and garden education program and that if pesticides are used, that timing is appropriate for the pest in question".	R
Henry Kock	"My work with pesticides began at age 15No protection was recommended or used. There were times that I felt nauseous, dizzy and I even threw up on a number of occasionsa few years laterthey started to ban many of the pesticides I had used[I have] zero faith in the industry's ability to "self regulate" or to tell the truth about their pesticide products - all of which are designed to kill".	R
Colleen O'Shea	"Currently we [condominium owners] are considered as one address by the City of Guelph and as such there is no obligation to place more than one sign indicating the use of pesticide spray at one end of the road".	А
June Hofland	"I am aware that the Supreme Court ruled the town of Hudson, Quebec had the authority to enact a by-law regulation and I hope the City of Guelph will also consider this restriction".	В
Monique ten Kortenaar	"the Pest Control Products Act is hopelessly outdated".	В
Dimitre Tochev	"Canada has a very strong and scientifically based Pest Management Regulatory AgencyIn order for a product to be registered, a tremendous amount of data showing the safety of the compound is reviewed prior to any registration"	N
R. Marie Thorne	"The Federal and provincial governments already control these products, so why are you considering an additional layer of bureaucracy, and taxpayers' money, to further regulate products that are already highly regulated?".	N
Karen Sagan	"The safety of registered products is stringently tested in Canada for value, health and safety as well as environmental impact. Health Canada has one of the most conservative evaluation programs to measure effects of pesticides on children".	N
Marcia Healey	"I feel strongly that, so long as we apply regulated products, approved by the Federal government that has very stringent laws and regulations, there should not be a risk to any one".	N
John Cruickshank, Owner, Outdoor Services, lawn care and landscaping business	"The lawn care products we use must pass a large number of chemical environmental, and health related studies to gain registration by the Pest Management Regulatory Agency of Health Canada. Then the Ontario Ministry of the Environment again examine environmental and toxicological studies on each pesticide product before allowing it for sale in Ontario".	N

John Cruickshank, Owner, Outdoor Services, lawn care and landscaping business	"We must have an Ontario Ministry of the Environment license to apply pesticides to any lawn other than our own".	N
John Cruickshank, Owner, Outdoor Services, lawn care and landscaping business	"The City of Guelph has no power to stop the retail sale of legally registered pesticides".	N
Jay Bradshaw, President, Syngenta Crop Protection Canada	"The laws regulating the safety and use of pesticides in Canada reside with the Health Canada and to some extent the Provincial governmentsHealth Canada conducts a thorough review of these products prior to commercialization".	N
Judy Shaw, Government Affairs Director, Syngenta Crop Protection Canada	"As a globally based company dealing with regulatory authorities in many countries, we can state without hesitation that the Canadian federal risk assessment process is recognized globally as being the most stringent internationally".	N
Paul P. Proulx	"The federal government tests, approves and regulates the products our company uses. I am confident that the Canadian government has high standards and that the products pose no acceptable risk to human health or the environment".	N
Melissa Campbell	"my girlfriend and I were walkingpast Laurine Ave. school and King George School and we were horrified to see Roundup (the worst toxic pesticide) spray signs on the lawnsThe signs gave July 15thas the posted date. They do not list a spray date".	В
Joan Bruder, Elora Centre for Environmental Excellence (c)	"the [Upper Grand District School Board] does not have a written policy regarding pesticide use, but is spraying for 'noxious' weeds as identified by the city".	В
Doris Taylor	"If the Federal Government has approved the products used and there is no scientific proof that the products used cause damage to humans, animals or the environment then why would Council support those who dispute the Federal Government?"	N
Dr. Kalman N. Czegledy, President, 174 Stone Road Limited	"Our federal government through its agent, the Pest Management Regulatory Agency, puts pesticide products through rigorous evaluations to make sure that these products do not pose unacceptable risks to the health or the environment of Canadians and that should be sufficient and binding to all".	N
Dr. Tim Allman	"In spite of what it says, industry does not follow its own guidelines. While they say that they do not spray on windy days or smoggy days, my experience is that they continue without regard to the guidelines".	В
Dr. Paula Chidwick	"There are many reasons and professional bodies recommending bans on cosmetic uses of pesticides on both public and private lands. This list includes the Canadian Institute of Child Health, the Canadian Public Health Association, the Ontario College of Family Physicians, the Canadian Cancer Society, the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment, the Ontario Public Health Association, the Canadian Nurses Association and the Learning Disability Association of Canada".	В

Chris Lemcke, Environmental Coalition of Ontario, Pesticide Safety Council, Weedman owner	Lawn care use represents only 2% of total pesticide sales in Canada.	N
Chris Lemcke, Environmental Coalition of Ontario, Pesticide Safety Council, Weedman owner	Recommends voluntary reduction with third party auditing similar to the Responsible Care program used by chemical manufacturers.	N
Darcy Olds, Landscape Ontario, Lawn Care Commodity Group	"Bylaws cannot prohibit the sale of pest control products. Where bans exist pesticide use has not declined. Only impacts licensed professional applicators".	N
Darcy Olds, Landscape Ontario, Lawn Care Commodity Group	"By-laws are targeted to professional applicators (homeowners can discreetly apply the products). Prohibition and by-laws will not reduce pesticide use and will result in a greater percentage of homeowner applications. Some by-laws have the potential for increased pesticide use".	N
Jill Fairbrothers, Scotts Fertilizer	"Pest control products are strictly regulated (new PCP Act)".	N
Oxanna Adams	"IPM accreditation is really industry self-regulationRegulation is only effective when it is administered by an independent third party. In the case of the regulation of cosmetic pesticides, this can only be done by our local municipal government".	В
Oxanna Adams	"a loophole exists in the regulatory frameworkno government [federal or provincial] oversees the frequency of application, the need for product use, and application timing for when products are effective. A carefully crafted municipal by-law can address this gap in the legislation".	В
Oxanna Adams	"Pesticide application should be allowed on a permit basis onlythe individual must prove that all other courses of action were explored and none were effective. He/she must also show that the proposed treatment is not for cosmetic purposes".	В
Patrick Kehoe, Landscape Turf Maintenance and Construction, The Beaudry Group	"we are still forced to contract this service [use of chemical pesticides] out to othersThis is directly attributable to the absence of legislation that would at the very least encourage a gradual reduction and the eventual elimination of these toxic substances from these properties".	В
Patrick Kehoe, Landscape Turf Maintenance and Construction, The Beaudry Group (b)	"recently conducted polls clearly indicate that 82% of Ontario residents support municipal by laws restricting pesticide use and 97% would consider switching from pesticides to alternatives if they were given information on options".	В
Diana Macdonald, AGCare	"with the re-zoning of many municipalities, the lands you govern may now include those with agricultural purposes. The inclusion of these lands within your municipal limits can be a potential cause of conflict".	Α

Walter Banas	"The pesticide products available at local retail outletsare carefully regulated in Canada through a program of pre-market scientific assessment, enforcement, education and information disseminationNew pesticide products are granted registration only if there is sufficient scientific evidence to show that a product does not pose unacceptable health or environmental risks and that it serves a useful purpose".	А
Walter Banas	"In response to health and environmental concerns of Canadian citizens, specifically concerns regarding the impact of pesticide exposure on children, Health Canada has drafted a new Pest Control Products Act".	А
Walter Banas	"This strategy [a total ban on pesticide use] will create a patchwork of pesticide use throughout Canada and ignores the output of our talented scientists within the federal government as well as the network of regulators in other jurisdictions (i.e. other countries)".	Α
Walter Banas	"I would like to propose that the City of Guelph adopt a vigorous campaign to inform and educate its citizens on following IPM practices. This activity will provide reductions in pesticide use in both the short and long term and will be complimentary to the new pesticide registration and existing pesticide re-evaluation activities being implemented by the federal government".	А
Heather Kepran and David Sills	"Major health and environmental organizations such as the Canadian Cancer Society, the Ontario College of Family Physicians, and the federal House Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development have supported the idea of bans on cosmetic pesticide use".	В
Heather Kepran and David Sills	"council set a precedent by passing a similar bylaw that banned smoking in all public places. The logic in that case was that the health of 'innocent bystanders'was negatively affected by those smoking. Similarly, pesticides that travel on the wind when sprayed and travel through the soil to our groundwater pollute the greatest of public places, all of nature".	В
Janette Smiderle, TD-Canada Trust Friends of the Environment Fund, Guelph Chapter Committee	"without the proper education and more arduous process that farmers must go through, the average city resident can buy pesticides almost anywhere and apply them in unsafe manners that far exceed the recommended dosage for the small amount of lawn most city of Guelph residents have".	В
Janette Smiderle, TD-Canada Trust Friends of the Environment Fund, Guelph Chapter Committee	"I also found out that playgrounds in Guelph are not sprayed. However, a perimeter distance of 50 feet outside of the playground (as I recall) is sprayed. I wondered how people would get to the non-sprayed area of the playground without having to traverse over the sprayed areas".	В
Dr. Donna Houghton, Syngenta Crop Protection Canada	"Canada has the most stringent regulatory requirements in the world. PMRA reviews [hundreds] of studies on newly proposed products".	N

John Ladds, Environmental Council of Ontario, Weedman	Hudson, Quebec - retailers still sell pesticides, bylaw in effect since 1991. Permits issued - only 30 have been issued per year, for a community of 1900 houses and 5000 people. No charges have been laid, except one, over 12 years.	N
Patrick O'Toole, Owner, O'Toole Lawn Care	Lawn care industry is asking for level playing field - industry will follow bylaw banning cosmetic use of pesticides, homeowner won't.	N
Patrick O'Toole, Owner, O'Toole Lawn Care	Recommends public education and adoption of IPM.	N
Dr. Paola Rozzi	"[lawn care companies]should be able to maintain their clients, but should be helped through a transition period towards a more environmentally friendly approach".	В
Barbara Martin (a)	"It does not seem that economics should be a high priority for those businesses who spread pesticides on the lawns. Could they not be involved in alternate ways of lawn care as well as alternates to "billiard table" lawns?".	В
Dr. Merryl Hammond	"Introduce an immediate moratorium on the cosmetic use of chemical pesticides in residential areas until such time as their use has been scientifically proven to be safe, and the long term consequencesknown".	В
Dr. Merryl Hammond	"Appoint people with demonstrated competenceand with professional qualifications in medicine, nursing, public health, epidemiology and clinical toxicologyto staff the Pest Management Regulatory Agency"	В
Dr. Merryl Hammond	"Use conventional epidemiological standards to evaluate the data submitted by pesticide manufacturers and only register (or re-register) pesticides which have met these standards".	В
Dr. Merryl Hammond	"Insist that all data sets submitted by manufacturers include detailed results of occupational, bystander, and community exposure studies".	В
Dr. Merryl Hammond	"Require registrants to submit additionalexposure data and environmental fate data 3-5 years after initial registration. This would ensure ongoing monitoring of the effects of pesticides"	В
Dr. Merryl Hammond	"Initiate a national health education campaign about the health effects of pesticide exposures and ecological alternatives to pesticides".	В
Dr. Merryl Hammond	"Make all pesticide-related morbidity and mortality medically reportable conditions; Ensure adequate diagnostic and treatment facilities for victims of pesticide exposure".	В
Dr. Merryl Hammond	"Make chemical manufacturers disclose all the contents (including so-called "inert ingredients") of pesticide products on labels, and print clear health warnings on labels".	В
Dr. Merryl Hammond	"The government officials and staff responsible for pesticide registration are inappropriately trained and/or underqualified and therefore unable to do their work with any competence".	В

Katherine G. Howitt	"I am writing to express my support for regulation of the use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers on lawns and gardens".	В
Rebekah Jamieson and John Seguin	"Just as we have a bylaw against smoking in Guelph, we need a bylaw against pesticidesWe would prefer that this law apply to both residential and commercial properties".	В
Timothy MacDonell	"I suggest that like the "watering ban", substantial fines and penalties be applied as a deterrent to pesticide misuse".	В
Laura Coulman	"I truly hope that the City of Guelph can use Hudson, Quebec as an example, and enact a bylaw restricting the use of pesticides both publicly and privately".	В
David DeCorso, Victoria Park Golf Clubs	"the golf course community would like this committee recommend the city adopt an Integrated Pest Management approach with a public awareness campaign on potential health effects if pesticides are used improperly".	N
Dr. Keith Solomon, Centre for Toxicology	"Should landscape pesticide uses be banned? Not for toxicological or health reasonsConsider the countervailing risks: costs, risks of alternatives. Use pesticides properly. By all means use Integrated Pest Management to reduce use but keep all the tools in the box".	N
Nolan Humphries	"I strongly favour phasing out all herbicide and pesticide use on lawns in Guelph over, say, a three year period".	В
Ray Chyc, Engage Agro Corporation	"Work with Crop Life Ontario to set up an "Obsolete Pesticide Day" 1-2 times per year, whereby residents can bring their old pesticide products in to one location for pickup and removal, rather than taking them to the dump".	N
Ray Chyc, Engage Agro Corporation	"Promote a program for Reduce-Reuse-Recycle! Not just for garbage, but for pesticides.  Reducing pesticide use is to everyone's advantage. Eliminating or banning them will simply drive everything underground and will not resolve the root cause to this issue".	N
Tony DiGiovanni, IPM Council and Landscape Ontario	"The IPM Accreditation Program is a positive step and represents the common ground between environmental activists and the horticulturalindustry. We believe it is the solution that you require to deal with pesticide concerns".	N
Ben Bennett	"a five-pronged approachA bylaw, restricting pesticide applications to the treatments of problems. A comprehensive educational program for homeowners and another for the lawn care industry. Thirdly, action at the site plan control level, to improve the quality of the lawns at the outset. A pesticide advisory committee to address issues as they arise. And finally, compare notes with other municipalities".	R
Leslie Work	"I sincerely hope that Guelph will institute a ban on cosmetic pesticide use, and I hope that the definition of cosmetic is sufficiently broad as to result in pesticides being restricted to all but the most extreme of situations".	В
John Ambrose, former manager of horticulture, Toronto Zoo	We can live with a bylaw - we already pick up after dogs, don't smoke in public places.	В

Kathleen Cooper, Canada Environmental Law Association	"The law is not protective: older standards are rarely child-protective; newer/proposed standards are rarely child-protective; laws and underlying methods are not protective - reactive laws, not used or enforced, risk assessment and risk management".	В
Kathleen Cooper, Canada Environmental Law Association	"Council motions: to reduce non-essential use of pesticides; not whether but when and how; public consultation; assess cost implications; education about alternatives; legal opinions; draft by-laws".	В
Tom Charette, Canadian Federation of Independent Business	"Our lawn care members use pesticides approved for use by the federal government.  Environment Canada says the pesticides involved are safe. [There is] a very tough federal regulatory regime for approving a pesticide".	N
Gerry Kelley	"any restrictions on the use of chemical pesticides is a step forward. The first of many such steps to improve the environment we all live in".	В
Charles Caccia, Chair - Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development, House of Commons	"the Justices make a very strong case for municipalities to use their powers to protect the health of their citizens from the dangers posed by pesticides".	В
Rob Witherspoon, Guelph Turf Grass Institute	The city can position itself as a centre for pesticide reduction, and provide leadership.  Research has been supported by regulatory bodies; Guelph should help, and provide transitional support for homeowners and the lawn care industry.	N
Lloyd Cummins, University of Guelph Physical Resources	The definition of cosmetic use must have some allowance for pesticide use: some shrubs, flowers etc. are used in teaching, and must be maintained.	N
Robert Milligan, Wilmot Township Environmental Advisory Committee	Progress policies on quality of life [restricting pesticides] would attract top notch physicians, professors, etc. to the area.	В

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B: In favour of a ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides

N: Not in favour of a ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides

R: In favour of a ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides, with restrictions

A: No clear opinion stated concerning the ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides

Name and/or Organisation	Comments	Code
Patrick O'Toole, Owner, O'Toole Lawn Care	"There are existing laws already on the books that make illegal to have spray drift. If there is a concern about spraying on windy days these laws should be enforced".	N
Jay Bradshaw, President, Syngenta Crop Protection Canada	"to ban pesticide use on private property is not only an unacceptable and drastic action, and an affront to property owners, but it is also not enforceable".	N
John Cruickshank, Owner, Outdoor Services, lawn care and landscaping business	"If the City of Guelph bans or restricts the use of pesticides, who is going to enforce the by-laws?".	N
Clover Woods	"Through the years following this review [City of Guelph review committee on pesticide use in 1990] the community services department of the City of Guelph, greatly reduced their use of pesticides; but they did not stick to the 3 year phase out on municipal lands, by 1994".	В
Clover Woods	"[the City of Guelph, school boards, the University of Guelph, other institutions, large industrial property owners] work under their own mandates for outdoor property maintenance; and any infractions concerning pesticide use against even their own policies, are left to the public/volunteers to recognize and reportthere are problems of communication within departments of some of the institutions I've referred to regarding lack of training or lack of supervision".	В
Clover Woods	"In one recent example, the Upper Grand School Board started its Round Up spray programand many, if not all, of the school properties were signed improperly".	В
Clover Woods	"My point is that, even when high profile institutionshave said they would commit to a more environmentally responsible approach and fail, then where does that leave public confidence?"	В
Clover Woods	"[Integrated Pest Management]is self serving to the lawn spray industry and still leaves the onus on the public to watch for infractions".	В
Chris Lemcke, Environmental Coalition of Ontario, Pesticide Safety Council, Weedman owner	Hudson, Quebec bylaw bans the use of weed control products, but it is not enforced because enforcement depends on neighbours telling on each other.	N
Patrick Kehoe, Landscape Turf Maintenance and Construction, The Beaudry Group	"I don't believe for one minute that my industry is neither physically nor financially capable of legislating and policing an IPM program properly".	В

Patrick Kehoe, Landscape Turf Maintenance and Construction, The Beaudry Group (b)	"I draw a comparison between IPM and the need for gun control legislation: If I have it to use, I'm statistically more likely to abuse it. A recent Ontario Ministry of the Environment inspection of pesticide applicators found that 6 out of 10 applicators were in "serious violation" and one third were out of compliance with pesticide regulations. In light of this abuse that continues to escape the eyes of the very strict monitoring system we now have in place, the very last thing that should be [considered] is a move toward self regulation and the replacement of our current system with one that, as of yet, does not exist".	В
John Ladds, Environmental Council of Ontario, Weedman	Enforcement - passive reporting, on complaint basis	N
Gail McCormack, Guelph Environment Network	"Some critics of pesticide bylaws claim that people won't comply. Well, some won't, but the question that should be asked is how we can increase compliance[for example] changing the way people sort their waste is usually a comprehensive effort that includes information, warnings and then outright refusal to pick up waste".	В

B: In favour of a ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides

N: Not in favour of a ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides

R: In favour of a ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides, with restrictions

A: No clear opinion stated concerning the ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides

Appendix C: Pesticide Use Policies in Various Municipalities

Municipality	Reference	Type of Policy and Brief Summary
City of Brampton	Corporate Policies - Pesticide Use Policy, Parks Operations, August 2002	Restricted Uses of Non-Essential Pesticides on Public Property  Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is followed in selecting control methods. Additional programs in place include: biological insect control, use of non-toxic alternatives (soap, borax), improving management of sport field turf, increase number of cuts of grass, shrub and tree mulching program, hand pulling and trimming of weeds, Weed Mats in shrub beds, use of 'pesticide free' Aquacide spray.  Pesticides will only be used where alternatives do not exist or are impractical, or as a last option for treatment. The least toxic, most effective product will be chosen in the following situations:  Emergencies (public safety issues), Legislation (Noxious Weeds Act), Safety (weeds in stairways etc.), Service Delivery Interruption (golf courses, greenhouses, high profile areas etc.). Additional restrictions have been placed on pesticide use relative to the extent of actual weed growth on the site (% weed cover per square metre): sportsturf (>15%), roadways (>20%), parkland (>30%). Only licensed City staff or City contractors may apply pesticides to public property.
City of Guelph	Pesticide Use Committee Report and Recommendations, Guelph City Council, January 1991	Phase Out of Pesticide Use on Public Property  A seven member Committee formed in 1990 attended various sessions, and reviewed material presented by members of the public etc. The Committee concluded that there is concern about the health and environmental effects associated with pesticide use. It was recommended that the City introduce policy that eliminates the use of cosmetic pesticides by phasing them out over a period of three years. Pesticide use should be allowed during uncontrollable infestations, and in the City's greenhouses. Other recommendations made included the implementation of turf management programmes, the creation of 'natural environments' in public lands, banning chlorphenoxy herbicides, increasing the monitoring of pesticide spraying contractors, a promotion of public awareness and education regarding pesticides and their effects. It is also recommended that methods are found to include the public in decision making and the care of public land, and the City work with other 'open space holders' (eg. the University, school boards) to be involved in its pesticide efforts. In the long-term, it is recommended that the City become 'pesticide-free'.
Town of Oakville	Staff Report to Chairperson and Members of the 2002 Budget Committee, From C.D. Mark, Operations	No Formal Restrictions or Ban Since May 2001, Town staff have been evaluating options to reduce the use of pesticides on public land. In 2001, the following pesticide reduction initiatives were implemented: reduced amount of parkland and roadways were scheduled for herbicide treatment, corn gluten meal or aquacade treatments replaced herbicide treatments in some areas. Additional non-chemical activities proposed include additional fertilization, topdressing, overseeding, aeration, improved topsoil quality and improved irrigation. Parks staff are committed to moving towards a non-chemical, IPM program to replace the use of herbicides for turf. It was recommended by Parks Staff that pesticide use on town land continue to be reduced.

Figure 1 (cont)

Figure 1 (cont)	1	
City of Regina	Chamber Link Volume 4 (7), Regina Chamber of Commerce, August 2002	No Formal Restrictions or Ban  The City's administration recommended that a bylaw to restrict or ban the use of pesticides not be developed. Alternative actions suggested included: Reducing the use of pesticides in public parks and open spaces, and the development of a public communication strategy by the City, that would include information about applying pesticides as directed and to provide awareness about the alternatives to pesticides. It was also suggested that the City continue to investigate alternative pest management strategies, network with other municipalities, and monitor public opinions relating to the use of pesticides.
Municipality of York	Report of the Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee - Pesticide Reduction Guidelines for Lands Owned by the Regional Municipality of York, May, 2002; Pesticide Reduction Guidelines for Lands Owned by the Regional Municipality of York, May 2002.	Restricted Uses of Non-Essential Pesticides on Public Property  Pesticide Reduction Guidelines were the product of the Pesticide Reduction Task Force that was formed to evaluate the cosmetic use of pesticides in York Region. These Guidelines were modelled after the Integrated Pest Management Manual for Landscape Pests in British Columbia composed by the British Columbia Ministry of the Environment, and Integrated Pest Management principles.  Some of the important points within these Guidelines are:  -The Guidelines will not apply in situations where there is a risk to human health, food production, forestry or public safety, or where federal and provincial legislation require pesticide use.  -All lands owned by the Municipality will be affected by the Guidelines.  -The principles of Plant Health Care and IPM will be applied to the planning and designing and management of Municipal lands to prevent the appearance of pests.  -Site-specific IPM programs will involve site assessments according to IPM. IPM strategies will also be applied to the treatment of existing pest problems.  -Pesticides with reduced risk will be used only in situations where chemical treatments are necessary.  -Regional staff and contractors will be required to complete a Pesticide Use Form upon application of a Pesticide product.  -Pest Threshold limits will be established to assist in determining the acceptable method(s) of control.  The Guidelines will be phased in during 2002, restricting the non-essential use of pesticides on municipal land by 2003. Private contractors will be selected to manage municipal lands, although these contractors must meet certain criteria. A Staff toxicologist will assist staff in the preparation of a Reduced Risk Products list of products with low toxicity to humans and the environment.

Figure 1 (cont)

Baie D'Urfe and	Memorandum to Pesticide	Ban with Restrictions
Beaconsfield QC	Review Committee from Marion Baldwin, Chair regarding Phone Interview with Town Inspector for Baie D'Urfe and	The pesticide restriction by-law in Baie D'Urfe and Beaconsfield Quebec outlines that pesticides may not be applied to exterior landscaped areas of both private and public properties, with some exceptions.
	Beaconsfield, Quebec	If a citizen has an infestation on their property, they may apply to the Town Hall for a permit, indicating the problem and a list of products to be applied. An Inspector will visit the site to determine if more than 20% of the property is infested, and will issue the permit. However, no pesticides are permitted for use on fruit trees. Permits will only be granted for spider infestations if the residents are allergic. Permits are granted without charge if bees or wasps nests are present. Details of the permit are as follows:  -Cost is 10\$/permit -Citizen or lawn care company may apply pesticide for one-time only -Neighbours must be given 24-hours notice before application -Neighbour may present objection and a doctors note, if they are opposed, and permit may be revoked -Application may occur under specified wind and temperature conditions -A minimum of 3 signs must be posted on the property for a minimum of 72-hours from the time of application.  Application of pesticides is prohibited on the grounds of hospitals, nursing homes, schools, day cares, senior citizen's residences, religious institutions and parks.  City Inspectors enforce the bylaw. First-time fines are \$138 for an individual and \$611 for a lawncare company.





## Pesticide Permit Application Form

Customer Service Centre PO Box 1749, Halifax, NS B3J 3A5 Tel: (902) 490-4000

ASSESSMENT ACCOUNT NUMBER IF KNOWN				PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PID) IF KNOWN		
NAME OF PROPERTY OWNER						
PROPERTY LOCATION	LOT#	CIVIC#	STREET NAME			
SUBDIVISION NAME			COMMUNITY	COMMUNITY		
MAILING ADDRESS OF PROPERTY OWNER	CIVIC#	APT. #	STREET NAME OR PO BOX #			
COMMUNITY		PROVINCE	POSTAL CO	ODE		
DAYTIME TEL #			EVENING TEL #	EVENING TEL #		
COMMERCIAL	APPLICATOR IN	FORMATION (REC	QUIRED IF APPLICATOR IS	S NOT ABOVE NOTED PRO	OPERTY OWNER)	
NAME OF COMMERCIAL A	PPLICATOR (IF A	PPLICABLE)				
NAME OF CONTACT PERS	ON					
MAILING ADDRESS OF COMMERCIAL APPLICATO	R					
COMMUNITY			PROVINCE	POSTAL CO	ODE	
DAYTIME TEL #			EVENING TEL #			
DE	SCRIPTION OF	INFESTATION (PLI	EASE SEE INSTRUCTIONS	ON REVERSE OF THIS FO	ORM)	
INSECT INFESTATION  PLANT OR INSECT DANGER TO HUMAN BEINGS  PESSON BRIEFLY DESCRIBE DANGER TO HUMAN BEINGS						
□ NO						
COMMERCIAL BRAND NAI OF PESTICIDE TO BE USE	ME			PCP REGISTRATION NUMBER		
	EL INSTRUCTION			S, FORMULATION, RATIO OF	APPLICATION, TARGET	
DESCRIBE METHOD OF A	PPLICATION					
IS THIS PROPERTY WITH	IN 50 METERS OF	AN IDENTIFIED PRO	OPERTY WITHIN HRM'S REG	GISTRY?		
HAS A PRIOR REQUEST E	BEEN MADE FOR	THIS PROPERTY?				
NAME OF COMPANY OR I	NDIVIDUAL WHO	CARRIED OUT INFE	STATION ASSESSMENT			
PROPOSED DATE OF PESTICIDE APPLICATION (DD-MM-YY)				START TIME OF PESTICIDE APPLICATION	□ AM □ PM	
I HEREBY MAKE APPLICA IS TRUE AND ACCURATE			BOVE NOTED PROPERTY AN	D SWEAR THAT THE INFORM	ATION PROVIDED HEREIN	
PROPERTY OWNER'S SIGNATURE				DATE:		

	FOR OFFICE USE O	NLY	
RECEIVED BY	APPLICATION #	DATE	

Revised: Feb. 28/01

## Pesticide Permit Application Form

(Tips on completing form)

Filling out the Form - Please print/ type clearly, be precise, complete all areas as required.

When are Permits Required - Pesticide Permits are required (April 1, 2001 - April 1, 2003) if the proposed application on residential property is within 50 metres of a buffered property (i.e. property registered\* for medical reasons, property containing any school, licenced daycare centre, park, playground, licensed senior citizens' residence, university, church or hospital).

After April 1, 2003 Pesticide Permits are required for any pesticide application on residential property in HRM.

\* Property owners within 50 metres of a registered property will receive a letter from HRM advising of the Registered Property.

Specific Conditions - Pesticide Permit Application maybe approved if:

- The proposed pesticide application is to control or destroy plants or insects which constitute a danger\*\* for human beings, or
- To control or destroy insects which have infested\*\*\* a property,

if such pesticide application is specifically permitted by the Inspector for that purpose and the pesticide application is carried out according to such terms and conditions as shall be prescribed by the Inspector.

- \*\* Danger, for example, means that the plant or insect is likely to cause a reaction to an exposed person which may be life threatening (appropriate supporting documentation should be attached to Pesticide Permit Application Form).
- \*\*\* Infestation, for example, means that an insect has occupied a significant portion of the property and is likely to expand further, if not adequately controlled.

It is very important to briefly, but concisely describe the pest infestation in the Description Section on the form

**Pest Infestation Assessment** - It is recommended that these be carried out by trained individuals in the landscape horticulture, turf management and/ or related professions. It is also recommended that non pesticide control measures, where effective, be tried first.

**Permit Approval Conditions** - All appropriate municipal (i.e. Pesticide Bylaw P-800), provincial and federal pesticide related regulations shall be adhered to and followed. Pesticide manufacturer's directions strictly followed, including rates, application methods, conditions and disposal of empty containers.

Other terms and conditions maybe prescribed by the Inspector.

**Pesticide Bylaw P-800 access** - Details of the Bylaw and related information can be viewed on the HRM Home Page, <a href="www.region.halfiax.ns.ca">www.region.halfiax.ns.ca</a> - click on the Pesticide Icon.

Appendix E - Summary of Pul	olic Respor	nse to Draft Recommendations
Name(s) of Resident(s)	Agree or Disagree (A/D)	Comments and Recommendations
John and Stephanie Kibbee	D	IPM is not correctly interpreted and applied in the PRC recommendations
·		How will homes built prior to the 9 inch topsoil specification adapt?
		The recommendations appear to support non-registered alternatives, which may be considered to be in violation of the PCPA. Is the PRC promoting the use of illegal, non-registered products?
		How will a violation of the by-law be determined - how does PRC and City envision dealing with this.
		Will the City be liable for any property damage that occurs as a result of a permit not being granted due to misdiagnosis by an inspector?
		Statistics provided re: public consultation were presented as subjective measurements of the level of the support, while they are actually tallies of the submissions received
Chris Lemke	D	
Lillie Ann Morris	D	
Mary-Ann Forbes	D	
Ray Duke and Frank Lizzotti,		
Springfield Golf and Country Club	D	The recommendations are not suitable for maintaining golf courses, and they should be exempt from by-law.
		The Committee did not appear to take the impact on golf courses into account, perhaps because enough education was not provided
David DeCorso, Victoria Park East Golf Club	D	Golf courses have been exempted from pesticide by-laws in other municipalities
		Communicating with the golf industry about pesticide use and regulation is necessary
John Bladon, Guelph Lake Golf and Country Club	D	Permit system would be difficult for golf industry to comply with
		Increased communication and involvement of the golf community is desired
Dave Warren, General Manager, Cutten Club	D	Golf courses should be exempt from bylaw
Don Cudmore	D	By the time a permit is granted, it may be too late for infestation to be controlled
Janette Smiderle, Environmental Coordinator, City of Waterloo	А	Permits should be posted at site before pesticide application occurs with clear date and time of application
Rita Wensler	D	Permit system will not work in some cases where immediate action is needed to control an infestation
		Officers would have to have expertise in horticulture, disease and pest problems in order to effectively administer a permit system
Ken King	Α	
Dr. Donna Houghton, Syngenta Crop Protection Canada	D	What will qualifications be for an inspector, and how many will be hired? What will happen if inspectors cannot get to a property before irreparable damage occurs?  Enforcement - what constitutes a "blatant" disregard of bylaw, and how large will fines be?
		What criteria will be used to determine whether treatment is warranted, and what constitutes a "serious infestation"?
		List of key references is biased in favour of the anti-pesticide group
		List of key references is biased in layour of the anti-pesticide group

## Pesticide Review Committee Consultation Report

	Agree or	
Name(s) of Resident(s)	Disagree (A/D)	Comments and Recommendations
Dr. Donna Houghton, Syngenta Crop	(702)	Revise wording of statement endorsing "protection of human and environmental health through pesticide-free methods of lawn and
Protection Canada (cont)	D	garden management" as implies that pesticides are detrimental to human health - not true
		Revise wording of statement regarding that impact on non-target organisms is not well known - subject is well reviewed by experts
		Chemical sensitivities database is impractical, and will be abused
George Weiss, President, Wellington Condominium Corporation #78	D	Time frame for public response to draft recommendations too short, should be extended to January
		What does the PRC propose to deal with infestations rapidly and effectively
Donna Serrati	Α	
Peter Busatto		How will wind speed, temperature etc. be communicated to people will know when not to apply pesticides?
		Develop recommendation on whether homeowners can apply pesticide with a permit, but without any training
		Pesticide application should also be limited on properties adjacent to muncipal water wells
		Include alternative demo lawns and gardens in educational program
Leslie St. Jacques, Coordinator, Pesticide-free Lawn and Garden Care		
Project, OPIRG	Α	Golf courses, commercial properties and research institutions should be included in the by-law
R. Marie Thorne	D	Petition statistics should not be included in report
		List of key references biased towards anti-pesticide group
		Permit system recommendation should be eliminated
		Permit system does not allow for preventative treatment of lawns and gardens
Rob Witherspoon, Director, Guelph		Remove recommendation that would restrict pesticide use on university research lands, as the permit system would adversely affect
Turfgrass Institute	D	research
Overne Adems	Δ.	
Oxanna Adams	A	
Donald Page, Executive Director,	5	
Industry Task Force II on 2,4-D Research Data	D	Report ignores research conducted by the University of Guelph and the Ministry of the Environment
Michelle Hampton	D	Recommendations based on limited public input
Michelle Hampton		Serious infestation has not been defined
		Proposed bylaw unenforceable and not well defined, and would encourage "bad neighbour" relations
		Intended qualifications and training of inspectors is not outlined
Jaha Kansadi.		
John Kennedy	D	Recommendations based on limited public input
Gail McCormack, Chair, Guelph Environment Network	Α	Add incentives and rewards for compliance with bylaw
		Include reminders notices as part of the enforcement process
		Involve lawn care companies in education process
		Create list of acceptable pesticides that do not require permit
	<u>l</u>	To reaso not or accordance beautique a trat ao mot require permit

## Pesticide Review Committee Consultation Report

	Agree or Disagree	
Name(s) of Resident(s)	(A/D)	Comments and Recommendations
(0)	, ,	Discuss improved topsoil and landscaping with developers
R. Stephen Rodd	Α	Extend transition period to 5 - 8 years
		Clarify permit and inspection process
		Provide clarification as to what products are permitted for use (registered vs non-registered pest control products)
Ahren Hughes and Aimee Charbonneau	А	
John Howard, Executive Director,	, ,	
Ontario Parks Association	D	
Evan Ferrari	Α	
Walter Banas	D	Revise definition of the Precautionary Principle, as definition/interpretation used is too narrow
		Committee recommendations not based on multipartite process
		Clarify enforcement and permit application recommendations
		Develop recommendation for "natural" pesticide products
Cynthia Folzer	Α	Develop one set of regulations, with no special provision for golf courses, lawn bowling and research plots
Councillor Marilyn Shapka		
John Ondercin	D	Recommendations do not protect allergy sufferers
Tara Treanor	Α	
Ben Bennett, Guelph Environment		
Network	Α	
Ann Lotter	Α	Permits should have fee attached from the beginning of bylaw implementation
		Permits for companies should only be granted in the name of the employee with IPM accreditation as opposed to in the company name
Ralph Haldenby	Α	
Ruth Phillips	D	
Clover Woods	A	
Nora Black	D	"Natural" alternatives to pesticides may not be safe
Patrick O'Toole, owner of O'Toole		Restrictions will not result in a reduction of pesticide use and will kill the industry. This letter was accompanied by 380 form letters
Lawncare	D	from clients of O'Toole Lawn Care asking for no bylaw.
Darcy Olds, Bayer Environemental		
Science	D	Public education with focus on IPM is a better solution
University of Guelph, Office of the Vice-		
President		City could enter into contract with U of G to develop an effective education program on alternatives to pesticide use
		University should not be categaorized with golf courses, etc. in the final recommendations

## **Subject**

## **Pesticide Review Committee Recommendations**

## Recommendations

"WHEREAS the Pesticide Review Committee has determined through extensive consultation that pesticide use has potential negative health and environmental effects on the well being of the residents of the municipality and should be regulated to mitigate the injurious impacts of pesticides on health and the environment:

AND WHEREAS the Planning, Environment and Transportation Committee has reviewed and considered the Pesticide Review Committee Consultation Report dated December 2002 and heard and considered public input on the issue of pesticides in the City of Guelph;

THAT the Planning, Environment and Transportation Committee endorses and approves the recommendations of the Pesticide Review Committee set out at Article1.1 of the Consultation Report;

AND THAT the Planning, Environment and Transportation Committee recommends the following to City Council;

THAT Council has determined that pesticide use is an issue affecting, in human and environmental terms, the health, safety and well being of the inhabitants of the City of Guelph;

AND THAT Council endorses and approves the Principle Recommendations of the Pesticide Review Committee set out at Article1.1 of the Consultation Report;

AND THAT the Consultation Report outlining the recommendations and guidelines be considered by staff in the development of an education program and a by-law to regulate pesticide use;

AND THAT the Pesticide Action Plan be implemented over a four year period from starting in June, 2003 to and running to June, 2007;

AND THAT staff report back to Council in June, 2003, with an education program for immediate implementation and a more detailed Pesticide Action Plan:

AND THAT the Pesticide Review Committee is thanked for their work."

## Background

City Council adopted a resolution on May 12, 2002 that in part directed the following:

a public process be conducted to review cosmetic

# Planning, Environment & Transportation

April 10, 2003

## Report #

Community Services

Prepared by:

Jay C. Kivell Director of Parks

Approved by:



- pesticide use on private property
- a Pesticide Review Committee (PRC) be established using a random selection process from the tax rolls according to the terms of reference approved by Council
- the PRC to develop recommendations for the Planning, Works and the Environment Committee (now the Planning Environment and Transportation Committee) (PETC)
- documents be made available to individuals interested in the matter
- an independent toxicologist be hired to advise the PRC and prepare a list of issues and establish an upset limit
- a mailing list be produced to advise people of the PRC meetings
- posting the minutes on the City website
- establish a mechanism to solicit input from experts

## **Pesticide Review Committee Selection**

Council approved a process to send invitations to out to a total of fifty persons who lived in the six wards. Seven applications were to be drawn from the total number of responses received. To select the fifty names, the Finance Department provided a computer-generated list of names. A random number generator was used to select by roll number and not by name. There was one list for each of the six wards. The six wards names were placed in a box and there were two wards that had nine names and four wards that had eight names that were drawn. The total number of names on each of the lists was divided by eight or nine and the names were chosen by picking the first, second etc from the lists. Fifty invitations were mailed and there were two returned undelivered, four persons declined and seven persons accepted. A meeting was held in late August for the members to meet each other, for them to understand their role and to develop their schedule for the public process. The individuals selected their chair. One individual resigned before the process began.

## **Mandate and Public Consultation Process**

Council approved the mandate of the PRC which was to conduct a review of cosmetic pesticide use on private property in the City of Guelph by consulting with the public. The PRC was to formulate recommendations for possible alternates to pesticide use, present them to the public and to make these recommendations to PETC.

The public involvement process was followed using the guiding principles for public involvement. There were six public consultation meetings that took place from September – November 2002. The public was invited to participate through advertising in local newspapers, local radio stations and on

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the City web page. As well, the PRC invited local experts to participate that they felt did not participate through the process, they did not want to exclude anyone. The PRC recommendations were presented at a meeting in early December and the public was invited to make suggestions for revisions, which were considered by the PRC. The final report was presented to the PETC in mid December.

## **Pesticide Review Committee Principle Recommendations**

The PRC recommends that the City of Guelph commit to a Pesticide Action Plan consisting of three key elements:

- Be proactive in the protection of human health and the environment through the promotion and endorsement of pesticide-free methods of lawn and garden management
- Implement a permit system to regulate the use of cosmetic pesticides only in the case of infestation to allow tracking and regulation of pesticide use
- Implement an effective education program. Lawn care and landscaping companies should be involved in the public education process

## **Availability of Information**

A library of documents, comprised of the documents submitted to the PRC and the PRC meeting minutes was available to the public at Riverside Park. The PRC report was available on the City web site.

## **Independent Toxicologist**

Dr. Mark Goldberg of GlobalTox was recommended as an independent toxicologist who had done work previously with the City of Guelph. Initially, GlobalTox was hired to provide scientific expertise to the Pesticide Review Committee. It became evident that technical support, in addition to scientific expertise was needed to help the PRC record and understand the information and data that was provided. Finally, the consultant provided administrative and clerical support to the PRC in the production of the final report and two power point presentations. The report content was generated entirely from the Pesticide Review Committee. Staff did not report back to the PETC with an upset limit of work to be done by the toxicologist.

## Advertisement of the Pesticide Review Committee meetings

A mailing list of all interested individuals, companies, organizations and institutions that had appeared before Council, the PETC or had corresponded with the City and that were on record was compiled. Everyone was advised of the schedule of meetings and was invited to participate. The PRC

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scheduled six delegations per meeting first come, first served and heard from others in the audience if time permitted. As well, the experts were invited to participate by the PRC. The final PRC report dated December 2002 was posted and remains available on the City web site. The minutes of the PRC meetings were very brief and therefore were not posted.

The Planning Environment and Transportation Committee adopted a resolution on December 18, 2002 that stated the following:

- "THAT the report of the Pesticide Review Committee Consultation Report be received;
- AND THAT prior to making a recommendation to Council, the Planning, Environment and Transportation Committee receive a report from staff with details on the implementation of the report's recommendations including, but not limited to:

costs, enforcement, timing, legal issues

status of research institutions and golf courses.

## Costs

It is very difficult to determine the costs of this program recommended by the PRC. It is estimated that the education portion would be approximately \$25,000 per year based on producing two mail-out packages to each house in Guelph. Two horticulturists or horticulturists in training would be employed as inspectors from April to October of each year to implement and monitor the program at an estimated cost of \$40,000 per year.

## **Enforcement**

If a by-law was passed as recommended by the PRC, if time and workload permitted, enforcement could possibly be done by the by-law enforcement officers similar to the enforcement of the water restriction by-law. The permit fee could be \$ 20 per inspection. It is difficult to determine the number of permits that would be generated and as the education program is embraced, the permits numbers would decrease.

## **Timing**

The Pesticide Action Plan would be implemented over four years.

Staff recommends that a Pesticide Action Plan be developed taking into consideration the PRC recommendations and guidelines contained in the Consultation Report. Staff recommend that the Plan be implemented over four years generally as follows:

In June, 2003, staff report back to Council with an

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education program for immediate implementation and more detailed Pesticide Action Plan including a proposal for a by-law to regulate use of pesticides for cosmetic purposes; the regulatory provisions of the by-law would not come into force and effect until June 2005 to allow for an education program to be fully implemented and allow a transition period;

- In June, 2004, continue implementation of education program and focus on education; if a regulatory approach is approved by Council (eg. by-law regulating use of pesticides), then determine necessary qualifications of enforcement officers and commence training in preparation for implementation of regulatory program;
- In June, 2005, regulatory provisions in the by-law would come into force although no fees would be charged for permits in an attempt to encourage greater compliance and assist in the transition;
- In June, 2006, by-law in full force and fee charged for permits.

## Legal issues

The Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) of Health Canada has the mandate to protect human health, safety and the environment by minimizing risks associated with pesticides, while providing Canadians access to pest management tools they require for agriculture, forestry, industry and personal use. The PMRA regulates the importation, sale and use of pesticides through registration and re-evaluation of pesticides.

The Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE), Pesticides Section regulates the sale, use, storage, transportation and disposal of pesticides. The MOE administrates a pesticides management program including education and training programs, the licensing and certification of applicators, vendors and growers and the issuing of permits for certain uses. The MOE and PMRA are responsible for enforcement and compliance monitoring and responses to spills and accidents.

The Ontario Municipal Act permits the City of Guelph to enact by-laws that set further conditions on the use of pesticides. This could include when and where certain types of pesticides may be used.

The Supreme Court of Canada upheld that Hudson Quebec could restrict the non-essential use of pesticides. Bill 208, a private members bill proposes municipal authority to pass pesticide control by-laws. The Association of Municipalities of Ontario Pesticide Task Force will lobby the federal and provincial governments to assume regulatory authority for pesticides.

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Approved by:



## The status of research institutions and golf courses

Research institutions or institutions that carry out research and golf courses would be licensed under the Pesticides Act, would be required to have IPM/ PHC accredited pesticide applicators, would apply for and receive an annual permit, would record annual pesticide use and would report annually to the City of Guelph on pesticides used.

The Planning Environment and Transportation Committee adopted a resolution on January 27, 2003 that in part directed the following:

 Staff be requested to reply or comment upon statements and observations made by the public on the cosmetic use of pesticides.

## Comments on statements and observations

There has been a great deal of discussion and correspondence on this matter during the deliberations of the PRC and since the PRC report was presented to the PETC. It is anticipated that this report will reflect on these matters as directed by the January 27<sup>th</sup> resolution of the PETC.

Eliminating the cosmetic or non-essential use of pesticides on private property is a very emotional subject for most persons. A balance must be reached between cosmetic or non-essential use of pesticides and their effect on the health, safety and well being of the inhabitants of the City of Guelph;

The current education program on pesticides and alternatives to pesticides includes articles in the Community Leisure Guide, articles on the Tribune City Page, seminars and workshops, pamphlets and alternative garden tours. These are a cooperative effort of the City of Guelph Parks Department, WET/DRY, OPIRG, Guelph Environment Network and others.

The expanded program will include existing materials and materials being developed from: the two senior levels of government; from landscape trades organizations and associations; from research institutions; from the University of Guelph; and from other municipalities. As well, a telephone information line will be used.

Threshold limits will be developed based on the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food guidelines, the Guelph Turf Grass Institute guidelines plus those guidelines developed by other municipalities.

The public and private sectors will have to work together to continue to be proactive in the protection of human health and

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Jay C. Kivell Director of Parks

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the environment through the promotion and endorsement of pesticide-free methods of lawn and garden management.

## **Background information attached**

The following is attached to the report:

- Council and PETC resolutions about the process and concerns about the process
- PRC summary of recommendations
- PRC power point presentation to PETC
- Struger Reports on pesticides in the storm water management ponds and related staff reports and
- related correspondence
- the PMRA Fact Sheet

## **Alternatives**

Not accepting the PRC recommendations, accepting portions of the PRC recommendations or continuing in the current methods.

## **Implications**

There is the potential for a court challenge of the proposed bylaw.

## **Funding**

In 2002, \$45,000 was expended for the consultant. Meeting room, printing, mailing and telephone costs and staff costs were not tracked.

In 2003, the existing education program will continue. As well, a Human Resources Development Canada Grant will be applied for to provide an individual to develop the education program. There are many materials available and they could simply be collected and developed.

In 2004 and subsequent years, funds would be budgeted for in the annual operating budget.

PET report April 10, 2003 PRC recommendations revised March 19, 2003 doc

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## Report #

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Approved by:

