



Chairman Gian-Carlo Carra and members of the Standing Policy Committee on Community and Protective Services

RE: PESTICIDE TOXICITY REPORT, CPS2017-0510, JUNE 7, 2017

Mr. Chair:

With me today I have submissions that were completed on or about Feb. 6, 2017 as part of Council's directive to Administration to include health organizations and expertise in the evaluation of pesticide toxicity with the goal of eliminating the most toxic pesticides used by the City on city lands. Despite Administration seeking approval to include submissions as part of the public record somehow they are missing and are barely referenced in Administration's report on Pesticide Toxicity.

Mr. Chair, will you accept the submissions as requested by Administration to be included in the public record?

I would like to have it noted that many of the submissions you received today were completed by volunteers outside of their full-time jobs and responsibilities and are not paid lobbyists. At heart they have the health of citizens particularly children and the environment uppermost in their motivations.

As you have heard from previous presentations there is disappointment in Administration's Pesticide Toxicity Report as it was narrow in scope, contained erroneous information and failed to answer the Nov. 7, 2016 directive from Council, instead choosing to side-step the issue by stating the City of Calgary is not in the business of evaluating pesticide toxicity, that risk not toxicity should be considered and please wait until 2018Q4 for the IPM Plan Review.

I think it was CLLR Pincott's objective in his Motion at Council, Nov. 7, 2016 to assist Administration by asking Administration to include health organizations and expertise in the evaluation of pesticide toxicity for Administration's consideration.

I have to admit that the task was not easy. It is hard to evaluate pesticide toxicity when not provided with a list of pesticides used by the City or a list of organizations/expertise solicited by Administration. This resulted in a lot more work squeezed into a very short time period in order to follow up with Administration and contact organizations/expertise, research and write.

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For the record, notably absent from Administration's solicitation list was Prevent Cancer Now (has presented to Council at least twice in the past), the Canadian Cancer Society-Alberta/NWT Division, The Alberta & NWT Lung Association, environmental toxicologists or water expertise. Of the 20 organizations/experts contacted by Healthy Calgary 9 found the time to submit documentation with a month's notice, essentially.

Cutting to the chase there were two expectations Healthy Calgary was hoping to hear:

1. A preliminary list of pesticides under consideration for **possible** elimination of use on City land and;
2. An exploration into designating the City's 7,600 tot lots (not 200) as synthetic, pesticide-free parks.

No doubt this is a complex issue. We were not expecting miracles in the 7 months from November 2016 to June 2017. But we were expecting a comprehensive report from Administration based on evidence with an indication of forward direction. We acknowledge the efforts Parks is undertaking with goats, community gardens, edible food initiatives, bio controls and naturalization. However this is not reflected unfortunately, in the Pesticide Toxicity Report.

With all due respect,

Robin McLeod
On behalf of the Coalition for a Healthy Calgary

Appendix 1: Considerations regarding the elimination of the most toxic pesticides used on City Land

Many other organizations have addressed pesticides, and provide solid reasons for concern. Calgary might consider, for example, no longer using:

1. Those pesticides with an **International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)** designation regarding human carcinogenicity (<https://www.iarc.fr>)

- 2,4-D
- Mecoprop
- Dicamba
- Glyphosate

2. And/or those pesticides on the **Endocrine Disruption (TEDX) list** (<http://endocrinedisruption.org/endocrine-disruption/tedx-list-of-potential-endocrine-disruptors/overview>)

- Amitrol
- Picloram
- Glyphosate
- Imidacloprid
- Pyrethins

3. And/or pesticide products to be de-registered by **Health Canada** (http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/pest/part/consultations/_prvd2016-20/prvd2016-20-eng.php)

- Imidacloprid

4. Or the relics as described by **Dr. Pierre Mineau** (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/pierre-mineau-586b57a1/?ppe=1>)

- Aminopyralid
- Amitrol
- Clopyralid
- Picloram

5. And/or the products containing the active ingredients the City uses identified in a **lawsuit filed by Ecojustice against the PMRA** (Oct. 2012) challenging PMRA's unreasonable delay in initiating legally required special reviews. Of the 26 active ingredients (many banned in OECD countries) identified in the lawsuit, the City used products containing 6 of the active ingredients in 2014, according to former IPM lead James Burrow. <https://www.ecojustice.ca/case/pesticides-out-of-canadas-environment/#sthash.zdNPQ7xj.dpuf>

- Acephate
- Aminopyralid
- Dichobenil
- Imazapyr
- Permethrin
- Petroleum Hydrocarbon Blend

6. And/or any of the **conditionally registered pesticides by PMRA** that have exceeded the 5-year period for providing complete risk and value assessments as identified in the **Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development Fall 2015 report on Pesticide Safety**. http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/internet/English/parl_cesd_201601_01_e_41015.html#ex2