

Executive Assistant - Ward 5

From: Joel Beatson [joel.beatson@landscape-alberta.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 06, 2017 12:17 PM
To: Communications Liaison – Ward 9; Office of the Mayor; cclward4@calgary.ca; cclward13@calgary.ca; cclward5@calgary.ca; cclward6@calgary.ca; cclward3@calgary.ca; cclward8@calgary.ca
Subject: Protecting Calgary's green spaces - Response to Community Services report (RESEND)

Councillor Carra and Committee members,

I'm writing today on behalf of the members of Landscape Alberta, the professional trade association for the green industry in the province. Unfortunately, we are unable to be present tomorrow, and many of our members that may have attended are in the middle of the busiest time of year.

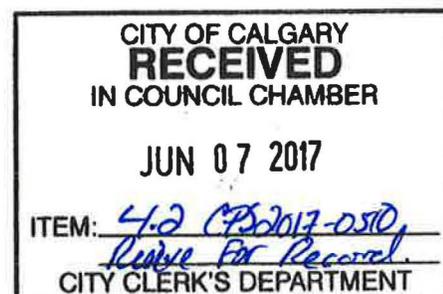
I would like to express our support for the well research and written Community Services report on Pesticide Toxicity. It does a good job explaining the fundamental science revolving around the issue (Risk = toxicity x exposure) while offering a pragmatic view of the current situation and ways to improve. We do find that the estimate used for citizen applied herbicides on turf to difficult to accurately ascertain. While licensed applicators are obligated to report usage, homeowners or unlicensed operators are not. The products used by homeowners also tend to be the least toxic options and come in ready to use formats which reduces the risk. The existing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy for the City is quite good, but we would agree that there is always room for improvement.

Landscape Alberta would gladly work with City staff to update to industry standards. Last year, the first ever Canadian Landscape Standard was released (<http://www.csla-aapc.ca/standard>) which creates the single authoritative resource for landscape projects across Canada. Protecting City investments in living green infrastructure through proper construction and appropriate maintenance is something we can all get behind. Living green infrastructure is so interesting in that it increases in value over time and that value comes not only in the beauty it brings to our urban environments but in the positive impacts it has on issues of climate change. It helps mitigate storm water events, reduces the urban heat island effect, and creates healthier, cleaner environments for our communities.

Thank you for your continued support of Calgary's green spaces and we look forward to providing on-going support in your efforts to green Calgary.

Best regards,

Joel



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We've moved! New address is 18051 107 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB T5S 1K3.

Green Industry Show & Conference – November 16 & 17, 2017 in Calgary