



# **ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, June 28, 2012  
5:30 PM**

**Henry Baker Hall, Main Floor, City Hall**



Office of the City Clerk

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**Public Agenda  
Environment Advisory Committee  
Thursday, June 28, 2012**

**Approval of Public Agenda**

**Minutes of the meeting held on May 3, 2012.**

**Tabled Reports**

EAC12-14     EAC12-14 Pesticide Reduction (Tabled April 5, May 3 and June 7, 2012)

EAC12 -21     EAC12-21 Pesticide Reduction - Draft Revised Recommendations

**Adjournment**

AT REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, MAY 3, 2012

AT A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD IN PUBLIC SESSION

AT 5:30 P.M.

Present: Sarah Turnbull, in the Chair  
Councillor Fred Clipsham  
Lyle Benko, Norm Henderson, Kathleen Livingston,  
Sharon Rodenbush and Deanna Trowsdale-Mutafov

Regrets: Jason Ash, Michael Berry, Jocelyn Crivea, Bruce Kellett  
and Chris Yost

Also in Attendance: Committee Assistant, Elaine Gohlke  
Coordinator, Sustainable Communities, Kim Sare  
Project Engineer, Sharla Cote

APPROVAL OF OPEN AGENDA

**Lyle Benko moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that the open agenda be approved, as submitted, and that the delegations be heard in the order they are called by the Chairperson.**

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

**Kathleen Livingston moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on April 5, 2012 be adopted, as circulated.**

EAC12-14 Pesticide Reduction (Tabled April 5, 2012)

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A communication dated April 5, 2012 from the Committee Secretary, tabled on April 5, 2012, read as follows:

The Environment Advisory Committee, at its September 1, 2011 meeting, considered a report from the Community & Protective Services Committee with respect to the status of pesticide-free park spaces and after hearing delegations from the Canadian Cancer Society and the Saskatchewan Environmental Society, adopted a resolution to form a working group to study the issue of “pesticide free”.

A working group was formed and a report submitted to the November 3 meeting after which a subsequent report was requested for the February meeting. The working group presented possible recommendations at the March 1 meeting. At that time the committee adopted the following resolution:

“That the working group provide a further report to the April 5 meeting that includes information to support the proposed recommendations, as well as possible timelines for implementation.”

Attached is further information provided by the working group.

The following addressed the Committee:

- Krista Anderson, representing Certified Crop Science Consultants;
- Jennifer Milo, representing Bayer CropScience;
- Simon Taylor, representing Weed Man; and
- Marilyn Braun-Pollon, representing Canadian Federation of Independent Business.

**Kathleen Livingston moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that this communication be tabled to the June 7 meeting of the Environment Advisory Committee.**

RECESS

**Norm Henderson moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that the Committee recess for 30 minutes.**

The Committee recessed at 6:50 p.m.

The Committee reconvened at 7:33 p.m.

EAC12-20      OCP 301 Presentation

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A communication dated May 3, 2012 from Administration read as follows:

The process to develop a new Official Community Plan (OCP) is well underway. Design Regina will replace the current OCP and will be the city's plan for guiding growth, development and change for the next 25 years. As such, the Plan will provide a city-wide policy framework that guides decisions on investments, services and actions.

The Administration will be making an OCP 301 presentation to the committee to provide an overview of the public engagement that occurred over the past year and the resulting Community Priorities. You be introduced to the next steps of the OCP process as well as the Transportation Master Plan which is being developed alongside the OCP.

Kim Sare, Coordinator, Sustainable Communities, made a presentation to the Committee with respect to the Official Community Plan, a copy of which is on file at the City Clerk's Office.

Sharla Cote, Project Engineer, made a presentation to the Committee, with respect to the Transportation Master Plan, a copy of which is on file at the City Clerk's Office.

**Lyle Benko moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that this communication be received and filed.**

EAC12-19      Cloth Diaper Services

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A communication dated May 3, 2012 from the Committee Secretary read as follows:

At the June 2, 2011 meeting of the Environment Advisory Committee, Karen Moore, Regional Director for the Saskatchewan Abilities Council, provided a presentation

regarding the Happy Nappy Cloth Diaper Service. Discussion included the potential for Happy Nappy forming a partnership with the Environment Advisory Committee and the City of Regina. At that meeting, the committee tabled the matter to allow time for Ms. Moore to provide additional information regarding support for this type of service in other municipalities.

Ms. Moore provided the requested information and the Committee considered it at its March 1 meeting. As a result, the Committee adopted a resolution to form a working group to prepare a report that included: a position to recommend to City Council on alternatives to disposable diapers that will reduce burden to landfills, within the context of a full life-cycle analysis; and a recommendation on the proposal made by Happy Nappy Enterprise SK to the City of Regina with respect to a pilot program and reimbursement for their diaper starter kit.

A working group was formed and the attached is submitted by the working group for consideration by the Committee.

**Kathleen Livingston moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that this communication be tabled to the June 7 meeting of the Environment Advisory Committee.**

EAC11-18 Happy Nappy Enterprise SK - Cloth Diapers & Cloth Diaper Services  
(Tabled June 2, September 1, October 6 and November 3, 2011 and March 2, 2012)

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A communication dated June 2, 2011 from the Committee Secretary, tabled on September 1, October 6 and November 3, 2011 and March 2 and May 3, 2012, read as follows:

City Council, at its meeting held April 4, 2011, considered a report with respect to the Waste Plan Regina Implementation and passed a motion that included several recommendations. One of the recommendations was:

“That the Environment Advisory Committee be asked to examine the potential to develop community partnerships with not-for-profit organizations which could create opportunities for reuse and recycling.”

During the development of the Committee’s 2011-2012 Work Plan, the Committee also identified an opportunity to continue to provide advice and recommendations on solid waste management through partnerships, education and communication.

Last fall the Saskatchewan Abilities Council purchased the Saskatchewan franchise rights to Happy Nappy Cloth Diaper Service. Happy Nappy is interested in forming a partnership with the City of Regina, initially to help get the message out about the environmental benefits of cloth diapers and cloth diaper services, as well as ideas for incentives for using cloth diapers and levy restraints on disposable diapers.

Karen Moore, Regional Director for the Saskatchewan Abilities Council will be on hand to provide a presentation for the new Happy Nappy Cloth Diaper Service and to further

discuss the potential for forming a partnership with the Environment Advisory Committee and the City of Regina. Attached as "A" is information on the new service.

**Norm Henderson moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that this communication be received and filed.**

ADJOURNMENT

**Sharon Rodenbush moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that the meeting adjourn.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Secretary

April 5, 2012

To: Members,  
Environment Advisory Committee

Re: Pesticide Reduction

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The Environment Advisory Committee, at its September 1, 2011 meeting, considered a report from the Community & Protective Services Committee with respect to the status of pesticide-free park spaces and after hearing delegations from the Canadian Cancer Society and the Saskatchewan Environmental Society, adopted a resolution to form a working group to study the issue of “pesticide free”.

A working group was formed and a report submitted to the November 3 meeting after which a subsequent report was requested for the February meeting. The working group presented possible recommendations at the March 1 meeting. At that time the committee adopted the following resolution:

“That the working group provide a further report to the April 5 meeting that includes information to support the proposed recommendations, as well as possible timelines for implementation.”

Attached is further information provided by the working group.

Respectfully submitted,



Elaine Gohlke, Secretary  
Environment Advisory Committee

# ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK GROUP REPORT

## Cosmetic Pesticide Ban

### Background

The City of Regina's Environment Advisory Committee (the "**Committee**"), at its September 1, 2011 meeting, was addressed by the Canadian Cancer Society. The presentation focused on the need for the City of Regina to adopt a ban on the cosmetic or non-essential use of pesticides citing health implications.

It is important to note that two months prior, in June 2011, the City of Regina's Community and Protective Services Committee recommended extending the pesticide-free designation of Gordon and Al Pickard Parks and Queen Elizabeth II Court (City Hall grounds). These parks were designated to be pesticide-free beginning in May 2010 on a one-year pilot project.

Michael Berry, Norm Henderson, Bruce Kellett and Sharon Rodenbush, each members of the Committee, volunteered to form a working group to further consider the Canadian Cancer Society's address.

### Reasons for recommending a cosmetic or non-essential pesticide use ban

- There is considerable research that connects chemical exposure from pesticides with:
  - The increased likelihood of number of different types of cancers, including: non-Hodgkin lymphoma, multiple myeloma, prostate, kidney and lung.
  - Disruptions or delays in proper development of neurological, reproductive, immune and endocrine systems.
- Research shows that children are more vulnerable.
- Pesticides are not being properly monitored to ensure they are being applied according to label directions and as stipulated by Health Canada to ensure maximum health and safety.
- The City of Regina does not ensure the proper disposal of pesticides used by the public.
- There are no guarantees that pesticides can be contained and held free from harm. Pesticides can:
  - absorb into the soil;
  - leach into water systems; and,
  - drift through the air.
- We are unsure of the total effects of pesticides on our environment and wildlife.

### Jurisdictional Analysis

- In April 2003, Quebec implemented the Quebec Pesticides Management Code. The regulation targets 20 active ingredients that are classified as carcinogens (including probable and possible carcinogens) by at least one of the following specified reference agencies: the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. National Toxicology Program, the California Environmental Protection Agency and the European Union. These 20 active ingredients are found in approximately 200 lawn pesticides, which are now banned.
- In 2008, Ontario passed amendments to The Pesticide Act which came into effect in 2009. The amendments banned the use of pesticides for cosmetic purposes on lawns, vegetable and ornamental gardens, patios, driveways, cemeteries, and in parks and school yards. There

are **no** exceptions for pest infestations (insects, fungi or weeds) in these areas, as lower risk pesticides, biocides and alternatives to pesticides exist. More than 250 pesticide products are banned for sale and over 95 pesticide ingredients are banned for cosmetic uses.

- As of December 2009, New Brunswick banned the sale and use of more than 240 over-the-counter lawn care pesticide products.
- As of April 2010, Prince Edward Island also banned the sale and use of more than 240 over-the-counter lawn care pesticide products.
- As of January 2010, products containing a combination of fertilizer and herbicide (commonly known as weed and feed) will no longer be available for sale or use in Alberta.
- In May 2010, Nova Scotia passed the *Non-essential Pesticide Control Act*. The Act, which prohibits the sale and use of non-essential lawn care pesticides, came into effect in the spring of 2011 and will extend to outdoor trees, shrubs, flowers, and other ornamental plants in the Spring of 2012.
- British Columbia has not adopted a province-wide ban, but a number of cities have adopted their own bylaws addressing the use of pesticides.
- Recent newspaper articles also suggest that Manitoba is considering a non-essential pesticide use ban.

### **Recommendation**

The EAC recommends that (1) the City of Regina adopt a bylaw eliminating the cosmetic or non-essential use of pesticides; (2), this bylaw be developed in accordance with best practices of jurisdictions elsewhere in Canada that address this issue; and (3), City Council strive to adopt such a bylaw within three years preceded by a two year education campaign.

June 7, 2012

To: Members,  
Environment Advisory Committee

Re: Pesticide Reduction – Draft Revised Recommendations

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Over the past year, the Environment Advisory Committee has been considering the issue of pesticide reduction and in September 2011 a working group was formed to study the subject of “pesticide free”.

The working group reviewed the practices of other jurisdictions and prepared a report with their recommendations for submission to the Committee’s April meeting. At the April meeting, the Committee received presentations from several delegations in response to the working group’s report. At that time the Committee adopted a resolution to table the matter to the May 3 meeting to allow time for members to review a policy paper titled “Protecting Public Health & the Environment: The need for a pesticide reduction bylaw in urban areas”. This paper was being prepared by the Saskatchewan Environmental Society for release on April 30.

At the May meeting the Committee received presentations from additional delegations and as the policy paper was not available for review prior to the May meeting, but was expected to be available prior to the June meeting, the Committee adopted a resolution to further table the matter to the June 7 meeting. This would allow time to review the policy paper and to consider the submissions made by delegations at the April and May meetings.

After careful consideration of previous research, submissions by delegations, and the above-mentioned policy paper, the working group has prepared a further report with revised recommendations for consideration by the Committee. The working group’s report is attached and should be considered in conjunction with report EAC12-9 which was tabled on May 3.

Respectfully submitted,



Elaine Gohlke, Secretary  
Environment Advisory Committee

## **DRAFT PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS RE. PESTICIDE USE IN REGINA**

### **Recommendations:**

- (1) The City of Regina adopt a policy of avoiding cosmetic or non-essential pesticide use in the management of lands owned or administered by the City.
- (2) The City encourage Wascana Centre Authority to also avoid cosmetic or non-essential pesticide use in the management of lands under the jurisdiction of Wascana Centre Authority.
- (3) The City encourage residents to minimise cosmetic or non-essential pesticide use on their own lands.
- (4) The City review the effectiveness of its pesticide policies after two years and continue or modify them as appropriate at that time.

### **Background and Discussion:**

Concerns around pesticide use in urban areas centre around issues of possible risk to human health, and possible environmental contamination of soil, water and air, and to possible damage to biota beyond the pesticide-targeted species. An increasing number of jurisdictions within Canada have curtailed the use of various pesticides for non-essential purposes in recent years. These actions have sometimes taken place at the provincial level (as in Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic provinces) or at the municipal level. At present the City of Regina manages three parks on a pesticide-free basis, but has no bylaw in place with regard to pesticide use.

The City of Regina Environmental Advisory Committee considered whether the City should adopt a bylaw eliminating the cosmetic or non-essential use of pesticides in the City. The draft recommendation for a bylaw to that end attracted numerous spirited presentations and submissions.

Those in favour of the draft recommendation were concerned about possible health impacts of pesticide use in urban areas, and with possible negative impacts to the environment of pesticide use. They maintained that the synergistic effects of multiple different pesticides are generally not tested for, that the evidence of the negative consequences of non-essential pesticide use is increasing, that children were at higher risk, and that more and more jurisdictions were moving to restrict non-essential pesticide use.

Those against the draft recommendation stated that there is a functioning national framework in place for the approval of pesticides for use in Canada (Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency) and that pesticides approved through that framework are safe for use (when used as directed). Those against the draft recommendation were also concerned with possible negative impacts on local landscape care businesses. Other concerns were that management of some areas without non-essential pesticides could be too costly or impractical; that the bylaw could be too difficult to enforce; that it would be an infringement on personal choice; and that the issue is better regulated at a federal or provincial level, i.e. not via a bylaw.

In light of the information, the presentations, and strong public and stakeholder feeling, the Committee does not feel it appropriate to recommend that the City adopt a bylaw restricting the cosmetic or non-essential use of pesticides. Businesses and citizens should be free to continue to use federally-approved pesticides.

However, the Committee does believe that reduction of pesticide use within the City, so far as practicable, is an important objective, and that the City itself should model best possible practice, and that it can do more than it now does to this end. Therefore the Committee recommends that in its own management of City properties, the City should adopt a policy of avoiding cosmetic or non-essential pesticide use. As working guidance on what is or is not cosmetic pesticide use, the City could follow a framework such as the Government of Ontario's Pesticide Classification Guidelines, or some other appropriate model.

Adopting the Committee's recommendations would not require a bylaw, and would not infringe on private landholders' or businesses' use of pesticides. The Committee recommends that after a two-year period the City examine the success of the policy, and continue it or modify it as appropriate at that time.