



CAPE
Canadian Association
of Physicians
for the Environment

Association Canadienne
des Médecins
pour l'Environnement
ACME

Cosmetic Pesticides - Provincial & Municipal Laws - Lessons Learned & Best Practices

**Kim Perrotta MHSc, Executive Director
Alberta Health Services
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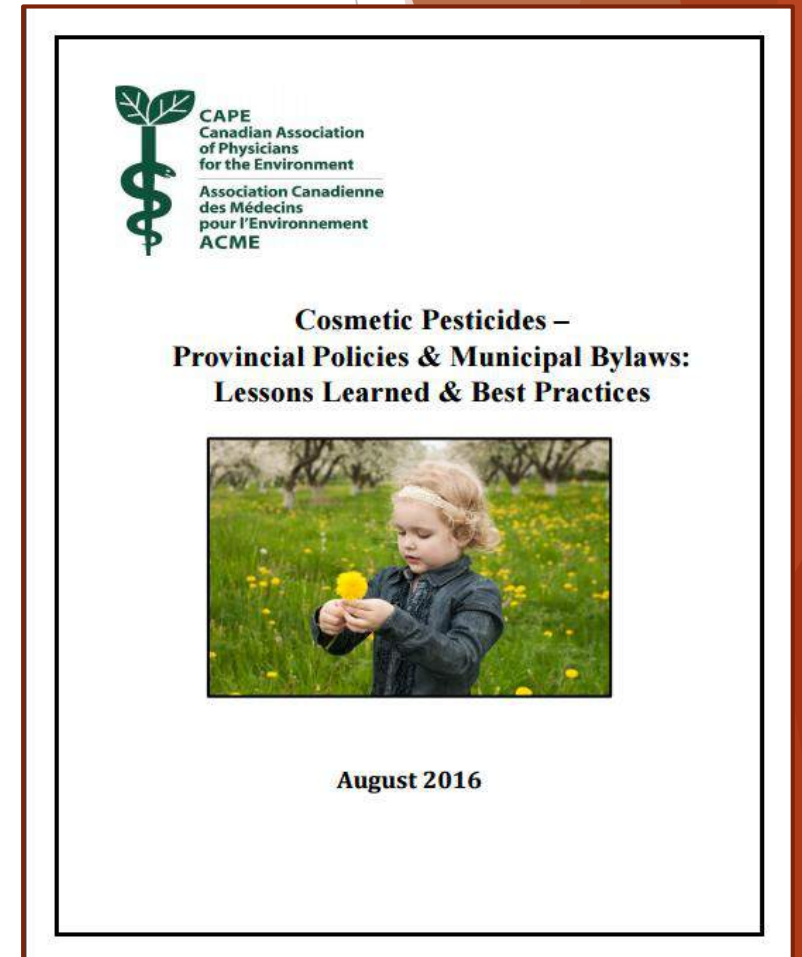
CAPE - Who are we?

- ❖ **Mission:** Work to improve human health by protecting the planet
- ❖ Founded & run by Physicians over 20 years ago
- ❖ Non-profit with charitable sister org (CHEER)
- ❖ **Staff campaigns:**
 - ❖ Pesticides, People & the Planet
 - ❖ Coal Plants, Climate & Health
 - ❖ Active Travel, Climate & Health
- ❖ **Volunteer Activities** - Fracking, Site C Dam, Asbestos, Nuclear Energy, Active Transportation, Health Impact Assessments



Regulation of Cosmetic Pesticides in Canada

- ❖ **Federal Government** - The Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) - registers pesticides for use and sale throughout Canada. Only pesticides that are registered by the PMRA under Pest Control Products Act are permitted to be used in Canada.
- ❖ **Provincial Governments** - have power to regulate both the use and sale of pesticides. Provinces also have powers to regulate the content of the bylaws
- ❖ **Municipal Governments** - can only regulate the use of cosmetic pesticides within municipal boundaries.



Concerns with the PMRA

- ❖ 2015 - Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development audited the PMRA re: Mandate under the *Pest Control Products Act* “to prevent unacceptable risks to the health of Canadians and the environment”
- ❖ Identified several serious concerns:
 - ❖ Heavy use of ‘conditional registrations’
 - ❖ Moving too slowly when re-evaluating pesticides - market >15 years
 - ❖ Example: chlorpyrifos not yet re-evaluated - first registered in 1969
 - ❖ Not assessing cumulative health effects of pesticides where required
 - ❖ Not applying 10-fold safety factor required to protect children where required
 - ❖ Not conducting special reviews promptly for pesticides banned by OECD countries
 - ❖ Not moving quickly to cancel registrations when reviews find “unacceptable risks”

State of Cosmetic Pesticides Laws - Canada

- ❖ **Cosmetic pesticides** - non-essential use of pesticides for lawns, gardens & greenspace
- ❖ **Provinces**
 - ❖ 7 have laws prohibiting the use of some pesticides
 - ❖ 3 do not - British Columbia, Alberta & Saskatchewan
- ❖ **Municipalities**
 - ❖ 180 municipal bylaws in 2016
 - ❖ Does not include the 35 bylaws in Ontario



What Products are Prohibited or Allowed?

- ❖ Hundreds of pest control products - provinces usually ban active ingredients
- ❖ **Black lists** - new pesticide ingredients approved by the PMRA can be used until they are proven unacceptable for cosmetic purposes
 - ❖ PEI, NL, NB & Quebec
- ❖ **White Lists** - New ingredients cannot be used unless the manufacturer proves that they meet the criteria identified in the law
 - ❖ Ontario, Nova Scotia & Manitoba

Criteria for Lower-Risk Cosmetic Pesticides on Ontario's White List:

- ***they have a non-toxic mode of action;***
- ***they are of low toxicity to organisms the product is not targeting;***
- ***they do not persist in the environment; the product is used in ways that do not cause significant exposure; and***
- ***they have been widely available to the public for other uses for some time.***

Scope of Cosmetic Pesticide Bans

- ❖ Lawns only - Manitoba, NB, PEI, Quebec & NL
- ❖ Lawns, Trees, Shrubs, Flowers, Ornamentals - Ontario & Nova Scotia
- ❖ Pesticides used in sensitive areas:
 - ❖ Manitoba - exterior properties of schools, hospitals, or child care centres
 - ❖ Quebec - indoor environments frequented by children, such as child care centres



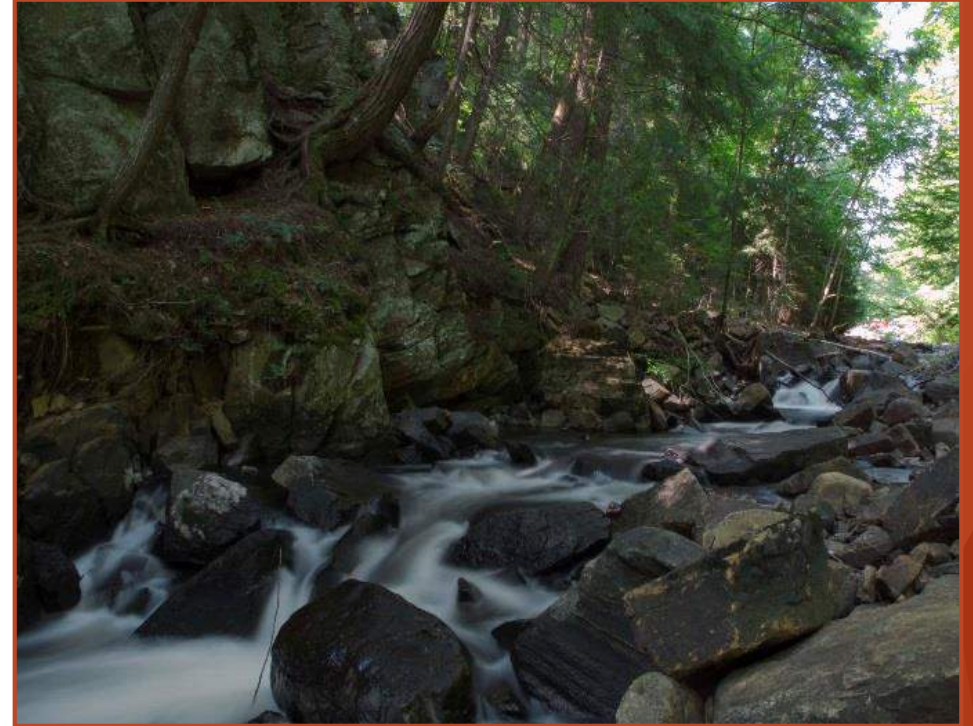
Exceptions in Provincial & Municipal Laws

- ❖ **Public health & safety** (e.g. bugs that carry disease, plants that are poisonous to humans by touch) - deemed acceptable
- ❖ **Golf courses** - controversial
- ❖ **Indoor environments** - gap?
- ❖ **Agricultural land** - different approach
- ❖ **Infestations** - needs to be tightly defined
- ❖ **Sports fields & specialty turfs** - controversial
- ❖ **Integrated Pest Management (IPM)** - needs to be tightly defined or circumscribed



Effectiveness - Levels in Environment

- ❖ **Ontario Study - Reduced Levels of Pesticides in the Environment**
 - ❖ Concentration of common active ingredients in water bodies before (2008) and after (2009) the province-wide ban
 - ❖ Post-ban measurements revealed significant decreases in 2,4-D (by 81%), dicamba (by 83%), and MCPP (by 81%).
 - ❖ Glyphosate and carbaryl levels, which are used more in agricultural settings, showed no significant changes.



Education & Enforcement - Consumers

- ❖ **Canadian Study - Use of Pesticides**
 - ❖ Canadian Centre for Pollution Prevention & Cullbridge Marketing and Communications
 - ❖ voluntary programs directed at reducing cosmetic pesticide use were the least effective
 - ❖ **most effective reductions had both a mandatory prohibition & education programs**



Education & Enforcement - Retailers

- ❖ Nova Scotia - Retailers of Pesticides
 - ❖ Volunteers using 4 criteria:
 - ❖ the storage of pesticides;
 - ❖ written information provided;
 - ❖ certified staff member was present;
 - ❖ overall knowledge of staff
 - ❖ Found that 14 out of 21 retailers were not following regulations



CAPE Report & Key Health Reviews

- ❖ **CAPE Report:** Cosmetic Pesticides - Provincial Policies & Municipal Bylaws: Lessons Learned & Best Practices (August 2016)
- ❖ **Chief Public Office, Prince Edward Island (PEI).** *Pesticides and Human Health*. 2015. Prepared by, Carolyn Sanford, DVM, PhD, David Sabapathy, MD, MBA, MSc, PEng, FRCPC, Heather Morrison, MD, MPhil, DPhil, CCDP(EM), and Katherine Gaudreau RN, BScN, MSc. Online: http://www.gov.pe.ca/photos/original/cphs_pesticipt1.pdf
- ❖ **Ontario College of Family Physicians (OCFP).** *2012 Systematic Review of Pesticide Health Effects*. 2012. Prepared by Marg Sanborn, MD, CCFP, FCFP, Kate Bassil, MSc, PhD, Cathy Vakil, MD, CCFP, FCFP, Kathleen Kerr, MD, MCFP, Dip. Env. Health, and Kelsey Ragan, MPH. Online: <http://ocfp.on.ca/docs/pesticides-paper/2012-systematic-review-of-pesticide.pdf>
- ❖ Sandborn M, Kerr KJ, Sanin LH, Cole DC, Bassil KL, Vakil C. 2007. Non-cancer health effects of pesticides - Systematic review and implications for family doctors. Canadian Family Physician. <http://www.cfp.ca/content/53/10/1712.full>
- ❖ Bassil K, C Vakil, M Sanborn, DC Cole, JS Kaur, KJ Kerr. 2006. Cancer Health Effects of Pesticides - Systematic Review. Canadian Family Physician. <http://www.cfp.ca/content/53/10/1704.full>



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kim@cape.ca