

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SEPTEMBER 4, 2001

PESTICIDE ISSUE

Recommendation

Councillor Kadis recommends:

That all Ward 5 parks be pesticide-free by December 2003;

And that staff bring back a report as to the feasibility of implementing a pesticide-free policy on all City of Vaughan property by December 2004;

And that staff bring back a report to the October 1, 2001 Committee of the Whole meeting with costs and an implementation plan.

Purpose

To stop the use of pesticides in Ward 5 and across the city through a graduated approach thereby creating a healthier environment for all those who live and work in the City of Vaughan. To continue to encourage the public to adopt non-pesticide methods in dealing with their lawn care.

Background - Analysis and Options

The Vaughan Environmental Action Committee (V.E.A.C.) together with City Park Staff have been instrumental in educating the City and public regarding the concerns associated with pesticide use and promoting healthy, viable alternatives for lawn care. These alternatives have been successfully implemented in the City of Vaughan's Heatherton Parkette pilot project and other Ontario Municipalities. The medical officer of York Region, Dr. Helena Jaczek, recently spoke out against the use of pesticides for cosmetic purposes.

Conclusion

It has been demonstrated in the City of Vaughan and elsewhere that it is not necessary to apply pesticides to achieve an acceptable and esthetic level of maintenance.

Attachments

none

Report prepared by:

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Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Susan Kadis