

## Who is the Coalition for a Healthy Calgary?

We are a coalition of citizens, health care professionals, scientists, landscaping professionals and health and environmental organizations. We are a non-profit society.

## It's Simply the Smart Thing to Do To Phase Out Pesticides in our City

### Why a Pesticide Bylaw?

- To protect human health, especially of children
- To protect the health and well-being of pets and other wildlife
- To protect and restore the natural environment: soil, water, beneficial insects
- To save taxpayer dollars
- Bylaws are the only effective way to reduce pesticide use

Future generations may wonder why we didn't do this sooner!

*Four out of five Calgarians supported the phasing out of pesticides in a March 2006 poll by an independent polling firm.*

## Let's Protect our Health and Development – Especially of Children

A landmark study from the prestigious Ontario College of Family Physicians found:

- Pesticide exposure is linked to cancer, hormonal disruption illnesses, neurological difficulties, learning disabilities, and asthma among others.
- Pesticide exposure is associated with serious reproductive problems including underweight babies, birth defects, and fetal death. Even a tiny amount of pesticides at a critical point in development can do much harm to a baby or child.

### How are we exposed?

- We breathe pesticides in as they are applied, and for a few days or weeks afterwards, as they evaporate and spread on the wind.
- We absorb pesticides through our skin by contact with grass or plants that have been treated (children and pets are especially vulnerable).
- Pesticides tracked into homes on shoes can stay up to a year.

**Act Now!** We can protect our health and the environment by getting City Council to pass a bylaw phasing out unnecessary pesticides!

### What Can You Do?

- **Contact your Aldermen** to ask them to support a pesticide-free Calgary bylaw. Contact info is on our web-site. This is the most important action!
- **Learn more.** Our web-site has a wealth of information and action suggestions.
- **Sign-up** on our email list on our web-site to stay informed.
- **Send an email** to your email list to let them know about the campaign. (We have a sample you can use on our web-site).
- **Hold a Healthy Parks Party** in your local park June 10<sup>th</sup>. See web-site for details.

**Act now** to build momentum for the City election Oct. 15, 2007 so we can convince City Council to pass a bylaw in 2008.

[www.healthycalgary.ca](http://www.healthycalgary.ca)