



Welcome

Thank you for participating in the Canadian Cancer Society's ***Vote For Health*** campaign.

Prevention is key in the fight against cancer. Advocating for healthy public policies is one way the Canadian Cancer Society works to prevent cancer. Public policies create healthier environments and make it easier for Albertans to make healthy choices that reduce their cancer risk.

Section 7 (a) of the *Alberta Municipal Government Act* states that a municipal government may pass bylaws respecting: "the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property." Thus, there are many ways that Edmonton's municipal government can take action and join the fight against cancer. We believe it is time for Edmonton's council to make health a top priority.

As part of the *Vote For Health* campaign, the Canadian Cancer Society is surveying you - the candidate, for your position on important health issues facing our communities. We ask that you respond to the question(s) below by **October 1, 2010** .

Should you have questions about the survey or require further information about the issues, contact Sarah Hawkins at (780) 437-8404 or by email at sarah.hawkins@cancer.ab.ca.

Please join us in the fight against cancer – please become a *Champion For Health!*

Name

Which office are you running for?



Non-Essential Pesticides

There is growing evidence linking pesticide exposure with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, leukemia, brain, kidney, prostate, pancreatic and some lung cancers. Children are at greater risk of developing illnesses from pesticide exposure because of their developing immune systems and their greater tendency to crawl on areas sprayed by these chemicals. The non-essential use of pesticides on lawns, gardens and public parks offers no health benefit but has a serious potential to harm our health and the environment. Despite public support for restrictions on pesticide use (87% of Albertans are in favour according to a 2008 Checkmate survey), Edmontonians remain unprotected from exposure to these harmful poisons.

If elected to Edmonton's city council, will you support a ban on the use and application of pesticides on private lawns and gardens as well as public parks and recreational facilities for non-essential purposes?

Yes

No

Comments on policy recommendation.

The first question regarding the use of pesticides both publicly and privately is an issue that I am aware of and actively seeking answers to. With my council colleagues Don Iveson and Linda Sloan, I made the following inquiry at the Transportation and Public Works Committee on September 7, 2010. I would like Administration to provide information on the work completed on the development of a bylaw exploring the feasibility of restricting or eliminating public and private lawn and garden pesticide use in Edmonton. The report is to include the following:

- * legal requirements
- * effectiveness of restriction in other jurisdictions
- * operational impacts
- * cost and resource implications
- * implementation processes
- * public education requirements and timelines

The following will link you to the minutes of that committee meeting.

<http://sirepub.edmonton.ca/sirepub/mtgviewer.aspx?meetid=463&doctype=MINUTES>

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Tobacco Use Reduction

Smoking in Vehicles Carrying Children

Levels of second-hand tobacco smoke in vehicles can be far higher than levels in smoky bars, yet children in Alberta remain unprotected from exposure in private vehicles. Children are less able to protect themselves from exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke, so it is important that policy is in place to do so for them. No level of second-hand tobacco smoke is safe. Albertans support smoke-free vehicles carrying children under the age of 18. A 2008 public opinion poll found that 81% of Albertans agree that smoking should be prohibited in cars transporting children and youth under the age of 18.

As a future member of Edmonton's city council will you support a bylaw to prohibit smoking in vehicles transporting children under the age of 18?

Yes

No

Comments on policy recommendation.

Smoking in vehicles that have passengers under the age of 18, and smoking in outdoor municipal recreation facilities are important issues. It will be necessary for all legislators, municipal and provincial, to consider all aspects of these issues including enforcement, public education, as well as the health and wellness issues you raise. I would be interested in learning more about the issues in order to make informed decisions on behalf of the citizens of Ward 5.

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Tobacco Use Reduction

Smoking in Parks and Playgrounds

Outdoor smoking in areas where people gather - especially children - can compromise public health and pose a threat to the environment. By banning smoking in our community parks and playgrounds, municipal governments send a consistent message about the importance of smoking prevention. Outdoor smoking restrictions can reduce exposure to outdoor tobacco smoke, which can be as hazardous as indoor situations, particularly on a crowded beach or playground. Outdoor smoking is a major source of litter - tobacco litter accounts for 38% of all litter collected. 70% of Albertans support a ban on smoking in public parks and on beaches.

As a future member of Edmonton's city council, will you support a bylaw to restrict smoking in outdoor municipal recreation areas including public parks and playgrounds?

Yes

No

Comments on policy recommendation.

Smoking in vehicles that have passengers under the age of 18, and smoking in outdoor municipal recreation facilities are important issues. It will be necessary for all legislators, municipal and provincial, to consider all aspects of these issues including enforcement, public education, as well as the health and wellness issues you raise. I would be interested in learning more about the issues in order to make informed decisions on behalf of the citizens of Ward 5.

Thank you for your cooperation in completing this survey. All results will be posted at cancer.ca/voteforhealth