

----- Original Message -----

**To:** [doellphoto@shaw.ca](mailto:doellphoto@shaw.ca) ; [gordon.smith@telus.net](mailto:gordon.smith@telus.net) ; [jackie\\_drysdale@telus.net](mailto:jackie_drysdale@telus.net) ;  
[jspearn@telus.net](mailto:jspearn@telus.net) ; [laurie\\_charlton@telus.net](mailto:laurie_charlton@telus.net) ; [lhmclellan@shaw.ca](mailto:lhmclellan@shaw.ca) ; [steveknox@telus.net](mailto:steveknox@telus.net)

**CC:** Cheryl Hume and Ralph Behrens  
**Sent:** Monday, July 07, 2008 11:40 PM  
**Subject:** Stuart Cohen letter omits important facts

Mayor Smith and City Councillors:

I've just seen a letter addressed to you from Stuart Cohen regarding the concerns about pesticide contamination and the links between pesticides and cancer brought to your attention by Rossland medical professionals.

Mr. Cohen's PhD is in physical organic chemistry. He has no academic or professional qualifications in the area of medical research and yet he reports as "flawed" the work of the Ontario College of Family Physicians.

That is incredible. Mr. Cohen is a chemist. He is not a trained medical professional. Yet he labels the research of medical professionals as "flawed". Why? Let's think about who is paying Mr. Cohen. The golf industry. In this case RMV.

If you would like to know some of the facts concerning health risks and pesticides, Google "CDC and pesticides". It took Google 0.22 seconds to find 478,000 papers!

One interesting link is [www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/pesticides/](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/pesticides/). NIOSH is the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in the US. There is a lot to read on just this one web site, including the fact that " **the EPA estimates that 10,000-20,000 physician diagnosed pesticide poisonings occur each year in the US.....groundskeepers (those guys that work on golf courses) and a variety of other occupations are at risk for exposure to pesticides including fungicides, herbicides, insecticides.....** ".

Mr. Cohen's letter contains links to a number of web sites. Most of them include the word "golf". None of the links are to the CDC, the EPA, NIOSH or the other North American public agencies that are the leading sources of information on the health care risks of pesticides. None of them are links to peer reviewed articles linking pesticides to health risks.

Mr. Cohen attached to his letter a "Question and Answer" paper on pesticides authored by Keith Solomon of the University of Guelph in Ontario. You should be aware that the agriculture and food industry (a major user of pesticides) is a major sponsor of research at the University of Guelph (this is reported on their web site). Perhaps this is why Mr. Solomon sees no need for additional restrictions on the use of pesticides.

Please listen to the advice of Rossland's health care professionals. Please don't be misled by paid industry consultants.

Bob Bechaud