

# A PETITION FOR

## **a bylaw to restrict non-essential use of lawn and garden pesticides for the City of Ottawa**

I agree that the City of Ottawa should restrict the non-essential use of lawn and garden pesticides\*, given that:

- (1)** Exposure to pesticides is increasingly linked by medical authorities to cancer, especially leukemia and lymphoma, and in children also to impaired brain development, lowered IQ, shortened attention span and behavioural problems; and
- (2)** Our bodies and especially those of our children are already carrying an unacceptable load of toxic contaminants which are reinforcing each other; and
- (3)** Supporters of a pesticide ban include: the Canadian Cancer Society, the Ontario College of Family Physicians, the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment, CHEO and the Ottawa Hospital; and
- (4)** The Humane Society of Canada supports a ban on the non-essential use of pesticides, because pets are harmed by Canine Malignant Lymphoma (CML), poisonings and behavioural changes; and
- (5)** Across Canada, pesticide bylaws already protect 127 communities, including the entire Province of Quebec; and
- (6)** Pesticides do not stay in one yard - they contaminate neighbouring yards, are washed into storm drains and rivers, and travel as far away as the Arctic; and
- (7)** There are healthy, effective and economical lawn and garden care alternatives; and
- (8)** Natural lawn care is cost competitive, and studies done in Halifax, Montreal and Toronto show that employment in the lawn care sector has increased following their pesticide bans; and
- (9)** Bylaws get everyone's attention and support education in organic lawn and garden maintenance.

Therefore, I support a strong bylaw that will restrict the non-essential use of lawn and garden pesticides.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

For additional information please see: [www.healthyottawa.ca](http://www.healthyottawa.ca).  
Return completed forms by fax to 613-836-6100, OR  
Mail to 236 Royal Avenue, Ottawa, ON K2A 1T7, OR  
Sign the petition online at: [www.imagineottawa.ca/no\\_pesticides](http://www.imagineottawa.ca/no_pesticides)

\*The word 'pesticides' includes herbicides, insecticides, algaecides, fungicides and rodenticides.



**Effecting change for our children and the environment**