ADOPTED by Council at its meeting held February 21, 2012 [M94-2012]
/AA
Windsor, Ontario February 21, 2012

REPORT NO. 42 of the
ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE
of its meeting held January 25, 2012

Present: **Councillor Hatfield, Chair**
Councillor Payne
Councillor Sleiman
Councillor Halberstadt
Councillor Valentinis

That the following recommendations of the Environment and Transportation Standing Committee **BE APPROVED:**

Moved by Councillor Sleiman, seconded by Councillor Halberstadt,
That the minutes of the Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee meeting held December 1, 2011 **BE RECEIVED** for information.
Carried.

Clerk's Note: The minutes of the Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee meeting held December 1, 2011 are ***attached*** as background information.

CHAIRPERSON

DEPUTY CLERK

NOTIFICATION:				
Name	Address	Email Address	Telephone	FAX

KK/
Windsor, Ontario December 1, 2011

A meeting of the **Windsor Essex County Environment Committee** is held this day commencing at 5:30 o'clock p.m. in the YQG Windsor International Airport Board Room, there being present the following members:

Charlie Wright, Co-Chair
Councillor Alan Halberstadt, Co-Chair
Shahbaz Ahmed
Dean Clevett
Derek Coronado
Rick Coronado
Roger Dzugan (alternate for Mark Bartlett)
Karen Fallon
Paul Henshaw (arrives at 5:39 p.m.)
John Miller (arrives at 5:34 p.m.)
Juliet Mohammed
Phil Roberts
Tamara Stomp (arrives at 5:34 p.m.)

Regrets received from:

Mark Bartlett
Pauline Cheslock
Radwan Tamr

Guests in attendance:

Ayesha Drouillard
Bernie Drouillard
Kim Deyong
Heather Gingerich
Sandra Hogan
Donna Mayne
Daniel Ure

Also present are the following resource personnel:

Averil Parent, Environment and Sustainability Coordinator
Karen Kadour, (A) Committee Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

C. Wright, Co-Chair calls the meeting to order at 5:30 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A" ***attached*** hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT

P. Roberts declares a conflict on matters pertaining to airport woodlots as he is employed by the YQG Windsor International Airport.

4. MINUTES

Moved by J. Mohammed, seconded by M. Child,
That the minutes of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee at its meeting held November 3, 2011 **BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED** to delete the "e-bike" prize to be awarded at the Enviro Expo.
Carried.

5. PRESENTATION

Environmental Effects of Adding Fluoride to City of Windsor Drinking Water

Heather Gingerich, Director, International Medical Geology Association and Kim De Yong, Fluoride Action Network – Windsor Chapter are present to provide information relating to the environmental effects of adding fluoride to the City of Windsor drinking water. The PowerPoint presentation entitled "Artificial Water Fluoridation – Environmental Effects & Legal Implications" is ***attached*** as Appendix "A". The salient points of discussion provided by the presenters relating to artificial water fluoridation are as follows:

- City of Windsor began fluoridating the water with sodium fluoride in 1953 and then changed to hydrofluorosilicic acid (a hazardous toxic waste product) in the early 1960's.
- Hydrofluorosilicic acid is a hazardous toxic waste product derived from scrubbers of phosphate fertilizer industries and it is against the law to dump this toxin into the environment.

- In terms of Calcium Fluoride versus Hydrofluosilicic Acid – ***Calcium Fluoride*** is naturally occurring, safe to hold with bare hands, sparingly soluble in neutral pH water and fluoride toxicity reduced by calcium. ***Hydrofluosilicic Acid*** is man-made toxic waste product, highly corrosive liquid that requires full personal protective equipment to handle legally and fluoride toxicity is enhanced by co-contaminants.
- W.U.C. currently fluoridates to a level of 0.52-0.75 ppm (taken from the 2010 Annual Water Report). This is in violation of the Species at Risk Act which states 0.12ppm as the upper threshold for Fluoride in the environment. Fluoride is not removed by wastewater treatment and disrupts the food web of protected species.
- Water fluoridation increases toxic elements in municipal water.
- The Windsor Utilities Commission has the power to end artificial water fluoridation under the Clean Water Act of 2006
- The Fluoride Action Network requests that the City of Windsor, Town of LaSalle and the Town of Tecumseh cease fluoridation of the drinking water

C. Wright, Co-Chair advises that the Town of Leamington does not fluoridate their water supply. He notes that the H.J. Heinz Company (located in Leamington) will not use fluoridated water in their baby food.

In response to a question asked by S. Ahmed asking if the presenters are advocating the use of a different fluoride versus no fluoride, H. Gingerich responds they are advocating no fluoride.

Moved by T. Stomp, seconded by R. Coronado,
That the Councils of the Town of Tecumseh, the Town of LaSalle and the City of Windsor **BE URGED** to create a by-law to cease fluoridation of the water system as there are valid concerns regarding the potential adverse impact of fluoridation on the environment.
Carried.

M. Child, D. Clevett and S. Ahmed voting nay.

C. Wright leaves the meeting at 6:22 o'clock p.m.

Councillor Halberstadt, Co-Chair assumes the Chair.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 Regional Integrated Community Sustainability Plan

A. Parent states contact has been made with members from the Inter-Municipal Planning Consultation Committee (IMPCC) to begin discussions with the group regarding a Regional Sustainability Plan.

6.2 Speaker Series – Elizabeth May, Leader, Green Party of Canada

A. Parent indicates that Elizabeth May has agreed to speak in Windsor on January 28, 2012. She suggests registrants pay a $5.00 fee (to offset the cost of the food) and David Suzuki School as a venue for the "Green Speaker Series" event. M. Child suggests that the event should be free to the public. It is agreed that this decision can be made during the January meeting.

Moved by D. Clevett, seconded by T. Stomp,
That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of $2,000 for the facility rental, hotel accommodations for Elizabeth May, and other associated costs including food for the Green Speaker Series to be held on January 28, 2012.
Carried.

T. Stomp suggests St. Clair College for the Arts for the venue as it offers a view of the Detroit River. A. Parent suggests the Dr. David Suzuki public school. A. Parent will bring a budget and event details back to the Committee in January.

6.3 Financial Summary

Councillor Halberstadt, Co-Chair reiterates that City Council has requested a 10 per cent reduction in advisory committee budgets and he asks that this be reflected in WECEC's 2012 budget submission. He also lists previous budget amounts given to the committee since 2002:

Previous Budget Amounts			
Year	Annual Budget	Transfer from Reserve Account	TOTAL
2002	$5,714.00	$3,253.00	**$8,967.00**
2003	$4,800.00	$5,449.00	**$10,249.00**
2004	$29,600.00	$0.00	**$29,600.00**
2005	$27,202.00	$29,399.00	**$56,601.00**
2006	$0.00	$46,736.00	**$46,736.00**
2007	$0.00	$13,750.00	**$13,750.00**
2008	$8,908.00	$7,096.00	**$16,004.00**
2009	$8,208.00	$7,000.00	**$15,208.00**
2010	$8,208.00	$12,719.00	**$20,927.00**
2011	$8,208.00	$10,021.00	**$18,229.00**

6.4 New WECEC Appointments

Councillor Halberstadt, Co-Chair states that Durham Region has full-voting youth members on their Environment Committee.

Moved by K. Fallon, seconded by R. Dzugan,
That administration **BE REQUESTED** to contact the University of Windsor, St. Clair College and the high schools to enlist two youth members to sit on the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee.
Carried.

7. COORDINATOR'S REPORT

A. Parent reports that the Town of Oshawa has contributed a great resource throughout the province by creating an EAC website. www.eacs.ca is a website designed for all environmental advisory committees in Ontario.

M. Child advises he will provide Natural Heritage Site Maps to A. Parent to potentially add them to the WECEC website.

8. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Air

D. Coronodo states that A. Parent is authoring a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency regarding the Detroit Incinerator.

8.2 Transportation

The minutes of the Transportation Subcommittee at its meeting held November 29, 2011 are distributed and ***attached*** as Appendix "B".

Bernie Drouillard, member of the Transportation Subcommittee suggests that the Transit Windsor budget be increased by 10% rather than decreased by 10% as mandated by City Council.

Councillor Halberstadt, Co-Chair questions whether the request to increase Transit Windsor's budget is within the purview of WECEC's mandate.

Moved by R. Coronado, seconded by T. Stomp,
That City Council **BE REQUESTED** to consider increasing the budget for Transit Windsor in order to increase public transit service in Windsor and further, that the summer schedule for Transit Windsor **BE ELIMINATED** as it limits ridership.
Carried.

8.3 Provincially Significant Wetlands

No report.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.2 Lake Erie Algal Blooms

Item deferred to the January 5, 2012 meeting.

9.1 Renewable Energy Media Campaign with Generator Design

Moved by T. Stomp, seconded by D. Clevett,
That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of $4,518.87 for renewable energy marketing services in Windsor-Essex by Generator Design of Canada Inc., Windsor, Ontario.
Carried.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

10.1 EWSWA Public Information Survey

The EWSWA Public Information Survey is received for information.

10.2 WindsorOntarioNews.com Article

The WindsorOntarioNews.com article dated November 24, 2011 entitled "No de-icing airplanes…at an airport" is received for information.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 5, 2012 at 5:30 o'clock p.m. in the YQG Windsor Airport Board Room.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 7:30 o'clock p.m.

CHAIR

(A) COMMITTEE COORDINATOR

AGENDA
and Schedule "A"
to the minutes of the meeting of the
WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
Thursday, December 1st, 2011
Meeting at 5:30p.m.
At YQG WINDSOR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
BOARD ROOM

---

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT**

4. **MINUTES**

Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held November 3rd, 2011 – ***emailed separately.***

5. **PRESENTATION:**

Donna Mayne, Fluoride Action Network – Windsor Chapter: The Environmental Effects of Adding Fluoride to City of Windsor Drinking Water – ***attached.***

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

6.1 Regional Integrated Community Sustainability Plan

6.2 Speaker Series – Elizabeth May, Leader, Green Party of Canada

6.3 Financial Summary – ***attached.***

6.4 New WECEC Appointments

7. **COORDINATORS REPORT**

WECEC Coordinator Monthly Report – ***attached.***

8. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

8.1 Air

8.2 Transportation

8.3 Provincially Significant Wetlands

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Renewable Energy Media Campaign with Generator Design – ***attached.***

9.2 Lake Erie algal blooms – ***attached.***

10. COMMUNICATIONS

10.1 EWSWA Public Information Survey, submitted on behalf of WECEC – ***attached.***

10.2 WindsorOntarioNews.com article (November 24th) *No de-icing airplanes...at an airport?* – ***attached.***

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 5th, 2011 at the YQG Windsor Airport Board Room at 5:30 o'clock p.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Artificial Water Fluoridation

Environmental Effects & Legal Implications

Kimberly DeYong
Windsor's Fluoride Action Network

Heather Gingerich
B.Sc. Biological Science (Guelph)
M.Sc. Earth Science (Waterloo)
International Medical Geology Association
(Director, Canada)

APPENDIX "A"

What is Artificial Water Fluoridation?

* Artificial water fluoridation is the addition of fluorosilicates to drinking water. Unlike all other additives that eliminate water-borne pathogens, only fluoride is intended as a medical treatment, presumably to prevent tooth decay.

* At the behest of the public health unit in 1953, the City of Windsor began fluoridating our water with sodium fluoride and then changed to hydrofluorosilicic acid (a substance more readily absorbed by the body) in the early '60s.

Hydrofluorosilicic Acid

H2SiF6:

hazardous toxic waste derived from scrubbers of phosphate fertilizer industries

Contaminants include trace amounts of:

- Arsenic (As)
- Lead (Pb)
- Mercury (Hg)
- Cadmium (Cd)
- Chromium (Cr)
- Radionuclides (Ra, Po)

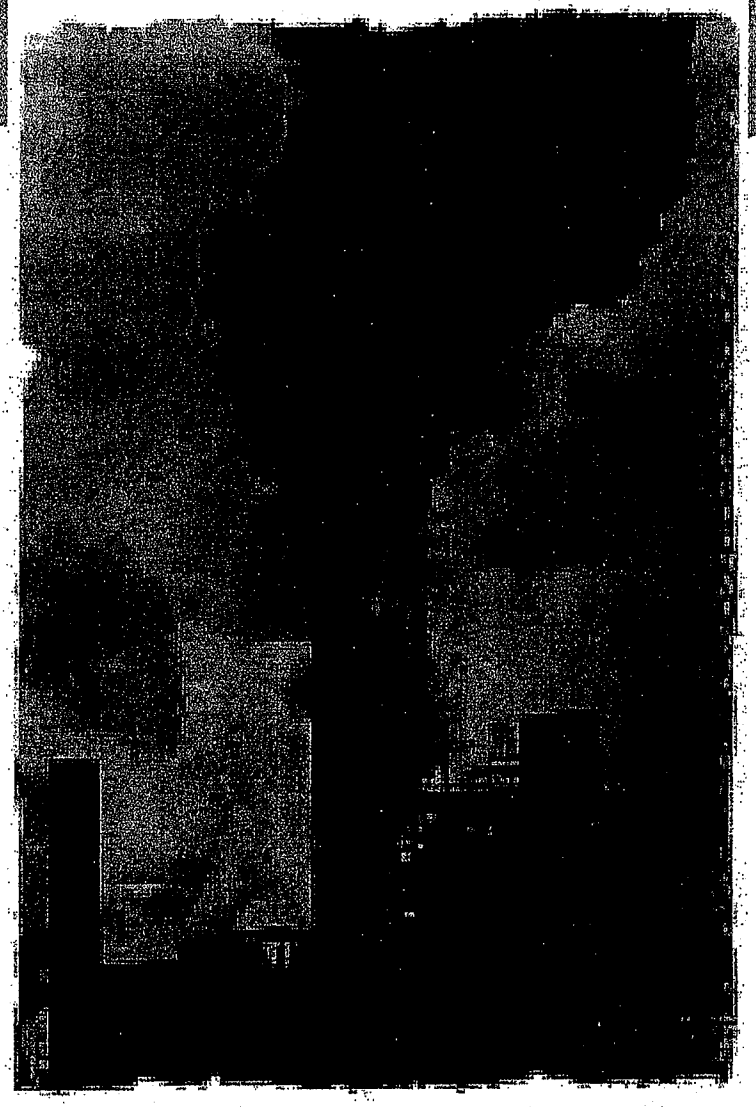
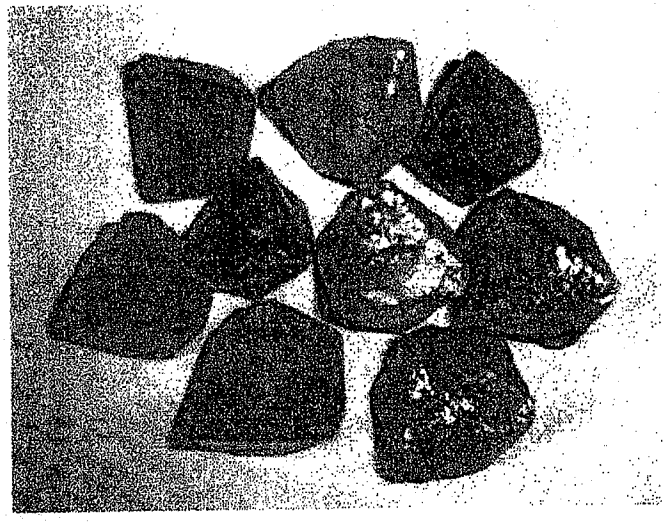


Photo: www.fluoridealert.org

Calcium Fluoride vs. Hydrofluosilicic Acid



CaF_2
- Naturally occurring
- Safe to hold with bare hands
- Sparingly soluble in neutral pH water
- Fluoride toxicity reduced by calcium
- LD 50 = oral rat, **4250** ppm

Source: REAGENTS, INC.--MSDS--CALCIUM FLUORIDE

H_2SiF_6
- Man-made toxic waste product
- Highly corrosive liquid that requires full personal protective equipment to handle legally
- Fluoride toxicity enhanced by co-contaminants

Acute oral toxicity
-LD 100 = guinea pig, **80** ppm (2 % solution)

Source: Issuing date 06.07.2009 SOLVAY Chemicals

Dilution is Not a Solution to Pollution

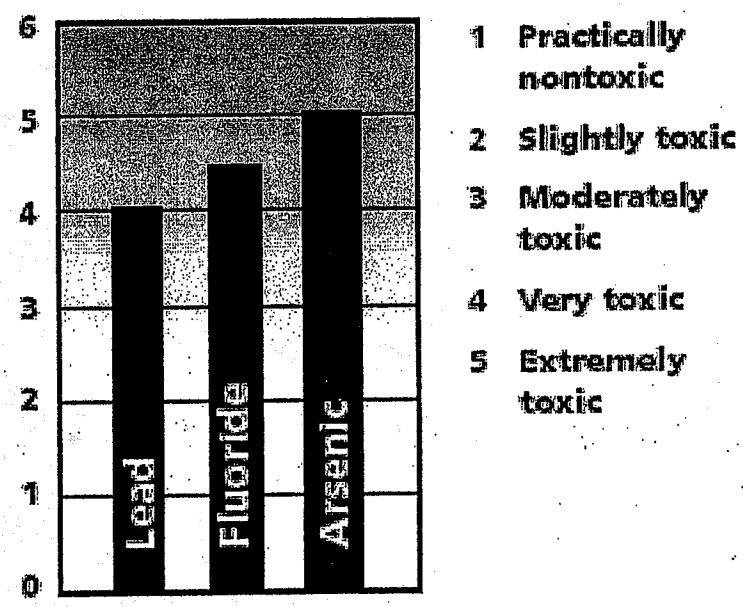
"Hazardous Waste"

Hazardous Waste Act

"Toxic Substance"

Canadian Environmental Protection Act:

- Bioaccumulative
- Toxic
- Anthropogenic
- Persistent



"Dangerous good/class 8 corrosive substance."

Transport Canada

It is Illegal to dump H_2SiF_6 anywhere in the environment!

Health Canada failed to consider long-term or combined effects on the environment, infrastructure or general health of adding HFSA to municipal water supplies

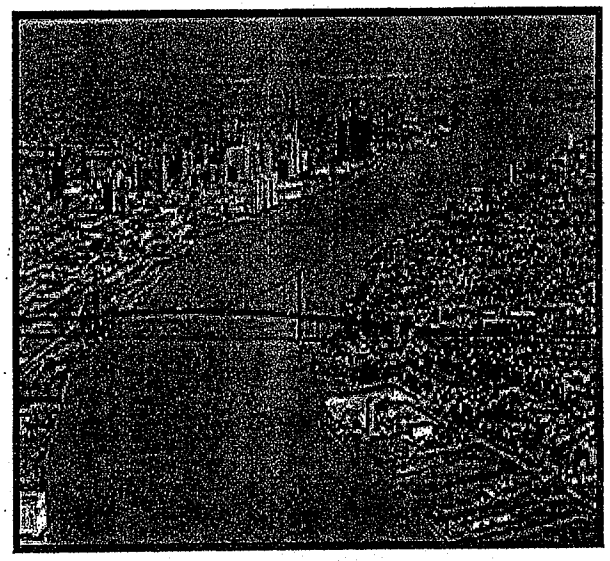
Fluoride not removed by wastewater treatment

"Fluoride passes through the wastewater treatment process unchanged...The West end of Lake Erie gets a huge fluoride injection as a result of these sources."

Peter van Caulart, Environmental Training Institute in Ontario

H_2SiF_6 added to the Detroit River annually

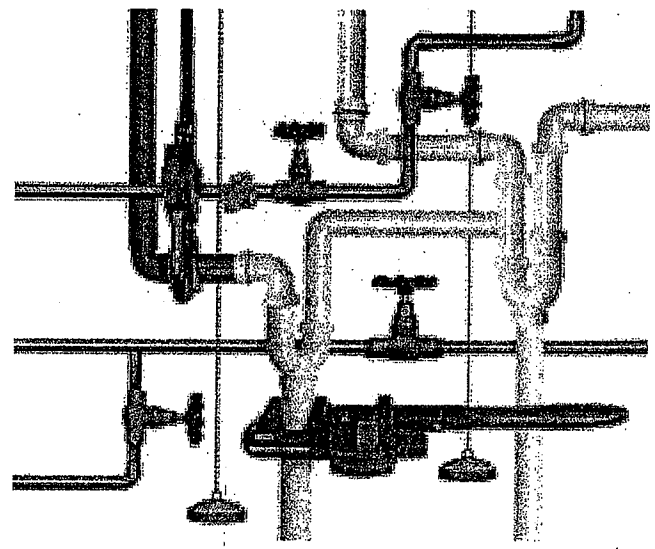
* Windsor/Detroit area >**4.2 million lbs/year** (calculated at 1lb/person/year)
* **PLUS permitted loading from the MISA site**
* **PLUS discharged from other fluoridating communities along the river & Lake St. Clair**



Water Fluoridation Increases Toxic Elements in Municipal Water

W.U.C. currently fluoridates to a level of 0.52-0.75 ppm (taken from the 2010 Annual Water Report)

ppm	EC	HC
F	0.12	1.50
Na	±10%	20.0
Cu	0.002	1.0
Pb*	0.001	0.010
Zn	0.030	0.5
Cd*	0.000017	0.005
As*	0.005	0.010
radio-nuclide	NA	0.02 (as U)
Cr*	0.001	0.05
Hg	0.000004	0.001



1. Added from municipal and industrial sources
2. Infrastructure corrosion products of AWF
3. Contaminants in HFSA

*Both contaminant of HSFA + corrosion product

Species at Risk Act

S.C. 2002, c. 29

Assented to 2002-12-12

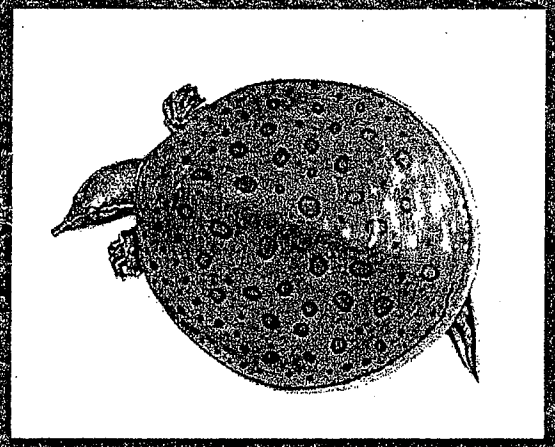
* the Government of Canada is committed to conserving biological diversity and to the principle that, if there are threats of serious or irreversible damage to a wildlife species, **cost-effective measures to prevent the reduction or loss of the species should not be postponed for a lack of full scientific certainty**;
* stewardship activities contributing to the conservation of wildlife species and their **habitat** should be supported to prevent species from becoming at risk;
* the **habitat** of species at risk is key to their conservation;
* "*habitat*" means (*a*) in respect of aquatic species, spawning grounds and nursery, rearing, **food supply**, migration and any other areas on which aquatic species depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes, or areas where aquatic species formerly occurred and have the potential to be reintroduced;

FLUORIDE IS NOT REMOVED FROM WASTEWATER & DISRUPTS THE FOOD WEB OF PROTECTED SPECIES

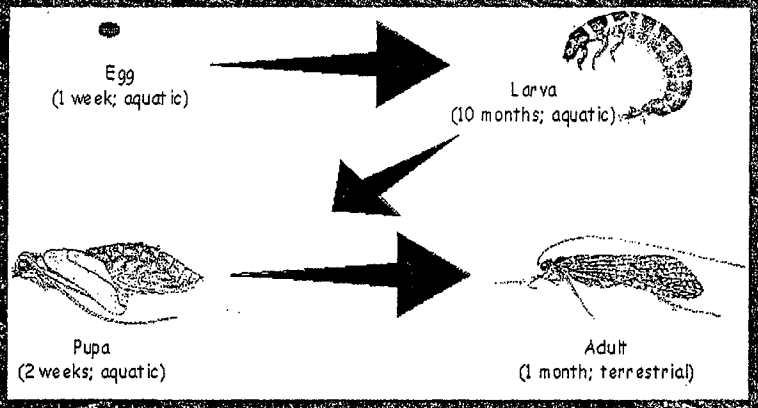
= AGAINST FEDERAL LAW

7 of 8 Indigenous Ontario Turtles Species at Risk Listed

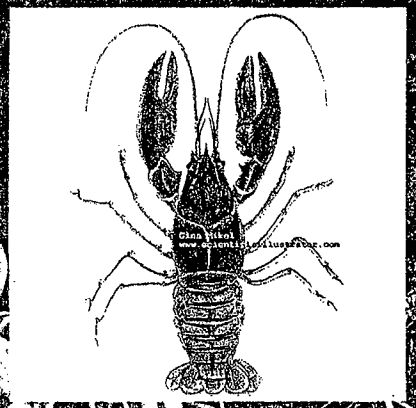
SARA Protected



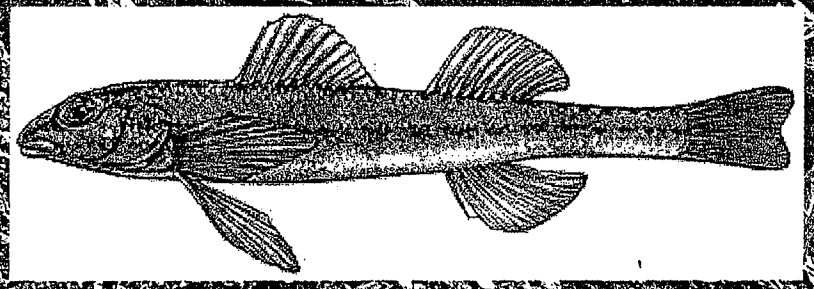
Keystone F sensitive feeder



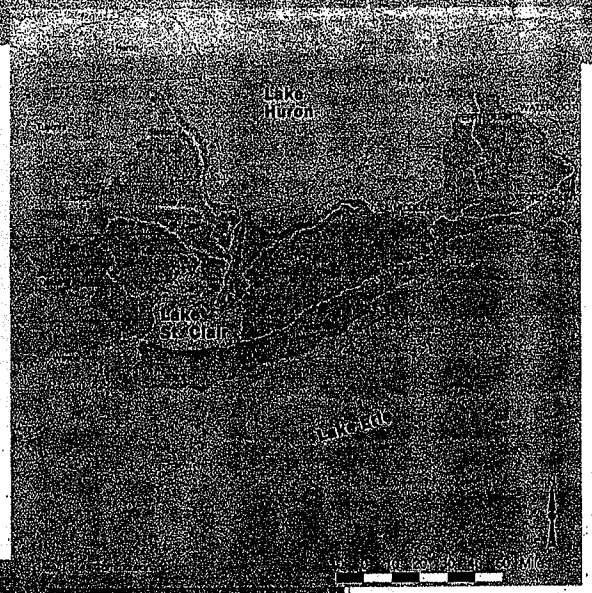
Fluoride < 0.12 ppm

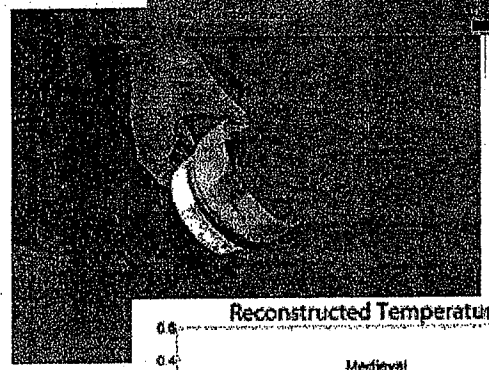


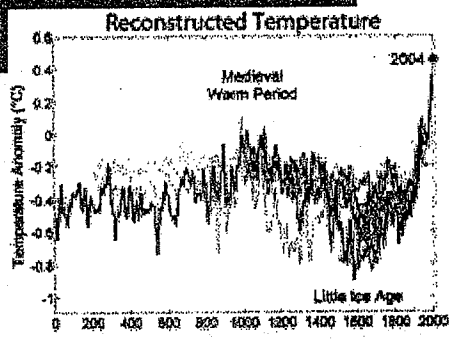
SARA Protected



How Fluoridation Is Slowly Killing Lake St. Clair & Lake Erie

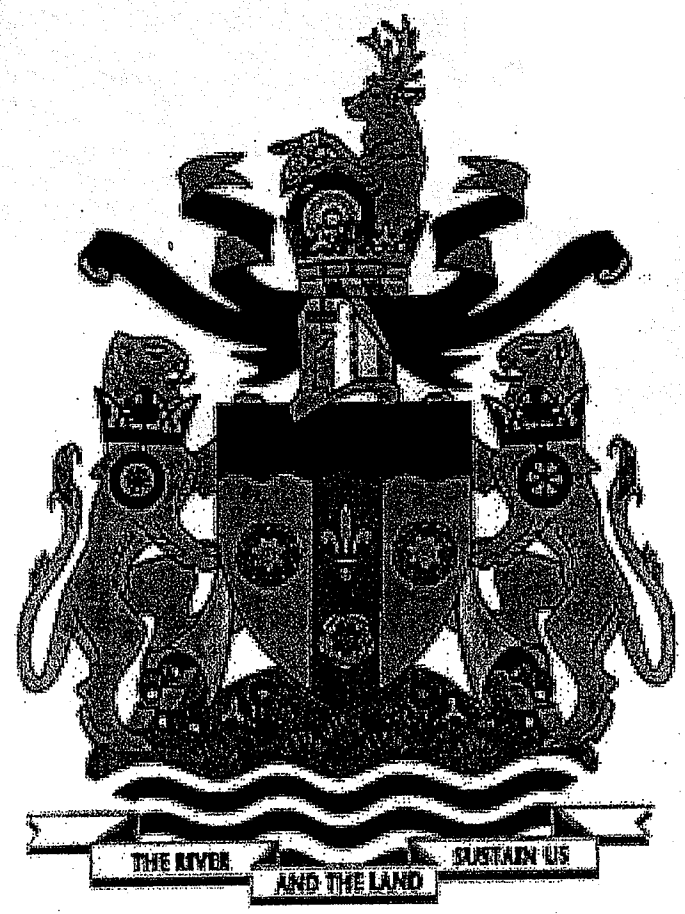






1. AWF increases the mass of water
2. "Heavy" water has an increased heat capacity
3. Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair are shallow and warm to begin with
4. Warm water with a heavy load of dissolved constituents (potential food) grows bacteria and algae
5. Overgrowth starves higher aquatic organisms of oxygen, increases CO_2
6. Dead Lakes warm air & release GHGs

We Have a Duty to Protect the Environment That Sustains Us



* **The City of Windsor is licensed to conduct fluoridation. With this comes culpability in the event of environmental damage.**
* **Health Canada does not regulate H_2SiF_6. As such, the agency has no standing in the matter. Its endorsements will not shield the City of Windsor from liability.**

Legal Implications of Fluoridation:

* Violates the federal Species At Risk Act
* Damages the environment & livelihood
    * First Nations (Nanfan Treaty 1701)
    * Agri-food Industries
    * Fisheries
* Damage to private property
    * Homeowners
    * Insurance providers

WUC Has the Power to End AWF Under the Clean Water Act of 2006

* Ontario's Clean Water Act helps protect drinking water from source to tap with a multi-barrier approach **that stops contaminants from entering sources of drinking water - lakes, rivers and aquifers.**

* Ontario's Clean Water Act requires that local communities - through local Source Protection Committees - assess existing and potential threats to their water, and that they set out and implement the actions needed to reduce or eliminate these threats.

* **Empowers communities to take action to prevent threats from becoming significant.**

* Requires public participation on every local source protection plan - the planning process for source protection is open to anyone in the community.

* Requires that all plans and actions are based on sound science.

Recommendations

The Precautionary Principle

*If an action or policy has a suspected risk of causing harm to the public or to the environment, in the absence of scientific consensus that the action or policy is harmful, the burden of proof that it is not harmful falls on those taking the action.

We recommend the Environmental Committee insist on:

1. Provision of a full environmental assessment and baseline study that was conducted prior to initiation of Artificial Water Fluoridation. None? Stop AWF
2. Continuous downstream monitoring to ensure that levels do not exceed water quality guidelines of 0.12 ppm. Not feasible? Stop AWF
3. A guarantee that chemistry of the water discharged into the Detroit River from the Windsor sewage treatment plant is the same or better than the water that is taken out in terms of protection of aquatic life. Not possible? Stop AWF

Environmental Organizations Opposing Artificial Water Fluoridation

* Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment
* Council of Canadians
* EPA Headquarters Professionals' Union
* Great Lakes United
* National Research Council
* International Society of Doctors for the Environment
* American Academy of Environmental Medicine
* Environmental Working Group
* Environmental Health Foundation
* Science and Environmental Health Network
* Center for Health, Environment, and Justice
* Goldman Prize winners (2006, 2003, 1997, 1995, 1990)

Thank you for your time

Transportation Subcommittee Report
In attendance:
Frank Butler
Bernie Drouillard
Guest: Averil Parent, WECEC Coordinator

November 29th/11
Regrets:
Dean Clevett
Rick Coronado

Transit Windsor Budget

There was a brief discussion of the Transit Windsor B.O.D. November meeting. Transit Windsor is facing a 10% cut to their budget similar to many other departments. Though the subcommittee understands the general rational for budget cuts, it does not agree that it should apply to a priority public service such as Windsor Transit, especially when costs such as fuel have increased and will continue to increase. The subcommittee sees the recent increase in ridership even with a fare hike last year as one positive example of increasing not decreasing the budget. This positive trend shows that the public is buying into choosing to take mass transit rather than driving.

As well, the subcommittee supports the move to a year-long schedule as opposed to the seasonal summer schedule under the current system. It's noted that this move will eliminate the need of printing two sets of schedules each year and lessen confusion among the public as to which schedule is in effect.

Recommendations

Support for Transit Windsor Service and Budget

Motion –

Whereas:

Ridership has increased this past year even though the cost to take transit has also increased;

Whereas:

Increased public transit service levels lead to more sustainable communities through pollution reduction, traffic congestion reduction, as well as increased access to services and amenities;

Whereas:

Currently two schedules are currently used throughout the year (seasonal session between June and September) causing confusion among riders, increased printing and paper costs to distribute new schedules an extra two times per year;

APPENDIX "B"

And Whereas:

WECEC supported an increase in Transit Windsor funding to address adequate staffing and bus purchases in Report No. 52 of February 3 2011 to City Council;

Therefore Be It Resolved That:

City Council increases the Transit Windsor Capital Budget by 10% instead of reducing their budget by 10% in order to increase public transit service in Windsor.

Further Be It Resolved That:

City Council approves Transit Windsor to move to one schedule year round by eliminating the uses of the summer schedule, therefore increasing service during the summer months.

High Speed Rail Study

The recent unofficially released study on a high speed train proposal for the Windsor – Quebec City corridor, pans the consideration of a Windsor to Toronto leg of the concept. The subcommittee believes the local mayoral positions that the study does not take into consideration our city and region close proximity to a U.S. ridership to be a correct assumption.

The subcommittee will be reviewing the study in greater detail and hope to come back with recommendations to WECEC and the city and county councils in January. The subcommittee requests some direction from the WECEC co-chairs and committee as to whether the subcommittee should respond through WECEC or to the coordinators of the study or both.