

# QUALITY OF LIFE? **WE CAN DO BETTER!**



**THE MANITOBA  
GREEN PARTY**  
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Gary Doer Premier of Manitoba 204 Legislative Building 450 Broadway Ave. Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8	Theresa Oswald Minister of Health 302 Legislative Building 450 Broadway Ave. Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8	Stan Struthers Minister of Conservation 330 Legislative Building 450 Broadway Ave. Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8	Rosanne Wowchuk Minister of Agriculture 165 Legislative Building 450 Broadway Ave. Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8
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ATTENTION: Premier Doer, and Ministers, Oswald, Struthers and Wowchuk:

In celebration of Earth Day we, the Green Party of Manitoba, are calling on the Manitoba Government to take action on the proliferation of pesticides (including herbicides, pesticides, fungicides and other chemicals) that are compromising the health of Manitoba's populace, its wildlife, and the health of the planet in general.

There is a mounting amount of scientific evidence that highlights the dangers of herbicides, pesticides, and fungicides. Below is but a small portion of a growing body of scientific evidence.

- A research team at the University of Caen, in France, has found that Roundup kills human tissue within 24 hours of exposure, at just fractions of the concentrations used in agriculture!<sup>1</sup>
- A study at the University of Pittsburgh has found that Roundup is highly toxic to amphibians, including frogs!<sup>2</sup>
- A research team at the University of Minnesota found that children born to men who applied pesticides for a living had significantly more problems with circulation, breathing and genital formation than the general population.<sup>3</sup>
- Additionally the wives of men who applied chemicals, especially fungicides, had a significant increase in their risk of miscarriages, and those who carried to term were significantly more likely to have female rather than male offspring.<sup>4</sup>
- The U.S. E.P.A. has found the chemical clothianidin to be "very highly toxic" to honey bees.<sup>5</sup> Germany, Italy, and France have all banned this family of pesticides.

We, the Green Party of Manitoba, implore the Provincial Government to take action immediately!

- Follow the lead of Ontario and Quebec and implement a province-wide ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides.
- Implement a province-wide ban on the introduction of new GMO crop varieties, which require the use of more pesticides.
- Implement a province-wide ban on clothianidin to ensure that Manitoba keeps its bee population intact.
- Push the federal government to take the same above-mentioned actions.

We, the Green party of Manitoba, hope to see the government take swift action on these issues. The health of the populace and the health of the ecosystems that sustain us all are at stake!

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Green Party of Manitoba,

Larry Powell  
Green Party of Manitoba Food Security Advocate

James Beddome  
Leader of the Green Party of Manitoba

1 Prof. Gilles-Eric Seralini. [University of Caen](http://www.unicaen.fr). contact: gilles-eric.seralini@unicaen.fr

2 Prof. Rick Relyea. [University of Pittsburgh](http://news.bio-medicine.org/biology-news-3/Rounduphighly-lethal-to-amphibians--finds-University-of-Pittsburgh-researcher-12418-1/). Online: <http://news.bio-medicine.org/biology-news-3/Rounduphighly-lethal-to-amphibians--finds-University-of-Pittsburgh-researcher-12418-1/>

3 Garry VF, Harkins ME, Erickson LL, Long-Simpson LK, Holland SE, Burroughs BL. "Birth defects, season of conception, and sex of children born to pesticide applicators living in the Red River Valley of Minnesota, USA." [Environmental Medicine and Pathology](#).

4 Garry VF, Harkins M, Lyubimov A, Erickson L, Long L. "Reproductive outcomes in the women of the Red River Valley of the north. I. The spouses of pesticide applicators: pregnancy loss, age at menarche, and exposures to pesticides." [Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, University of Minnesota](#).

5 United States Environmental Protection Agency (2003). "Pesticide Factsheet: Clothianidin" Online: <http://www.epa.gov/opprd001/factsheets/clothianidin.pdf>