



Tan'talizing issue

Canadian Cancer Society is endorsing Premier Dalton McGuinty's government on plans to adopt NDP MPP's France Gélinas's Private Member's bill banning youth under 18 from indoor tanning

"We are thrilled with this decision because it will save lives and reduce the devastating impact of skin cancer," says Joanne Di Nardo, Senior Manager of Public Issues for the Canadian Cancer Society in Ontario.

In July, an expert review of current research published in the British Medical Journal showed that people who first started using indoor tanning equipment before the age of 35 have an 87 per cent increased risk of melanoma skin cancer.

With this announcement Ontario is on track to join a growing list of Canadian municipalities and provincial governments who have taken action to regulate the indoor tanning industry.

But according to the Joint Canadian Tanning Association which represents the industry the Bill doesn't go far enough to address the real issues. The organization is working to bring about a regulatory framework that will protect all consumers rather than just stop at banning teenagers.

JCTA Executive Director Steven Gilroy. "The influx of self-operated and coin-operated sunbeds and dermatology's use of sunbeds for the treatment of cosmetic skin conditions are the real risks to consumers.

"What is needed is a regulatory framework to ensure that consumers are protected and we simply don't have that in Ontario as of yet," added Gilroy. "It's not enough to ban use of tanning salons for those who are seventeen and under, and to say that people who are eighteen and over are on their own," said Gilroy.

It seems that proponents on both sides of the issue are working towards the same goal—now we just have to see if the McGuinty government can pull off a touchdown.

WEB POLL RESULTS

(Go to www.theifp.ca)

Should Ontario teachers follow their union leaders' call to withdraw from doing voluntary extracurricular activities in response to the Province's implementation of wage freezes?

- Yes (54%, 84 Votes)
- No (46%, 69 Votes)

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Letters to the editor

New resident dislikes green cart policy, but not the program

Dear editor,

I am writing to voice my deep displeasure over what should, instead, be a great asset to the Town of Halton Hills.

We are new residents to Georgetown and we were excited to see the depth and sophistication of the Halton Hills recycling program.

Although living in the community for a little over a month, we quickly came to the conclusion that we would be taking full advantage of the community's green cart and other recycling programs. We utilize the one green cart given to us by the community, and started to use a second green cart given to us long ago by my brother-in-law from Durham Region. The first few weeks we put it in use it was collected without problem, however, this past week it was not.

Being good citizens, we called 311 to query why and were told that the green cart had to be one from Halton Hills, and that a second one was only available at a cost of \$15 - and only available from the Waste Recycling Centre South of Milton on Route 25.

Thinking that supporting the local

program was only fair, today I drove to the Recycling Centre by way of Acton. As you can appreciate this is now a construction laden journey that took over two hours to complete.

Imagine, then, my considerable dismay and frustration when told that there are no green carts available because the recycling centre did not receive its shipment. The offer to have a second green cart delivered to us, was and is appreciated.

However, the issue that gave rise to this situation is much more disappointing and distressing.

First, it should not matter what green cart is utilized—the important thing is that the recycling program is being engaged with by the citizenry.

Second, if a second or third or fourth green cart is desired, it should be available in more than one location so that the commute to secure it does not rob a citizen of several hours and create a carbon footprint that will take several weeks to erase. Is there no room to keep a couple dozen ongoing at the town offices?

Third, it is unconscionable that any community in today's environmentally conscious landscape "runs out" of proper containers at any time. Somebody dropped the ball!

I am sure there are very good reasons for managing the program in this man-

ner, however, perhaps the convenience of managing the program should take second place to delivering it, which should come right on the heels of having citizens utilize it properly.

Darrell Townson
Georgetown

Kind stranger drives wet senior to Acton

I am writing to tell you about a very special lady who lives in Georgetown. All I know about this lady is that she is Irish and her name is Norma.

Yesterday I had travelled to Georgetown by bus, did a load of shopping and packed it into my shopping buggy. I rushed across the parking lot only to see my return bus go sailing by, with the next one due three hours later!

I decided to walk in the rain to the Mall to pass the hours in the dry. As I walked, quite wet by now, this kind lady pulled over and asked me where I was walking to as she would give me a ride home. I explained the situation to her and she amazingly said "bring your bags here, I will drive you to Acton". The lady would not even take any money for gas!

Thank you again Norma—you are very special!

A grateful Acton senior,
Eileen Dix