

Storm brews over fluoridation

Can't tolerate fluoride

Dear Sirs:
We have all been told over the years how lucky we are to live in a democratic society and I am now wondering if our elected members of regional government for Halton feel that they are a part of this democracy?
The saying goes "you can fool some of the people some of the time" but in my opinion they (the Region) have gone too far when they became dictators!
Milton Residents (before this farce called regional government) firmly expressed their opinion once before that they wanted our "pure" water supply left alone (no fluoride). This was during a time when people actually had a say in municipal affairs.
Anyone reading Thursday's Toronto Star would have discovered that the fate of Milton's water system rests solely on the wishes of Burlington, Oakville, Acton and Georgetown. To make matters worse "those" residents are not even getting a chance to voice their opinions on the fluoride issue. Their elected representatives decided for them and in doing so, also decided for us—the people of Milton.
Do these people know what fluoride really is and do they ever wonder why our dentists are pushing it so hard?
Fluoride is a by-product of aluminum and one of the deadliest poisons known to man. It cannot be stored and to destroy it by burying it, would cause death to humans

and animals alike, once the substance spread to surrounding water areas.
There are people whose systems cannot tolerate fluoride in any amount and to these people the chemical is extremely dangerous.
Why then should these people be subjected to this poison when those of us who really want it can get it in several different forms?
It is yet to be proven what the long term effects of fluoride are on the human body. Do concerned parents and grandparents really want to see our children used as guinea pigs to possibly find out in a few years that we made a "big mistake"?
If there is natural fluoride in the water already and we add this aluminum by-product, the body is unable to throw off the excess which means it will just continue to build up in our bodies.
If the dental association has done any research on fluoride then I would like to see a statement telling the public at what time and at what place this research took place.
One last point for the public to be aware of is—the National Research Association which is an arm of the federal government publicly condemns fluoride in water supplies!
Once again, what happened to our democracy?

Respectfully submitted,
Dolores Melanson,
627 Churchill Ave., Milton

Fluoride supporter speaks

Dear Sir:
Congratulations on your fine article on fluoridation (Aug. 30, 1978). It clearly outlines the factors that must be considered:
1) That the population of the area has changed in seven years—new residents from areas with fluoridation will probably favor it for Milton.
2) That fluoride is a natural substance, in fairly high quantities in many foods and some water sources.
3) That the Region's Health and Social Services, the Ontario Dental Association and many dentists favor fluoridation.
4) That studies over the past 100 years have proven its safety and effectiveness (80-85 per cent reduction in tooth decay). Considering that these facts were well expressed, it is surprising to read letters which speak of ruining, polluting and contaminating our pure clean water.

fluoride as a toxic pollutant, and questioning whether there are any good effects.
If we had had fluoridation over the years, studies show that another 80 per cent of Milton's older citizens would still have their own teeth!
The fact that a few people carry their water to other areas proves only that not 100 per cent of the population believes the evidence on fluoridation.
By all means, let's hold our plebiscite. Since the majority of parents already favor fluoride treatment in the schools, the vote will probably be in favor of fluoridation. In any case we must fall by the results of the studies of fluoridation and then decide the issue on logical rather than emotional grounds.

Yours truly,
Peter K. Burian
750 Cabot Trail, Milton
cc: Mayor Donald Gordon.

Two sponsors

Arthritis campaign underway

The annual campaign for funds for the Arthritis Society of Canada will get underway in Milton next week, overall chairman Neville Johnston announced.

Again this year two local organizations, the Knights of Columbus at Holy Rosary Church and the Milton and District Kinsmen will be the sponsoring organizations. Zone chairmen working with Mr. Johnston are John Dundas and Brian Robertson of the Kinsmen, and Don Lambert, John Kret and Phil Healey of the K of C.

Milton Council has proclaimed the period Sept. 18 to Sept. 30 as Arthritis Week in Milton and supported the campaign.

A final planning meeting was held Thursday in the Library, with Arthritis Society representatives on hand from Kitchener field office to show a film on the work of the Society. Zone captains and chairmen attended the session. Mr. Johnston reported.

Last year the same two groups collected about \$1,500 in a house to house canvass in

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OUR READERS WRITE:

Pure water is a must

The Editor:
Did you know that the composition of our body is two-thirds water? We should drink at least two litres of water every day. Pure water is necessary for each of us to maintain good health. For these reasons we were very pleased to learn that Milton had an excellent source of pure water when we moved here four years ago.
We are very upset to learn that the Halton Regional Council has voted to add fluoride to our pure drinking water. During our vacation this summer we realized how precious good water is and were very happy to return to Milton to get a drink of pure, good tasting water.
We understand that it is within the legal power of the regional government to impose fluoridation on the citizens of Milton. The citizens of the Town of Milton turned fluoridation down several years ago and now we are being told we must have fluoridated water. Is this democracy in action?
If anyone wants to use fluorides they can obtain them in toothpastes or as a treatment at their dentist's office.
We question the benefits of using

fluorides. Did you know that fluoride was once known as a terrific cockroach poison? Fluorine is known to destroy beneficial bacteria in the throat. People who drink fluoridated water feel free to consume more candy (sugar) as we are told people have fewer cavities when they drink fluoridated water. Fluoridation is a symptomatic treatment for a terminal sweet tooth. High consumption of sugar is harmful to general health, not only the health of your teeth. So let's cut down on consumption of sugar and leave our pure water alone!
What happens when fluorides accumulate in our bodies, our soil and our lakes? Fluorine is only one of many chemicals which are polluting our environment. Olaf Mickelson, Ph.D., a professor of nutrition at Michigan State University, told a water quality symposium in Washington, in 1974: "It may not be very long before the water glass becomes an antique. At the present rate of decline, by the year 2000, we shall not be drinking any water at all—as such."
Ralph Cook,
Sue Cook,
796 Frobisher Blvd, Milton.

People should have vote

Dear Sir:
I am writing this letter re: fluoridation of Milton's water supply. It isn't fair to force us to pollute our superior water without even giving us a choice.
By choice I don't mean a regional vote, I mean a vote within the town of Milton—the people concerned.
I think if we are even going to consider fluoridation that all facts—good and bad—should be presented to the public.

Personally, I feel that Milton's water has been fine for years and is fine now—without fluoride. We have the purest water around, so why not keep it that way?
I hope other people who oppose fluoridation will see fit to voice their opinion before it's too late.
Yours truly,
S. Cheskey (Mrs.),
155 Ontario St., Milton.

Who needs region anyway?

Dear Editor:
I notice that Dr. Green states that fluoride would cost an individual 20 cents but what about installation costs?
I understand that the installation costs are quite high and we will be paying a lot higher taxes on this. There are alternate ways of taking fluoride so that if someone wants to take it they can, without making everyone take it.
Halton Hills regional councillor Pat McKenzie was quoted in another paper as saying, "Does Acton have to suffer because Milton does not want fluoride?" The same is true about Milton. Does Milton have to suffer because Acton wants fluoride?
I think the people in Acton should vote on whether or not they want fluoride and the same should apply to Milton people, not say

you have to have fluoride whether you like it or not.
As I understand it they are dealing with five separate water systems with Milton having the best, so why can't we decide ourselves if or not we want to pollute our good spring water? Why can't they leave us alone and let Milton be Milton as it has been for over 100 years?
Who needs regional government anyway, all they have done for us is to raise our taxes away out of sight. If Milton residents would take the time to find out how fluoride is derived they would take a long look at what is being forced on us. I loved Milton the way it used to be and the way it should still be.
Yours sincerely,
A.J. Higgins
256 Thomas St., Milton
(A resident of Milton since 1913)

Supports fluoride move

Dear Editor:
Dr. Cowan, the dentist who took the initiative to urge Milton Council to institute water fluoridation is to be congratulated. Without his effort, the issue of water fluoridation would still have been unresolved.
Now as a result of the by-law passed by Halton Regional Council, Milton homes will have water fluoridation. Milton children will have fewer cavities, and Milton parents will have smaller dental bills to pay.
The cost of water fluoridation is insignificant and the benefits are measurable—in healthier teeth for a lifetime.
The argument for water fluoridation has been documented, time and time again. Likewise, it has been proven in studies in

Canada and around the world that fluoridated water has no adverse affect on general health.
It's too bad it's taken us so long to realize it—but better late than never!
For your children's sake, I urge you to show your support for water fluoridation.
Very sincerely,
Mrs. C. McDonald
908 Birch Ave. Milton

Editor's Note: Regional council has not passed the by-law, but rather a resolution calling for the preparation of a by-law. Passage of the by-law requires that a separate vote be taken.

Communist dictators?

Dear Sir:
Does anyone feel they are living in a communist community? It sure seems that way, with us being told what we will drink in our water. We have to abide by the Regional Government, or so they feel we do. All we, the people, are any good for is paying taxes and voting. We have no say in anything at all. We are not consulted about what shall or shall not be.
Doesn't that sound like the countries run by the communists? It does to me and many others. As citizens and taxpayers we have no rights. Whatever the bigshots in regional government want, they get, or take. Who do they think they are, to make us drink polluted water and cook with it? It's time we the people stood up and spoke out

against this dictatorship. We are not puppets, we are human beings with minds of our own. We don't need these people who sit in offices telling us what to do.
I hope those who are against this "fluoride" hoax will speak out and make yourselves known. You can be sure when voting time comes again, there will be a large number of people who will not be voting for anyone. Talk about Russia and all those countries who tell people what they are going to do, are we any better? Not at all, our government just does it in a more subtle way, but it's still called dictatorship or communism and it smells the same: rotten.
Yours truly
Edith Sharpe
429 Pearl St., Milton.

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