

Men's Fire stop spread of sewage sludge

Continued from page 1

The Ministry of Health also says they're safe, but critics say testing has not kept up with all the new chemicals, pharmaceuticals and industrial toxins, that can find their way into sewage treatment plants. The Ministry last updated their testing procedures in 1998.

Ella Haley of Sustainable Brant says there's not adequate oversight of the testing process for sewage sludge. "They don't test some of the most dangerous toxins and pharmaceuticals," said Haley.

She added, "Some food companies will not purchase food grown in fields that have had sewage sludge applied to them." The Canadian Infectious Disease Institute, The National Farmers Union, the

Ecological Farmers of Ontario, and the NDP have all called for a ban on the use of sewage sludge on farmland.

A long pipe carried the sludge on to the property, which is backed by Big Creek. Not long after Wessuc started this process, a number of Six Nations residents, including Bill Monture from the Men's Fire, showed up to stop the Wessuc workers from continuing.

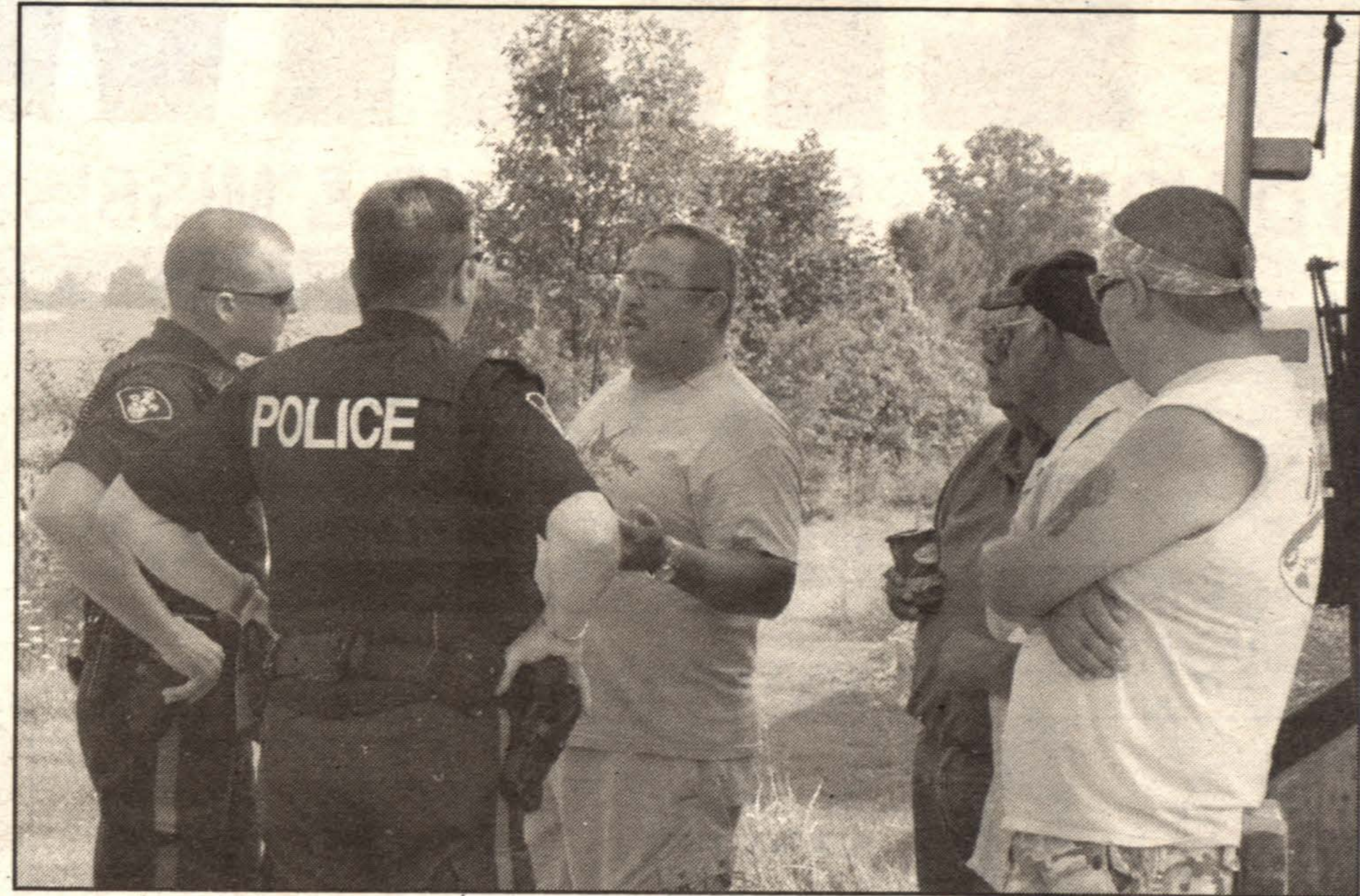
"We addressed this at the Oxbow (another site where Wessuc spread biosolids on farmland). This company is still doing it," said Monture. "It's a lot of work for the company, but they created the problem. We're not doing this just for Six Nations, but for Caledonia and Cayuga, everyone in the Grand Watershed. Our stance is no more dumping. We're here

to protect our territory," said Monture.

The company wanted to finish the work but Men's Fire said no, and negotiations commenced between Men's Fire and the company under the supervision of Dan Michaud from the O.P.P.'s Provincial Liaison Team. Michaud said the farmer and Wessuc Inc. had approval from the Ministry of the Environment.

The company agreed to stop spreading the sludge and sent for a vacuum truck. They also recalled the tanker trucks to haul away the sludge. It also agreed to clean out the sludge in the hose snaking back on to the property.

Later in the morning, Elected Chief Bill Montour arrived and was apprised of the situation. He left to



Bill Monture of the Men's Fire explains to O.P.P. officers why the group opposes the spread of sewage sludge on Six Nations territory.

contact Brant County Mayor Ron Eddy to arrange an emergency meeting to dis-

cuss the situation.

Brant County is currently reviewing its Official Plan.

Sustainable Brant is calling on the County to ban the use of biosolids in Brant.