



Canadian Cancer Society
Société canadienne
du cancer

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Re: Tracking and Reducing Chemicals in Toronto: Third Annual ChemTRAC Report

The Canadian Cancer Society, Ontario Division, congratulates the City of Toronto for their work in toxics reduction through the ChemTRAC program.

The Society believes that as community members, workers and consumers, we all have the right to know about toxic substances in the environments where we live, work, and play. By collecting important information about pollutant sources in Toronto, the ChemTRAC program plays a significant role in informing people about environmental risks, and allowing them to make informed decisions affecting their health.

The Society is very active in toxics reduction at the provincial level. We continue to encourage Ontario to be a leader in toxic use reduction and to reduce the burden of cancer from exposure to environmental and occupational carcinogens. The leadership of the City of Toronto is important to our efforts in cancer prevention and protection because we know that to achieve strong health promotion policies and programming at the provincial level a ground swell coming from communities has to be present. For example when the City of Toronto implemented its first smoke-free bylaw other jurisdictions followed with similar secondhand smoke protection measures which lead to provincial legislation, the Smoke-Free Ontario Act. This summer, we will be attending the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) conference to promote programs like ChemTRAC and other policy issues that can have an impact on cancer.

The ChemTRAC program is a strong model of a community-right-to-know initiative. This reporting and disclosure program allows the city to further its leadership in toxic use reduction, and health and environmental protection. The Canadian Cancer Society supports ChemTRAC and looks forward to continued work together to prevent cancer and reduce the burden of illness in Ontario.

Sincerely,

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