



CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION  
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DU DROIT DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT



Toronto environmental alliance

June 14, 2006

## ACTION ALERT

### Help us keep a Community-Right-to-Know strategy alive in the City of Toronto

Over the past few years, the Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA) and the Toronto Environment Alliance (TEA) as part of the Occupational and Environmental Carcinogen Working Group of the Toronto Cancer Prevention Coalition have been working to promote improved right to know for Toronto residents. Next Monday, **June 19<sup>th</sup> 2006**, a report from the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) of Toronto Public Health, Dr. David McKeown, entitled *Access to Environmental Information: Preventing Pollution, Avoiding Risks* will be considered by the Board of Health at 1:00 pm. His report draws on a Technical Review prepared for Toronto Public Health by CELA Research Associate, Anne Wordsworth, entitled *Creating Community Right-to-Know Opportunities in the City of Toronto (January 2006)*. Please consider attending the meeting or sending a letter to support this important initiative. To access the reports:

The June 19<sup>th</sup> Board of Health Agenda and associated reports are now publicly available at [http://www.toronto.ca/health/hphe/toxic\\_chemicals/toxicchemicals.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/health/hphe/toxic_chemicals/toxicchemicals.htm)

The CELA report enumerates ways that community right-to-know has prevented pollution and unnecessary exposures to hazardous substances in neighborhoods and workplaces, improved health and emergency response and public accountability in communities around the world. CELA lawyers concluded that the City of Toronto has the legal powers to act to protect and improve the health of the City. We do know that there is significant opposition building to increased right-to-know just as there was to pesticide by-laws. Let's make sure we do not close the door on new tools that will assist the public in making healthy choices for its future and the future of its City.

To see the TEA map of toxics in Toronto <http://www.torontoenvironment.org/node/312>.

For more information contact:

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