

GE Free Zones

Author: Lucy Sharratt<info@cban.ca><p>Did you know that there are already GE-Free Zones in Canada?</p>In 2004, Powell River in BC became the first GE Free Zone in the country.The Village of Kaslo (January 13, 2009), the City of Rossland (May 11, 2009) and the City of Nelson (November 3, 2008) in BC have all passed GE Free Resolutions.<p>The Society for a GE Free BC with GE Free Kootenays, andGE Free Yukon are working hard to secure GE Free Zones.</p><h2>La ville de Rossland, C.B., adopte une résolution contre les OGM</h2><p>Le 11 mai 2009: Quelaville de Rosslands'oppose à la culture des plantes et des arbres génétiquement modifiés sur le territoire de la municipalité et quelaville de Rossland n'achète pas de plantes ou d'arbres génétiquement modifiés dans le cadre des opérations; et quelaville de Rossland réexamine cette résolution à la lumière de toute nouvelle information qui survient; et quelaville de Rossland fasse une copie de cette résolution à la Fédération canadienne des municipalités, la Union of B.C. Municipalities, Interior Health, le Ministère provincial de la santé, le Ministère provincial de l'agriculture et du territoire, le B.C. Provincial Health Officer, le premier ministre du Canada, l'Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments, Santé Canada, CropLife Canada, Agriculture Canada, les bureaux des députés provinciaux et fédéraux concernés, et tout autre groupe intéressé ou connexe.</p><h2>City of Nelson Passes GE-Free Resolution</h2><p>November 3, 2008: "The City of Nelson does not support the cultivation of genetically engineered plants and trees in the Municipality of Nelson and further that council will not purchase for its own operations GE plants or trees. The City of Nelson agrees to revisit this as pertinent new information becomes available that affects this resolution and further that the City of Nelson shall forward copies of the resolution to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Union of BC Municipalities, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Health Canada, CropLife Canada, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, local MLA and MP offices and any interested and related groups for comment."</p><p>Click here to visit a great resource from Deconstructing Dinner of audiobroadcasts, links and documents about creating GE-Free Zones. We hope it will act as a resource for other communities wishing to pass similar resolutions.</p><p>The Society for a G.E. Free B.C. is a social justice coalition of groups and individuals across BC/Yukon working for local, community based agriculture, and against genetic engineering of plants and trees. GE Free BC envisions a food-sovereign Canada where no genetically engineered life forms are created, patented, approved, bought, sold or traded.You can become a member now!</p><p>To help you garden GE-Free, over 100 seed companies have signed theSafe Seed Pledge that they will not buy or sell genetically engineered seeds.</p><h2>Yukon Petition Tabled for 10-Year Moratorium on GE Plantings</h2><p>November 26 2007: a petition asking for a 10-year moratorium on the planting of genetically modified seeds in the Yukon was tabled in the Yukon Legislature by Steve Nordick of the Yukon Party. The government has eight sitting days to respond to the petition, signed by about 1700 people. ?We are very fortunate in the Yukon because we are one of the only places in North America that can still choose to keep our local environment relatively free of GE seed. Being GE contaminant free is vital to some of our businesses and open so other possibilities too, ? says local farmer Tom Rudge.Click here to see how you can support Yukon farmers.</p>