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Stop putting toxic by-product in our water

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Dentists and dental associations believe fluoridating municipal drinking water is safe and effective at reducing dental decay.

Is this really true?

After all, the "fluoride" we are putting into our drinking water is not food, dental, or pharmaceutical grade.

It is not even natural calcium fluoride we were all sold on. It is hydrofluorosilicic acid (HFSA) a toxic by-product of the fertilizer industry.

The Canadian Environmental Protection Act classifies HFSA as "persistent", "bioaccumulative" and "toxic".

Environment Canada classifies it as a "hazardous substance".

Transport Canada classifies it as a "dangerous good".

The US Environmental Protection Agency classifies HFSA as "class one hazardous waste".

Because of that it is illegal and unsafe to dump HFSA anywhere in our environment,.

So how are we justifying dumping it into our drinking water supply?

It is sold to municipalities, as the cheapest source of fluoride.

Estimates show it costs up to \$7,000 per ton to safely dispose of HFSA, yet the industry is somehow able to sell it to municipalities for \$800 to \$1,100 per ton.

Drinking HFSA has not been scientifically proven as safe or effective in promoting dental health.

It contains co-contaminants such as lead, arsenic, mercury and other known industrial contaminants, as evidenced by the certificate of analysis accompanying each shipment.

When did lead, arsenic or mercury become healthy, in any amounts?

If you are as concerned as I am, contact your councillor and Mayor Brenda Halloran and demand to know why this toxic by-product is being added to our water.

We need to stop this ludicrous practice.

On November 2010 vote to have HFSA removed from our drinking water.

Robert Falla *Waterloo*

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