



Canadian  
Cancer  
Society

BRITISH COLUMBIA AND YUKON

## How can I write a letter to my MLA and Environment Minister Barry Penner

The BC government is seeking public input on cosmetic chemical pesticides. Join the Canadian Cancer Society in asking the government to protect all British Columbians and ban the sale and use of cosmetic chemical pesticides by 2011.

You can use the letter template, and the MLA finder to locate your MLA's address.

► **MLA finder:** <http://www.leg.bc.ca/Mla/3-1-1.htm>

► Website: [www.barrypenner.com](http://www.barrypenner.com)

► Honourable Barry Penner

Room 028

Parliament Buildings

Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

► Learn more about the cosmetic pesticides issue, [click here](#)

## Letter template

Dear <MLA, Minister Penner>:

I would like to thank the BC government for consulting with the public on cosmetic chemical pesticides. This is a good first step in the right direction. Provincial action is necessary as it is the BC government that has the power to restrict the sale of cosmetic pesticides across the province, so that all British Columbians are protected from exposure to cosmetic pesticides.

I support a province-wide ban on lawn and garden pesticides so that <insert text here>.

The cosmetic use of pesticides is harmful to public health and the environment. Pesticides have been linked to cancer, and studies show that children are more vulnerable. The use of pesticides for cosmetic purposes is unnecessary, as safe and effective alternatives exist.

76% of British Columbians are in favour of provincial pesticide legislation, and British Columbia municipalities are also calling on the BC government to pass provincial legislation. Several other provinces have bans in place or in progress. Now is the time for the BC government to pass new legislation that prohibits the sale and use of chemical pesticides for lawns and gardens, allowing exceptions only to protect public health.

I would like the government to put a stop to the sale and use of cosmetic pesticides by 2011, by introducing new legislation in 2010.

Yours sincerely,

<Signature>