

Canadians wait more than two-and-a-half years for governments to approve new medicines

Federal and provincial government bureaucracies are taking more than two-and-a-half years on average to approve new prescription drugs, thereby depriving many Canadians of the latest in new medicines, finds a new report from the Fraser Institute.

“On average, it takes Health Canada nearly 16 months to approve new drugs as safe and effective. After that, the provinces typically spend another 15 months or more deciding whether new medicines will be eligible for public reimbursement under provincial drug plans,” said Mark Rovere, the Fraser Institute Associate Director of Health Policy Studies.

The study also found that only 23 per cent of new drugs approved as safe and effective by Health Canada in 2004 had been approved for either full or partial reimbursement under provincial drug plans as of June 9, 2011, compared to 98 per cent that had been covered by at least one private insurer.

[Read the complete report](#)



Why does the BC government want to ban pesticides that have the same risks as pickles and cell phones?

The busybody tendencies of BC politicians are leading to the further regulation of what had previously been the refuge of green thumbs across the province: green lawns, colorful flower beds, and ripening vegetable gardens.

As of early July, the BC government has been reviewing the feasibility of further regulating your private garden by adopting ill-conceived laws restricting pesticide use that do not accurately reflect the current state of scientific knowledge. A hasty ban on the cosmetic use of artificial pesticides should not be implemented until the underlying science is conclusive and a comprehensive analysis of the potential side effects resulting from the ban has been undertaken.

By banning pesticides for cosmetic uses, BC would be following the questionable precedent set by several other provinces.

[Read the complete op-ed](#)



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