



Press Release - For Immediate Distribution

May 4, 2016

City of Castlegar, British Columbia

On May 2nd and 3rd 2016, the City of Castlegar treated the following lawn and boulevard areas with herbicide in accordance with City's Integrated Pest Management plan:

Kinsmen Park – last treated in 2009
Cone Hill Park – last treated in 2012
32nd street flower bed area – last treated in 2015
Branson Park – last treated in 2012
Complex Boulevards – not playing fields– last treated in 2014
Fire Hall Lawn – last treated in 2015
Woodland Park Triangle – last treated in 2012
Pioneer arena lawn – last treated in 2014

As part of the City's program, turf areas are monitored for weeds and only treated if they show excessive weed growth.

Unfortunately, Kinsmen Park was treated with herbicide which is contrary to the City's position that Kinsmen Park and Blueberry Park would remain herbicide free, regardless of the weed growth. In addition, the City has an internal policy to provide 1 weeks' notice of upcoming treatments on the City's website. This notice period was missed. Provincially approved signage and non-use requirements were followed.

The City sincerely apologizes to park users and the public for the error in treating Kinsmen Park and the insufficient notice period.

The City has suspended any further treatments until additional formal treatment approval procedures are established so that this type of oversight will not happen again. In addition, the City will be reviewing the areas currently receiving treatment.

For further information, please contact:

Chris Barlow
Director of Transportation & Civic Works
250-365-5979