







ELSA

www.nafaforestry.org

www.whitemoose.ca

www.thestrongroup.org

A PETITION TO PREVENT

the commercial application of non-essential herbicides (a type of pesticide intended to kill plants) in Northern Ontario.

I agree that the government of Ontario should prohibit the use of chemical herbicides by the forestry industry given;

- (I) the non-chemical alternatives which currently exist to meet vegetation management needs, and which are in use in other parts of Canada, such as Quebec.
- (2) the firm stance against the non-essential use of these chemicals which has been taken by the medical community, having regard to human and environmental health. See **www.domtar.org** for additional information.
- (3) the significant possibility of violating the rights of all Canadians (especially resource dependent Aboriginal communities) to clean drinking water, edible plants, wildlife, and fish.
- (4) the largely unfulfilled commitments already made by the federal government to reduce dependency on pesticides and herbicides. See http://nfsc.forest.ca/strategies/strategy5.html for additional information.
- (5) the questionable performance of the federal government to regulate pesticides (including herbicides) for the health and safety of Canadians. "The federal government does not have reliable, up-to-date information about pesticides that it needs to manage them effectively. It lacks significant information on the use of pesticides and exposure to them. Research on health impacts is very limited ..." (1.134 AG). "Overall, we conclude that the federal government is not managing pesticides effectively." (AG 1.136).

"In several cases, the measures listed on pesticide labels, even if followed, appear not to have been enough to prevent environmental damage." – 2003 Auditor General Report of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development to the House of Commons - Chapter I: Managing the Safety and Accessibility of Pesticides. Report viewable at www.oag-bvg.gc.ca

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