

The Oshawa Express

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Not everyone agrees that incineration is harmful

Dear Editor,

Do you think that on his way to a Doctor of Philosophy degree that Paul-Andre Larose was unaware that regardless of the subject there are always intelligent, well informed people who honestly have a different opinion? Mr. Larose makes no such concession toward those who disagree with him. Those who disagree are 'reality deniers.' That is apparently the label put on those who do not agree with the basic doctrines of the new environmentalist religion.

What do you have to do to be ranked a denier? Apparently you just have to disagree with Mr. Larose and, like regional council, vote in favour of incineration. Why is that? It is because one cannot disagree and be considered honest or wise.

What has this whole discussion come to? Not everyone agrees that incineration adds to airborne emission levels. Not everyone agrees that incineration will cause health problems. Lots of northern European nations depend on incineration and haven't had unusual financial disasters. Of course, those who say such things are apparently spin doctors who are not telling the truth. To cut to the chase, I find it offensive that anyone who disagrees with Mr. Larose is deemed untrustworthy. Using such terms as "the epitome of folly" and "wilfully allow the problem to get worse" shows arrogance more than good sense. And the parade of attacking words just gets worse with "pretending to be committed," "jeopardized by the ignorance and/or arrogance of petty politicians," "shamelessly ignore the facts."

This arrogant tirade is rather topped off with the "crimes against humanity" statement. I find it amusing that I should be defending the integrity or wisdom of regional council – something I am not prone to do – but to refer to the decision to proceed with incineration as irresponsible simply ignores the fact that the majority of councillors weighed the facts and came to a different conclusion than Mr. Larose. That is democracy and they made the decision in light of the facts they were given. Whether or not those facts were provided by people at great personal expense, does not necessarily give them added weight.

Ron MacKinnon, Ph.D.