

Oshawa Express
July 1, 2009

To the editor:

Re: Incinerator a step closer. Dr. Kyle's statement that the building of an incinerator near Courtice Road in Clarington 'will not pose an unacceptable risk to persons living in the vicinity of the site', must be a fallacy. If he had done some research he would have found the study 'The Health Effects of Waste Incinerators' - 4th Report of the British Society for Ecological Medicine. In which the Moderators Dr. Jeremy Thompson and Dr. Honor Anthony note that 'large studies have shown higher rates of adult and childhood cancer and also birth defects around municipal waste incinerators'. It goes on to say 'incinerator emissions are a major source of fine particulates, of toxic metals and of more than 200 organic chemicals, including known carcinogens, mutagens, and hormone disrupters'. The authors further say, 'we recommend that no further waste incinerators be built'.

Furthermore, we deserve the same degree of health protection that our neighbours in Halton Region received. There, the Halton Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Nosal, commissioned scientist Dr. David Pengelly to peer review the Halton incinerator health case. Dr. Pengelly concluded that the report had failed to provide evidence to prove that modern incineration is safe. Dr. Nosal then advised application of the 'precautionary principle' to Halton councillors and they shelved their incineration plans.

Elisabeth Hart
Oshawa