

Science and the world have moved on. Just this week Fairbanks Alaska decided to stop fluoridation after a year long review by its special task force. The Province of Alberta Canada is topping, and Quebec, Calgary, and Waterloo – 3 million people have already stopped.

In our submission we have identified numerous health risks, any one of which far outweighs any benefit claimed by promoters, in 60 years a benefit never actually proven. The Fairbanks task force said the same thing.

You will hear later from the Ministry and DHB, that fluoridation is safe and effective – the age old mantra.

Yet the Deputy Director General of the Ministry states that the science against fluoridation is as sound as the science claimed for fluoridation. So we are not quoting junk science – the Ministry admits this in writing – but never in public of course.

They just try to undermine any sound science that threatens their policy. For example, the total body of research on Osteosarcoma shows a high risk for boys exposed to fluoride between 6 and 8 years old, but at no other age. And no risk to females. In fact all studies are consistent with this conclusion, including those quoted by health officials.

In a document you have received prepared by the National Fluoridation Information Service, a Ministry funded lobby group, they said there were major flaws in the two latest studies, which should be ignored. When I asked for the evidence under the OIA – they could provide – none. They even quoted the 2007 Australian NHMRC review which in fact rated Bassin's study as "fair to good" - better than the pro-F studies examined by the York Review.

They also relied on:

1. The Health Impact Assessment (HIA), prepared by three Hawke's Bay Medical Officers of Health in 2009. In criticising Bassin, the HIA relies entirely on Douglass and Joshipura, discussed above, in spite of having to withdraw its public claim about this during the Waipukurau fluoridation debate.
2. The opinion of "Professor" Cox, director of NZ's cancer epidemiology group at Otago University medical faculty (which promotes fluoridation). However, the NFIS has no correspondence from Mr Cox – it seems to be relying on the Hawke's Bay Health Impact Assessment document, which refers to a private communication from Mr Cox to an unspecified recipient. We asked Mr Cox for his analysis supporting the claim in his communication. He has never conducted an analysis of Bassin's study. So what is his "opinion" worth?

Surely you as councillors deserve more integrity than this from your health advisors – this is just one scenario that shows you cannot take anything they say at face value.

5 young men die of Osteosarcoma each year in NZ. On the current evidence at least 3 are due to fluoridation. Is it acceptable to kill 3 young men a year to maybe save someone half a filling by age 12? What if it were your son?

Tabled Information reference 122/11P(a)

You also have the statement from Mr Upton, who suffered 5 years of chronic fatigue due to the fluoride this council puts in the water. With studies indicating that 1 -3% of the population have some level of intolerance to fluoride, not all as severe as Mr Upton, that is 2- 6,000 people whose health you are damaging daily. And what about the increasing incidence of "arthritis" since fluoridation was introduced? Recognised by WHO as often being early skeletal fluorosis.

So how much is caused by fluoridation? Who is monitoring this, as recommended by WHO in its 2006 report? The Council – no, the DHB – no, the MoH – no. No one is monitoring this, yet you keep putting this cumulative toxic waste in the water supply.

If you continue with fluoridation, you, collectively and individually, are responsible for these people's suffering. Because you believe it will save half a filling?

We see that increasingly, the public knows more facts about fluoridation than health officials promoting it.

It is time to get with the 21st century, and look at 21st century science on this issue – not rely on dark age science from the 1940s, that has become dogma to dentists and paid parrots in the Ministry and DHBs. It is time to put an end to a now scientifically discredited dark age practice.



MĀNATU HAUORA

6 May 2003

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Ref. No. _____

Dear Mr Atkin

The Minister of Health has referred your letter of 2 April 2003 to me for direct reply.

In that letter you requested under the Official Information Act 1982 answers to some questions that you believe have not been answered in previous correspondence.

It appears to me that only questions 6(a) and 7 fall within the ambit of the Official Information Act 1982. The remainder appear to be questions for answers rather than for documents or information within them.

Question 6(a)

What information do you possess that establishes that the publications and research of these scientists are not "reputable". You listed a number of scientists who oppose fluoride.

This appears to be an issue relating to the weight of evidence of both sides. As in any health issue there is robust debate on both sides. The Ministry acknowledges the various different views relating to fluoridation (as with almost any health issue). The Ministry looks for articles in publications that have been peer-reviewed and that have standing in the scientific community. That is not to say that scientists who hold opposing views to fluoride do not necessarily meet that test.

The Ministry's assessment is that on the evidence available the known positives to fluoridation outweigh any such known adverse effects.

Question 7

Please supply the information you hold as to what percentage of those countries' population receive such water. Alternatively, in how many of those countries do more than 40% of the population receive such water. (Name the countries)

The Ministry does not hold this information.

Question 7(a)

What information do you hold as to the status of the legislation to which you refer: is it on indefinite hold; is introduction imminent; other?

I am not aware of the status of the proposed legislation. Your request should more appropriately be directed to Her Majesty's Government in England if a definitive reply is required.

Your request for the document requested is therefore declined under section 18 (e) of the Official Information Act.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, to ask the Ombudsmen to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

Dr Colin Tukuitonga
Acting Deputy Director-General
Public Health Directorate

Questions for Wellington City Councillors
From Mary Byrne
Fluoride Action Network NZ

These questions were presented to the Hamilton City council last week by dentist Dr Vernon Kruger.

1. Are you aware that there are scientific journal articles and text books that state fluoride is not an essential nutrient?
2. Do you have any evidence to show that fluoride is a required nutrient?
3. Are you aware that The US Food and Drug Administration states that fluoride is not a mineral nutrient and that it is in fact a prescription drug?
4. Are you able to show that fluoride is not a drug or medication?
5. Are you aware that fluoride has never received FDA approval and does not meet the legal requirements of safety and effectiveness necessary for such approval?
6. Are you able to show, without any doubt, that this drug does not have side-effects?
7. Are you able to show that this drug has been proved, with proper scientific studies, to be safe by any New Zealand regulatory authority?
8. Do you have the authority as required by the **Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003** to prescribe a medicine or medicate anyone?
9. Have you received informed consent from your patients as required by the **Health and Disability Commissioner Act 1994** when prescribing medications?

Tabled Information reference 122/11P(a)

10. Have you informed your patients of all the possible side effects and complications of taking this medication?
11. Have you informed your patients what action to take should they experience any of the reported side effects of this medication?
12. Have you informed your patients of the required safe dosage?
13. How do you control the dosage depending on the weight, age and health of the patient because once this drug is put in the water, how do you control the individual dosage?
14. Have you informed your patients of the steps to take if they inadvertently overdose?
15. Are you aware that The American Dental Association supplement schedule shows that fluoride should not be given to infants under 6 months of age?
16. Are you aware that the American dental Association now admits that infant's formula must be made with non fluoridated water?
17. Are you aware that infants that are fed with formula made with fluoridated water receive 175 to 250 times the amount of fluoride found in breast fed infants?
18. What are you doing to regulate the amount of fluoridated water children are drinking?
19. What are you doing to prevent people from drinking too much fluoridated water or are you able to show that no matter how much they drink they will be safe, without any doubt?
20. Are you aware of the American Association for Justice Newsletter for trial lawyers, dated May 2011, which states:

Tabled Information reference 122/11P(a)

Public and private sector groups are potentially responsible for the financial and health impacts of fluoride provided to consumers without full disclosure of the risks and that causes of action may include personal injury, failure to warn, negligent misrepresentation, medical or dental malpractice and consumer fraud. They end the article by writing: The curtain is lifting, exposing the degree of deception at the root of the fluoridegate scandal and highlighting the liability of both municipal water providers and private companies.

21. Are you aware that in January this year, a NYC Council Member introduced legislation "prohibiting the addition of fluoride to the water supply in New York and that virtually the whole of Europe no longer fluoridates their water supply
22. Have you budgeted for the cost of defending your actions should a class action suit be filed against the Hamilton City Council or worse still, you personally?
23. Wouldn't it be better to spend the money used to fluoridate our water supply, which is probably ineffective, dangerous and possibly illegal on more education on diet to prevent decay or programmes to provide the underprivileged with toothbrushes and, if you must, fluoridated toothpaste which has been shown to be more effective, if you wish to protect your ratepayers teeth.

I ask you to make us proud that we have a proactive and forward thinking city that is fully aware of what the risks of water fluoridation are and would rather be sure that what they are doing is both safe and effective and not possibly fraudulent and illegal and if challenged in the courts, could cost the ratepayers a lot of money.

Please do what Europe and many major cities around the world have done- Stop fluoridating the water supply.

history as one of the oldest New Zealand settled and the centre of industrial Wellington.

B.2 I also attach a full list of Mt.Victoria structures and trees listed in the District Plan*. Mount Victoria is poorly represented in the District Plan Inventory and action is urgently required now that the NZTA is proposing to create a road of National Significance by doubling the Mt.Vic tunnel and demolishing a line of historic, heritage buildings and trees on Paterson St. Many of these houses are owned by NZTA and have been neglected for many years.

Appendix 1:

Mount Victoria (Mt.Vic) is a charming and compact suburb made up of Victorian, Edwardian buildings the landscape interrupted by Nouveau, Art Deco architecture. The buildings of the post 2nd World War period to the present provide incongruent counterpoints to the coherence of earlier architecture. Many "modern" buildings are built on the footprint of heritage buildings some copy the original others are quite different. Interestingly the corrugated iron on the sides of older buildings as fire retardants have been treated by modern architects as a "design feature".

In the 1840's Mt.Vic had a scattering of houses a mix of 3 grand mansions and a couple of cottages. The first corn/wind mill was built around 1841 near the site of the "swamp" near the modern day 'Embassy' cinema. The Ellice Street quarry was used from earliest times to provide rock, gravel for the unpaved roads, reclamations, and as a component for concrete. It appears that there was at least one blacksmith and perhaps a foundry in the area but not until later in the 19th C.

Mount Victoria facing west to Tinakori Hill was almost bare of any vegetation having been scoured over millennia by the fierce northerly winds. The area above Pirie Street was first planted in pines in the 1880's*

* Pine Plantation on lower Kent/Cambridge Terrace etc.

"Early Wellington" by Louis Ward (the version I have is the Capital Press facsimile -1975) sadly most of the 'plates' are in black, grey and white and consequently indistinct. This edition has only 8 colour plates most of which are common to many Wellington books.

This book has many references (text and/or illustrations) relating to Mount Victoria.

Refs. to the "pine plantation" are on pages 215 and 244 they were removed in 1904 and replaced with "native" shrubs and cabbage trees which were subsequently removed in 1926. Pines were in situ until "Maoris (sic) dammed a portion of the drain before it was covered over" An illustration of the pine tree avenue is, apparently, in the NZ Mail - August 10th - 1904. I can't recall where its been reproduced but I have seen it somewhere else.

Page 306 refers to "fern and flax" in an "impassable bog" from Courtenay Place to the Basin Reserve (1859). (NB: Wellington's Native Veg. Guide (1998) is concerned about hillsides and ridgelines only).

References to pine planting actually on Mt.Vic are in "Botanical Gardens" - Shepherd & Cook - 1988 (Millwood Press) which has many high quality illustrations alongside comprehensive text.

Tabled Information reference 122/11P(b)

It seems that Mt. Vic was the first site in the City that was planted in pines 1880 (Page 221) because it was an eyesore. More pine planting took place intermittently with notable plantings in 1908/9 (Page 223) and a "line of planting" to Alexandra Road in 1924 with yet more planting throughout the 1920's and 30's.

"Reflections & Recollections of an old New Zealander" - Ebenezer Maxwell – 1934 (A.H and A.W Reed) has some photographs. This book is a treasure house of the flora and fauna of Wellington from the 1860's and is written in an anecdotal style.

The lower and middle slopes of Mt. Vic were used for grazing domestic cattle. It appears that the first formal Mt. Vic track went from the corner of Kent Terrace up through Majoribanks Street to the summit and then over the hill to Kilbirnie. There are many remnants of pipes, cables etc on Mt. Vic. The breakthrough (!) was the construction of the Pirie Street/Kilbirnie tram/bus tunnel. The excavation was done with pick and shovels the "spoil" was used as land-fill, to become the core of roads and pavements and as part of an "industrial mix". The tunnel was opened in 1902 the route included lower Elizabeth Street which swept from Kent Terrace. The handrail, elevated on upper Pirie Street, dates from this time.

Horses and carts were the main means of transport and the many steel kerb surrounds seem to have been built as definition of difficult corners (eg: corner of Levy and Brougham). There are stables at the bottom of Doctors Common (Hawker Street facing the Roxburgh Dairy) date from at least 1870.

Lower Marjoribanks appears to have been an early industrial area. The present panel beaters is on the site of an early 1900 factory and Chinese laundry opposite (southern side) were at least one "grocery" shop, "greengrocers" and butchers*. In Fallowfield Avenue there was the original pre-1900 building housing a doctor's surgery the building was demolished in 2006).

[Farley's" the butchers shop at No.4 was demolished about 10 years ago. The site was excavated and it was discovered that the building thought to be "original" had in fact been put on the site (pre-1900) after an earlier building was moved back on the site. An archaeological report has yet to be published. I understand that it is likely to include reference to the whole of lower Majoribanks Street and the "Simmonds and Hoggard" wind/corn mill on Kent Terrace.

There was a building boom in Wellington after the 1870's slump and many houses both "grand" and otherwise were built. Photographs of the time show houses climbing the hillside of Mt. Vic. Many of the present day "Dairies" are on the sites of *"corner grocery and bakery shops"*. *The best documented seems to be the one on the corner of Queens and Brougham the building behind it was a foundry but before that the whole site was used as a mill. Since the 1920's the site has been occupied by a furniture factory the building on the corner remained as a shop until it became a café sometime in the 1970's.*

Appendix 2:

The following are the only buildings, structures and trees listed in the operative District Plan:-

Austin Street [62]
" [Wellington College]
Brougham Street [105]
" [46 {formerly known as the Crossways Bldg}
[" Norfolk Pine tree]
Claremont Grove [3]
" [Hazelcourt]
Elizabeth Street [68-72]
Hania Street [21 Rehab.League]
Hawker Street [75 St.Gerard's Church and Monastery=2]
[49 Pohutukawa tree]
Kent Terrace [43 Embassy Theatre]
" [Queen Vic statue]
" [1 Bats Theatre]
Majoribanks Street [Belvedere {corner of Austin/Majoribanks]
" [45-47]
" [61]
" [62]
" [78 3x Pohutukawa trees]
Paterson Street [19 Ettrick Cottage]
" [Gates of Wellington East College]
Pirie Street [Bus tunnel]
Roxburgh Street [30]
" [46]
" [20 Olive tree]
Scarborough Terrace
" [67] Pohutukawa]
" [68] "
" [69] "

This is the entirety of Mt.Vic's representation in the operative District Plan.

There appears to be no rhyme or reason behind this selection as there are many enclaves of significant pre-1900 houses, mature and magnificent heritage trees (eg: Walnut tree on lower Elizabeth Street, Apricot tree on Moir Street, Nikau Palms etc). It mystifies me that the only Art Deco building listed is Belvedere why and not other examples of pre-1950 architecture.

Wellington City Council's Draft Annual Plan 2011-2012

Oral submission, 18-5-2011: additional or explanatory remarks

Dr Margaret E. Gordon, 41 Ngaio Road, Kelburn, Wellington 6012.

Rates, Charges and Spending / Water rates (p. 23) - suggestions:

Use each year's rates information to show ratepayers how voluntary water meters can save them money.

Replace term "administration charge" on metered water bill with "fixed base charge".

Allow meter users to save further by doing own readings except for final (summer) reading of year.

Uniform water charging method for the whole of Greater Wellington Region would give economy of scale, and billing.

Uniform methods at regional and even national level could give local governments more resistance to government pressure e.g. wrt privatization.

Social and Recreation / Libraries

Does WCC have evening usage data by day of the week?

If so does it support my suggestion to cut suburban library hours slightly to give the central library one remaining late night (till 8.30 pm) per week?

Has WCC monitored the usage of the downstairs information desk relative to the upstairs ones to see if the service near the entrance is actually in strong demand?

Social and Recreation / Community Participation and Support (refer p 77 and p. 179)

Some suburbs lack a community centre, making it harder to access inexpensive community activities including exercise programs, and to build a strong sense of community spirit and resilience.

Council is concerned about our perception of the degree of "community" where we live,

so should districts without dedicated community facilities draw Council's attention to any suitable house / building that becomes available?

or is this out of the question while leaky homes are sapping funds?

Transport / Parking on week nights (refer p. 97 and p. 180)

Phase in the price or timing of the proposed weeknight parking costs while evening bus services are poor for some suburbs,

and/or set up frequent buses to the free parking of city fringe for "park and ride".

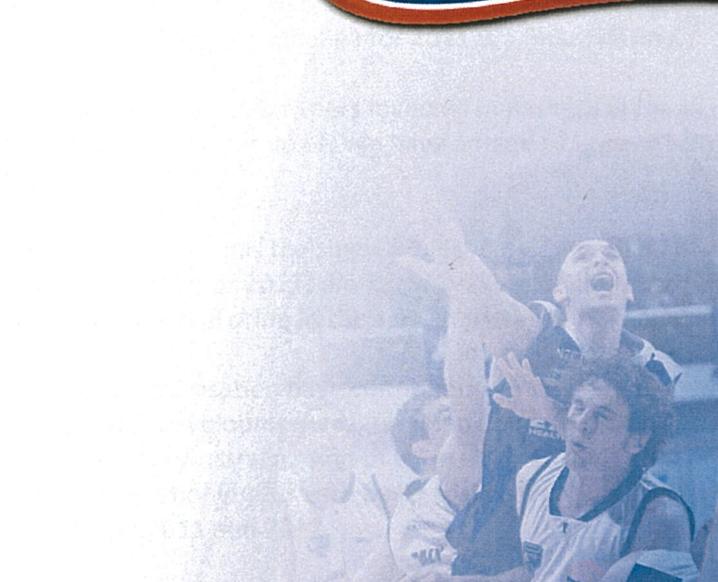
Where possible, remove the 2 hour restrictions of some free parks in the city fringes, to match the unrestricted parking duration proposed for charged evening parking in the city.



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EXODUS CLUB



2011

**Wellington
City Council**



SUBMISSION TO WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL Draft Annual Plan

EXODUS WELLINGTON SAINTS – NBL CHAMPIONS 2010

In 2011 we as the Exodus Wellington Saints face a number of challenges in our Not For Profit Organisation. Our biggest challenge should be concentrating on becoming back to back Bartercard NBL Champions – however the reality is our biggest challenge for 2011 is a financial one.

Our organisation has for years invested in Basketball for all of Wellington, and our code has a record that Wellington can be proud of. We have a team of unsung heroes as we boast 6 NBL titles, 11 NBL finals, and 17 NBL semi finals.

The Exodus Saints has the single largest crowd numbers of any NBL franchise with average crowds for 2010 of 2,300 and 2,800 for 2011. We know Wellingtonians enjoy the atmosphere and excitement of Basketball and we know they feel pride in the achievements of the Saints over the last 28 years.

The Saints organisation have continuously invested in world renowned coaches to develop local talent; Doug Marty - NBA development league Head Coach. Gordon Mcleod – legendary Australian Coach who has been to 4 Olympics for Australia. And of course our 2010 Championship winning current Head Coach Pero Cameron, a man who is synonymous with Basketball in New Zealand, who is committed to being with the Saints throughout 2011 and 2012.

This incredible depth of talent and experience we also offer to our development programmes which are run throughout schools around Wellington. Both coaches and players are involved in coaching throughout the National Basketball League season and beyond. This means that our kids are getting exposure the best basketball talent from New Zealand and abroad. These programmes are offered free to Wellington Schools and are part of our commitment to the city.

For a family and community sporting entertainment option we offer the cheapest ticket in town and we also offer Wellington kids who may not otherwise have the means to get to games free tickets through our Tickets in Schools Programme. We donate 800 tickets per game to this programme.

In 2011 our organisation has worked hard, pitched and won the right to make Wellington the host city for the Final Four Competition in 2011 – a new Finals Format that will draw the eyes of the country to our city in Mid July.

The financial climate for sponsorship and keeping privately owned sporting teams alive is getting tougher and tougher and to keep this sport and the passion of the city for the Saints alive we need to look at all costs across our organisation. The cost of hiring TSB Bank Arena is our second largest expense next to player costs.

In a city that is so passionate about basketball at present, the Saints are passionate about growing it's fans, creating an exiting entertainment experience, and showcasing Wellington in a national event during the Final Four weekend.





SAINTS BASKETBALL FACTS AND FIGURES

- 28 years in the New Zealand NBL
- 6 National Basketball League Titles
- 11 National Basketball League Finals
- 17 National Basketball League Semi Finals
- 2,800 – Average crowd attendance at Saints home games 2011
- 2,300 – average crowd attendance at Saints home games 2010
- New Zealand icon Pero Cameron to coach the Saints in 2011 and 2012
- The 2011 season tipped off in April and will cumulate in a Final Four Weekend held in Wellington

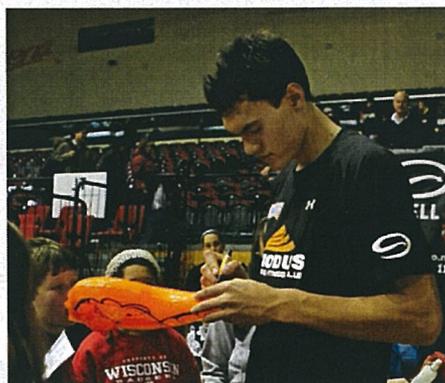
BARTERCARD NATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE

The 2011 season tipped off in early April and all of the Exodus Saints home games are hosted at the TSB Bank Arena, Queens Wharf, with one game at Te Rauparaha Arena in Porirua. All games are either a Thursday, Friday, or Saturday evening.

The 2011 season will conclude with a National Basketball League Final Four Series , hosted and held here in Wellington the weekend of the 15th and 17th of July.

This years National basketball League competition will be fierce. The Exodus Saints will defend their Championship Title while playing host to some of New Zealand Basketballs brightest stars.

As a follow on from the National Basketball League, Basketball New Zealand often fronts International games ,and management of those games go to the Saints organisation for the Tall Black or Tall Ferns Series. Again this is a fantastic event and opportunity for Wellington



Left: Exodus Saints Captain Troy Mclean is sitting on 251 games for Wellington.
Middle: 17 year old Scots College student Steven Adams is heading to Pittsburg University in 2012.
Right: Our 2011 Exodus Saints getting ready to throw balls out to their fans



BARTERCARD NATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE - FINAL FOUR 2011

The FINAL FOUR concept is a tried and testing format that is used by the NCCA – National Collegiate Athletic Association of America and the European League – to showcase Play Off and Grand Final basketball competitions.

Basketball New Zealand has used this format for National Basketball League through the late 1980's and early 1990's and many recognise this era as pinnacle time for basketball in New Zealand. The last Final Four Series was held in Wellington and was a huge success.

In 2011 The Bartercard National Basketball League will reintroduce the Final Four Format in New Zealand, and the 2011 series will again be hosted in Wellington.

The Final Four Series will be on sale nationwide and the Grand Final will be fully televised on Sky TV. A national marketing and advertising campaign will be launched around the Final Four near the end of May 2011 and will run throughout until mid July.

This is a fantastic event designed to lift the profile of Wellington. We have already had strong support from local business around this event and nationally.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE - VISION

Basketball has a bright future in New Zealand and has strong support in this country. The New Zealand NBL is on a high with huge local talent dominating the competition.

Our vision is to enter a second New Zealand team into the Australian National Basketball League to make basketball an elite sport in New Zealand.

With a solid foundation in administration and management the Saints have a sound structure to build on and construct a successful model off.

EXODUS WELLINGTON SAINTS CURRENT NATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

In some way, and at some stage we need the backing of OUR city to continue to successfully run. Wellington City needs to help this iconic Wellington brand in delivering this entertainment and sporting brand.

