

To: School District 33 Administrative Staff 44877 Yale Road Chilliwack, BC V2R 4H3 From:
Chilliwack RCMP-GRC
Youth/Schools Liaison Unit
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Chilliwack, BC V2P 2C8

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Bear Spray and Derivatives

This information bulletin serves as a reminder to youth within the school district of the potential consequences for possessing, and/or concealing, bear spray and other personal protection pesticides. Penalties are severe and can range from Provincial violation tickets costing over \$500 each, to Criminal charges with up to 10 years imprisonment.

Please reference the below noted offences:

- Use pesticide causing, or likely to cause, unreasonable adverse effect
 - Section 3(1)(a) Integrated Pest Management Act (IPMA) \$575.00 FINE
 - Spraying in a business or public place, using against a person, or using in any other way that is reasonable to believe it will have an adverse effect.
- > Handle/use pesticide contrary to label or instructions
 - Section 3(1)(c) Integrated Pest Management Act (IPMA) \$575.00 FINE
 - Covering or defacing the label (black tape, etc.) is considered a violation under this Section, as well as handling while under the required age (often 18 years of age as specified on the product label).
- Possession of weapon for dangerous purpose, Section 88(1) Criminal Code

Every person commits an offence who carries or possesses a weapon, an imitation of a weapon, a prohibited device or any ammunition or prohibited ammunition for a purpose dangerous to the public peace or for the purpose of committing an offence.

- Carrying bear spray in a public place, with intent to use it for a dangerous purpose, is likely to constitute an offence under this act, which may result in arrest, being criminally charged, and (if convicted) a sentence of up to 10 years imprisonment.
- > Carrying concealed weapon, Section 90(1) Criminal Code

Every person commits an offence who carries a weapon, a prohibited device or any prohibited ammunition concealed, unless the person is authorized under the *Firearms Act* to carry it concealed.

- Carrying bear spray in a backpack, or inside a pocket, with intent to conceal it is likely to constitute an offence under this act, which may result in arrest, being criminally charged, and (if convicted) a sentence of up to 5 years imprisonment.