GREATER SUDBURY FIRE SERVICES

OPEN AIR BURNING BY-LAW REVIEW
COUNCIL PRESENTATION
MAY 7, 2008

CGS FIRE SERVICES OPEN AIR BURNING BY-LAW REVIEW

- **PROCESS:**
  - Council presentation March 5, 2008
  - Fire Chief asked to come back with further info on:
    - Education Strategy
    - Enforcement strategy including repeat offenders
    - Urban versus rural land designation
    - Public Health input
    - Legal opinion – do we have authority over "SMOKE"

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- EDUCATION
  - Fire Services conducts annual Spring education via mass media and smaller group presentations on an on-going basis (e.g. Campers groups)
  - No need to change this strategy
  - Insufficient resources to change it anyway

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- ENFORCEMENT
  - Done through By-law with input from Fire Services as required
  - Repeat offenders – increasing fines (Part 3 of the POA) – Laying of Information - individual must attend court and fines at a maximum of $5000

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- URBAN VICE RURAL LANDS
  - No appropriate designation
  - Options
    - D18 zoning designation or above – will cover 80 % of population base – but they will not be allowed to burn – NOT IN PUBLIC INTEREST (Public input)
    - Lot size restriction – greater than 6,000 Feet Square – covers approximately 50 % of population base
    - Distance from structures – suggest change to 20 feet minimum from a residence and 10 feet minimum from any structure

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- Public Health Input
  - Smoke is not good for you
  - Many studies have shown this
  - Their expertise is more with regard to smoking or smoke indoors near food areas
  - For further input they suggested we contact a higher provincial authority e.g. M.O.E.

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- Legal opinion
  - Ron Swiddle, City Solicitor

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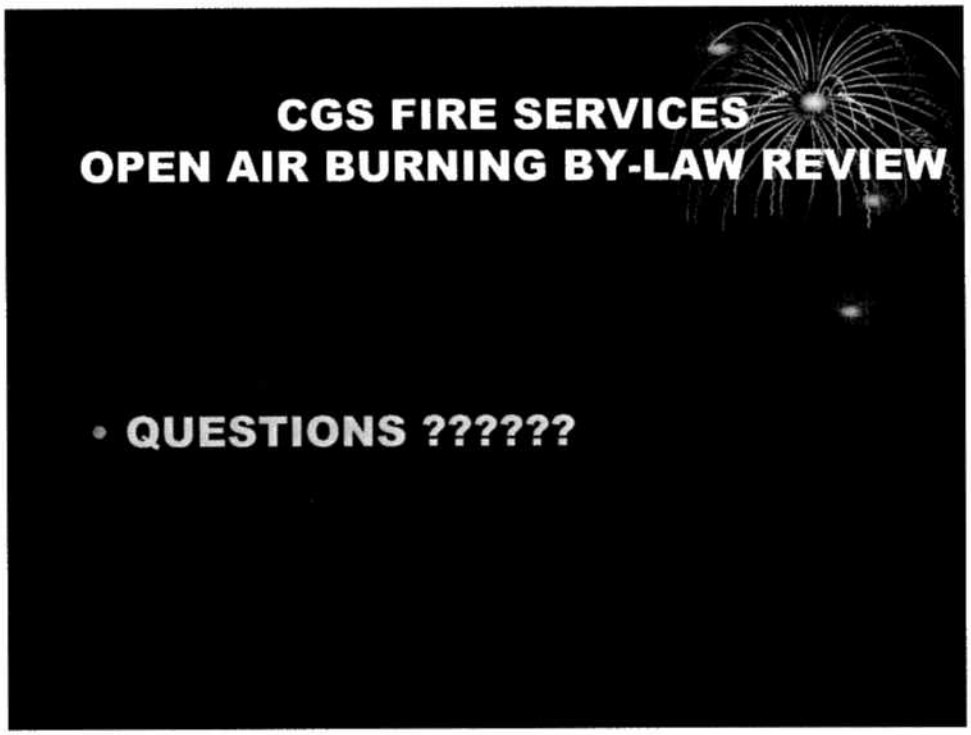
- RECOMMENDATIONS:
  - ALLOW WINTER DAYTIME BURNING
  - ALLOWANCE FOR CEREMONIAL AND OTHER CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
  - CHANGE DISTANCE FROM RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES TO 20 FEET (FROM 10 FEET)
  - CHANGE PROCEDURES SO THAT FIRE SERVICES WILL NOT RESPOND TO SMOKE COMPLAINTS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• QUESTIONS ??????