

Sudbury Soils Study is long overdue, and welcome

Dear Editor:

The Sudbury Soils Study should have been started many years ago. I am more than happy that at least a study is in the works.

I wasn't surprised by the latest contaminated soil results. Many years ago, I remember complaining about the amount of road salt being used. I was also very concerned about the amount of crushed slag being spread. We had slag in practically every driveway, road, sidewalk, school yard, etc.

The contractors had a crusher and conveyor belts working around the clock and could hardly keep up with the demand for crushed slag. I remember mentioning the possible toxic, arsenic and other dangerous metals which the slag could very well contain. I'm in accord with ministry tests that show elevated metal levels, "metals of concern" in the soil in several areas of Sudbury.

Also, studies assume higher amounts in surface soil are the result of mining, smelting and refining activities.

Bear in mind the mining companies did produce the waste product (slag), but I doubt very much if they should be held accountable for selling and spreading this toxic chemical product. The City of Greater Sudbury and other municipalities which purchased and spread crushed slag played a big part in contaminating our soils.

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