I am opposed to the City Region Council's policy of making people replace their fireplaces simply because they are over 15 years old.

It isn't necessarily the age of the appliance that is causing the problem. The cause of the problem is these people that are burning wet or green wood that hasn't been allowed to dry out properly, or burning inferior coal (e.g. U.K. hardwood coal).

If people continue burning the same way with their new low emitting appliance expecting that to achieve the requirement of low emissions, I expect they won't be any improvement, or very little in the emissions.

Education is the key, explain to those who aren't aware of how to manage their appliance, then everyone will benefit.