

TAKE ACTION NOW. MAIL TO YOUR MP!

Call the Minister of Health, Leona Aglukkaq at 613-992-2848 or Prime Ministers office at 613-992-4211. Find out more at NaturalHealthFreedomCanada.com and nhppa.org

Tell Members of Parliament to protect our natural health products

Dear M.P./ Hon. Member/ Rt. Hon. Member
(cc: Minister of Health, Leona Aglukkaq, Deputy Minister, Glenda Yeates)

Stop Health Canada from removing Natural Health Products without evidence of harm! Another valuable natural product, *nattokinase*, has been eliminated. Consumed in fermented soybeans for over 1,000 years in Japan, supplements have been sold in Canada for two decades with no incidents. Nattokinase **safely** prevents blood clots and lowers blood pressure. The real issue is not safety, but that it competes too effectively against pharmaceuticals such as Coumadin/ Warfarin, Aggrenox, Heparin, Lovenox, Plavix, Pradaxa, and Xalralto, all of which have caused death.

Health Canada (HC) tells MPs they take a risk-based approach to regulating Natural Health Products (NHPs), but this is not true. I can cause liver failure with Tylenol, make my intestines bleed with ASA, or kill myself with tobacco or alcohol, and all are readily available. Yet thousands of NHPs used to enhance health have been eliminated when the record shows ZERO Canadian deaths ever. This is a violation of common sense.

Health Canada's new regulations ruining Canadian small businesses

As Dr. Brill-Edwards, a former senior physician supervisor in charge of drug approval at Health Canada said regarding their approval process: "*There is no question that what is going on at Health Canada does not really protect citizens...in essence they're putting in a paper process that will push the small people out of the market place and leave it open for the larger pharmaceutical firms who will then come in and try to tell us that the products are now safer. They won't be safer because there's no real scrutiny about the quality of the product and the information about the product.*"

Natural Health Products Directorate costly, unnecessary & damaging

Good Manufacturing Practices, ingredient testing for purity and potency and adequate labelling, which Canadian manufacturers perform for each product, have made Canadian NHPs the safest in the world. Yet HC has **denied approximately 30,000 NHP license applications** strictly from behind a desk, having nothing to do with whether a product is actually safe, but simply whether they can find fault with its application. The only testing the agency does is on polluted products manufactured in *China*... not Canada. When HC broadcasts their findings, it spawns doubt in consumers and politicians and helps justify having eliminated so many high-quality domestic NHPs. **HC has also told industry that in 2013 they will be retracting existing NHP licenses. Once started, where will this process end?**

Health Canada claims to have approved over 50,000 products, but they artificially inflate this total by counting the exact same product each time it is sold under a different label. (In this way, the same product may be counted 50 or more times.) Meanwhile, they have licensed fewer than 40,000 products when we started with 70,000+ in 2004. Also consider tens of thousands of blocked U.S. imports and then ask yourself: "Was it really Parliament's intention to protect Canadians by eliminating more than half their Natural Health Product choices?"

NHPs not dangerous, yet another safe natural product eliminated

If the eliminated NHPs were so dangerous, why did HC allow sale while applications were being processed? For example, *nattokinase* and others have been sold since the Regulations started in 2004. Why? Because they're **not dangerous!** If a natural ingredient is **actually** dangerous it is removed immediately and listed in the *Prohibited Substances in the Food and Drug Regulations*. Medication interactions can be easily addressed with adequate labelling. As for efficacy, surviving market pressures for years is evidence enough.

Health Canada ignored Parliamentary Committee recommendations

In 2004, Health Canada ignored Parliament's multi-year process that taxpayers funded. Instead of giving NHPs their own unique third category, HC placed NHPs as a subclass of "Drugs" and applied standards that they knew thousands of non-patentable NHPs could not meet. They also forced countless authentic Natural Health Products to reformulate, yielding less effective products, while issuing Natural Product Numbers (NPNs) to hundreds of pharmacy items such as nicotine patches, Ex-Lax and TUMS.

HC eliminates healthy choices

As soon as healthy food ingredients like ginger or parsley are put into capsules, according to Health Canada, they magically become "Drugs." Why? Because the definition of a "Drug" is based on what a substance is used for, NOT based on what it actually is. It could be sawdust, but if you swallowed it to modify a physical function, as per HC, it is considered a "Drug." As such, the manufacturer is *forced* to make a claim and then to prove it. Often unrealistic, ominous label warnings are demanded, scaring consumers away from NHPs and making them more likely to seek refuge in pharmaceuticals that may kill people! In this way, HC eliminates our choices while pretending to protect us from substances that have been used for millennia. And the pharmaceutical industry, in an insidious partnership with HC, maintains a stranglehold over healthcare. **The real issue is money and control, not safety.** Many MPs already know this. The question is: *when are you going to do something about it?*

The majority of people who put you in office want access to a wide range of natural health products. They need your stated support to protect their health and freedom to choose. Stand up for your voters now!

Natural Health Products are safe

As a voting Canadian citizen who supports Health Canada with my tax dollars, I want you to do whatever is necessary to *Stop HC from removing any more natural health products unless there is concrete evidence of danger!*

We need you to protect our access to natural health products

Currently HC can remove any product under totally subjective criteria, i.e. given *reason to “believe” that an NHP “may” pose a risk.* Given NHPs safety record, if a product is produced in a licensed facility under Good Manufacturing Practices, the onus should be on HC to prove that it does pose a risk.

Thank you for your time and attention. Please reply in writing to the above concerns, as well as those listed below.

Signed Print Full Name.....

Date..... Constituency.....

Address

TRI-FOLD LINE - PLEASE FOLD - TAPE ALL 3 OPEN SIDES - NO STAPLES

Name:

Address:

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Postal Code:

M.P.

House of Commons

Parliament Buildings

Ottawa, Ontario

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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS / QUESTIONS

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