



7 November 2012

Karen Lloyd
Chair, Federal-Provincial-Territorial Committee on Health and Environment
Director General, Safe Environments Directorate
Health Canada
269 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9
karen.lloyd@hc-sc.gc.ca

Dear Ms. Lloyd:

Re: Lowering the national blood lead intervention level

The Canadian Partnership for Children's Health and Environment (CPCHE) is a national partnership of environmental, public health, medical, disability advocacy and child-centred organizations that, since 2001, have been working together across traditional boundaries to advance the protection of children's health from the risks posed by toxic chemicals and pollutants (www.healthyenvironmentforkids.ca). One of our goals is to advance decisive policy action to address the known risks to children's health and intellectual capacity associated with exposure to lead.

In our June 16th, 2011 letter to the Minister of Health and the Chair of the F/P/T Committee on Health and the Environment (attached), we advocated that the federal and provincial governments lower the Canadian blood lead intervention level. Since then, the United States Centres for Disease Control and Prevention have lowered the U.S. blood lead level of concern for children under the age of six. We understand that the F/P/T Committee on Health and the Environment is currently working on lowering Canada's national blood lead intervention level.

We recognize that there are unique opportunities and challenges in terms of operationalizing a lowered blood lead intervention level in Canada. Effective knowledge translation, engaging with public health officials and primary care representatives across Canada, and tailoring the risk management options to meet the needs of each region across Canada will be critical to achieving a successful strategy to implement a new national blood lead intervention level.

CPCHE representatives would like to meet with you to explore what role our partnership might play to support the fulsome implementation of a new, more protective intervention level in Canada, via a continuation and expansion of our public and practitioner outreach efforts and by fostering uptake of the anticipated policy by the various stakeholders. I look forward to discussing this further with you. I can be reached at (613) 791-4248 or erica@healthyenvironmentforkids.ca.

Canadian Partnership for Children's Health & Environment
c/o 130 Spadina Avenue, Suite 301, Toronto, ON M5V 2L4
www.healthyenvironmentforkids.ca

The CPCHE partnership looks forward to welcoming the announcement of an improved blood lead intervention level in Canada, and the opportunity to support its implementation for the benefit of all children in Canada.

Yours sincerely,



Erica W. Phipps, Partnership Director

CPCHE Partners:

Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment
Canadian Child Care Federation
Canadian Environmental Law Association
Environmental Health Clinic-Women's College Hospital
Environmental Health Institute of Canada
Learning Disabilities Association of Canada
Ontario College of Family Physicians
Pollution Probe
South Riverdale Community Health Centre
Toronto Public Health

Encl.