

Practitioner letter to the Health Minister

Copy and paste on your Letterhead. If your clinic has multiple practitioners, adjust this letter from singular to a plural version.

Include all licensed practitioners in the clinic. Signatures of all practitioners should be added at the end

DELETE anything in RED FONT

REPLACE anything in GREEN FONT

Honorable Jean-Yves Duclos
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario,
Canada
K1A 0A6

(Place Date here)

Dear Honorable Jean-Yves Duclos:

I am proud Canadian citizen. I am also among the 6,300+ Canadian Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) Practitioners and Acupuncturists. I am licensed to practice in Ontario. I run a clinic called (or list if you are part of a larger practice) and attend to XXX (list number of patients generally under your care) patients yearly.

As part of my services I use a wide variety of Natural Health Care products to help my patients manage their health care needs. (if you do compounding in your office mention this).

I have been informed by my suppliers of Natural Health products (NHP) that a new proposal by the Natural and Non-Prescription Health Products Directorate (NNHPD) on cost recovery for regulating NHPs are alarming and excessive. I have been told that, if implemented, these costs will result in a number of products that I rely on will no longer be available to me.

In addition, these proposed "Cost Recovery" fees will dramatically raise the cost of the products that remain available, placing an undue burden on me and my patients.

Under Section 7 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, my patients and I have the right to life, liberty and security of person. I request that you engage with the NNHPD and instruct them to open a meaningful dialogue with suppliers and health care professionals like me. The goal of these discussions is to ensure meaningful consultation and that Canada's supply of natural products is not being limited or overpriced due to inappropriate regulatory fees.

Respectfully, I, and my health profession colleagues, request confirmation that you have heard our concerns and that you, as Health Minister, will work to ensure that we are able to continue to offer our services and medicines to patients in need. We also urge that you ensure that I, and my colleagues, continue to have access to the full range of Natural Health Products, including the licensed professionally dispensed products, without the increased regulatory fees that will burden patients, many of whom may be on fixed or low incomes. Our professionally dispensed products need a different regulatory category and should not be lumped in with products intended for the retail market.

Thank you for your attention to my concerns.

Sincerely

(Signature, Name and credentials)