



August 20, 2013

Shahina, Sabrina and Karim Lila  
1198 Cawthra Rd.  
Mississauga, ON L5G 4K7

Dear Shahina, Sabrina and Karim,

Thank you for sending me postcards regarding regulation of natural health products in Canada.

Health Canada recognizes that a growing number of Canadians rely on natural health products (NHPs) to achieve their health goals, and that these products are generally low-risk. I use natural health products myself, and I am a strong supporter of natural health and wellness initiatives, products and programs. Our government has listened to consumers like you who want greater access to products while maintaining consumer safety.

Health Canada has, in fact, reduced red tape for companies trying to bring NHPs to market, while maintaining consumer safety and access to a wide selection of products. The results speak for themselves:

- In the first 6 weeks of 2013, more NHPs were approved than during the first *two years* of the regulations under the former government.
- In the most recent 2 full years of the regulations in 2011-12, 15,343 NHPs were approved - an increase of more than 1300%.
- The backlog of 10,885 Unprocessed Product License Application Regulations has been reduced to 12 as of February 2013.

The Canadian Health Food Association (CHFA), Canada's largest trade association dedicated to natural health and organic products, has acknowledged this Government's efforts to strengthen and streamline natural health product regulations. Helen Sherrard, CHFA President, has said:

"We appreciate the Government of Canada's efforts to **reduce red tape** while at the same time ensuring Canadians' access to the safe, effective and high quality natural health products was not comprised."  
(February 8, 2013)

**Constituency Office**

260 Lakeshore Road East  
Mississauga, ON L5G 1G9  
Tel.: 905-278-4111  
Fax: 905-278-4440  
Toll Free: 1-888-463-1111  
Web: www.StellaAmbler.com

**Ottawa Office**

Room 300, Justice Building  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6  
Tel.: 613-992-4848  
Fax: 613-996-3267  
Email: stella.ambler@parl.gc.ca

.../2

**STELLA AMBLER**  
Member of Parliament  
Mississauga South



Our Government remains committed to ensuring that the regulation of natural products protects health and safety while allowing freedom of choice.

Thank you again for expressing your concerns to me. I appreciate hearing the views of all of my constituents.

Sincerely,



Stella Ambler  
Member of Parliament  
Mississauga South