



nhppa.org

NATURAL HEALTH PRODUCTS
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

WHY DOES THE NHPPA COLLECT SIGNATURES ON PRINTED COPIES OF THE CHARTER PETITION AND NOT ON-LINE?

Many people feel this is cumbersome, time consuming and inefficient in this day and age. There are numerous on-line petitions out there where people can add their voice and append their email address with a simple click. It is an important issue to consider when deciding how to make our elected representatives sit up and listen to us.



WHY A PAPER PETITION?

There are several ways for citizens to communicate with their government and an online petition is one such option; it can go viral fast and produce a vast number of signatories, but what is the value of an online signature? Anyone who has collected signatures for a paper petition will know that each and every name represents an active commitment to the issues that the online disconnect just does not bring. And our government knows this too!

Some governments pay attention to online petitions, Canada's does not. There is one thing that an online petition cannot do, force the Minister to respond. Petitions which have been drawn up and presented correctly can be presented during routine parliamentary proceedings by an MP. Once our petition is presented the government must respond within 45 days.

Collecting signatures in this way may seem old fashioned, it may appear inefficient, but it gives the document an ultimate power that an online version just wouldn't have.

We are so convinced that the Charter of Health Freedom is our nation's only answer to the erosion of our personal freedoms that we want to take the time and trouble to force a debate, in a legitimate way.

WHY IS MY ADDRESS NEEDED?

There is just one method for formulating a petition which the Canadian government accepts as valid. Every petition is carefully checked by the office of the Clerk of Petitions. Only then can it be presented to the House of Commons.

All signatures on valid petitions must be original, and mailing addresses must be added to confirm that all signatories are Canadian residents. **Only Canadian residents are entitled to petition Canada's Parliament.**

WHY CAN'T I ADD OTHER NOTES ON THE PETITION PAGE?

The documents must not be marked or altered in any way to change the initial request (or 'petition') set out on the front page. Any additions other than the details of signatories renders that page of the petition useless.

HOW LONG WILL THIS TAKE?

We will present this petition, correctly formulated, when it is the largest in Canadian history. Although we have some way to go to reach our goal of 3 million signatures, as of March 2012, our total of approximately 87,000 signatures tops the largest single petition presented to Parliament in the last 5 years. And we know that every one of those 87,000 people understands and supports the Charter of Health Freedom!

HOW CAN I HELP?

- 1. Download a copy from www.nhppa.org**
- 2. Collect signatures** from all of your networks. Take it wherever you go! To work, school, family events, social clubs and more. Have a petition signing party for NHPs!
- 3. Educate your networks.** Ask if your local health food store has a petition signing station! Identify new petition stations. Get them information from our citizen Action Kits at www.nhppa.org.
- 4. Mail completed petition sheets** to the mailing address at the foot of each *petition* page. Check out the current number of signatures and learn more about the Charter of Health Freedom at www.charterofhealthfreedom.org

WHY SHOULD EVERY CANADIAN SIGN THE CHARTER OF HEALTH FREEDOM PETITION?

Until recently we were free to access all safe and effective natural health products. They required no approval from Health Canada. We are now in a situation where individual Canadians are no longer free to access the Natural Health Products (NHPs) that worked for them. We are talking about people that you know, and people that you don't, who used to be free to choose how they treated their own bodies.

When Health Canada criminalizes a treatment the focus is to remove the product at all costs. They don't take health consequences of people into consideration. Everyday Canadians have suffered by government making health decisions for them.

If you think this is wrong and you think this takes away people's freedoms, we ask you to sign the petition.

The dismantling of the industry is the inevitable result of the regulations as they're currently written. The Charter of Health Freedom is a proposed legislation that gives NHPs their own act. It's an independent law. A law that creates a new ministry that has its own sets of rules from which appropriate regulations stem. It's a third category, apart from the Drug category where NHPs are currently placed.

SIGNING THE CHARTER PETITION MEANS YOU SUPPORT YOUR CONSTITUTIONAL AND CHARTER RIGHTS TO CHOOSE NATURAL HEALTH PRODUCTS YOU NEED.

You are standing up for every citizen who is being harmed, knowingly, and with no recourse to law, by bureaucrats with no medical training.

The Charter of Health Freedom could stop the regulatory crisis. It could end the criminalization of natural health products. It is a fully-formed piece of legislation which would regulate for fraud, adulteration and misrepresentation without a presumption of danger for products which have been used safely for generations.

The Charter of Health Freedom considers people first. Not profits, corporate interest or trade agreements. It is about personal freedom and individual choice, a reminder to exercise and protect the rights and freedoms we enjoy as Canadians.

WITHOUT THE CHARTER OF HEALTH FREEDOM...

Since 2004 over 40,000 safe and effective NHPs have been taken off the Canadian market. NHPPA predicts 75% of all NHPs will be lost as full enforcement of the current 2004 NHP Regulations ramps up.

Vitamins, minerals and herbs are considered dangerous drugs under the current 2004 NHP Regulations.

The "types" and quality of products will change. Many multi-ingredient formulas will be restricted and many will be reduced to non-therapeutic doses.

Innovation into multi-ingredient products will be stifled.

Many small and medium-sized high-quality firms will not survive, they cannot afford the costs of compliance.

Many manufacturers/retailers are being raided and terrorized by Health Canada as part of full enforcement of the current Regulations.

Eventually, we will face cost recovery.

The Charter of Health Freedom is the only real solution in Canada to the legislative crisis in existence today

EVERY SIGNATURE COUNTS.

Help us raise the 3 million unique signatures to support making this Charter law!

Download the petition and Charter info at www.nhppa.org

For more information and to become engaged go to www.nhppa.org and check out our Citizen Action Kits!

CANADA'S LARGEST PETITION

As of March 2012 we are already 90% of the way towards the largest petition our government has seen in 15 years.

That was 96,065 signatures in April 1999 for a series of petitions regarding child pornography.

We are so proud of the reach of this petition and the passion behind the Charter that we want to collect more than Canada's largest petition having 625,510 signatures presented in February 1949 regarding the creation of our Canadian Bill of Rights!

Visit www.nhppa.org for more information on petitions.