

POSTCARDS FROM THE HEALTH CHARTER TOUR

A lemon yellow and chrome 1970s Volkswagen bus made history this fall as it wound along steep mountain passes of the Coastal and Rocky Mountains, through vast wheat fields under the endless sunny blue skies of the Prairies, and winding through stunning rockfaces of Canadian shield in Ontario.

Driving the iconic van, Shawn Buckley, LL.B., a constitutional lawyer and president of the Natural Health Product Protection Association (NHPPA), and his wife Teresa Buckley, hauled banker boxes full of signed petitions representing more than 150,000 Canadians through the treacherous terrain.

Three other NHPPA representatives held events in Charlottetown and Fredericton, and drove past the cliffs and waterfalls that line the St. Lawrence River in Quebec City and the winding trails and meadows that ascend Mont Royal in Montreal through la Belle Province. Another representative from the north flew from Whitehorse, Yukon. Their destination: Parliament Hill, Ottawa, to take a stand against health-care injustice.

By Michelle Schoffro Cook, Ph. D.

Another 5000 Canadians hosted or participated in dozens of live events, popups, and appearances from sea to shining sea from Victoria and Vancouver, BC to Charlottetown, PEI, and in many cities and towns between. Locations included: Victoria, Aldergrove, Vancouver, Kelowna, Kamloops, Grande Prairie, Edmonton, Lloydminster, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Charlottetown, Quebec City, Fredericton, Collingwood, Barrie, Montreal, Whitehorse and Ottawa.

Over the several weeks from the start of the Charter Tour on October 4 until its arrival on Parliament Hill on October 25, the NHPPA also hosted the World's Greatest Health Show with speakers from all walks of life representing natural health consumers, practitioners, manufacturers, and retailers. The common thread that bound them: their passion for natural health products. Many of the speakers reported how these products had saved them from a life of suffering, and in many cases saved their lives as well.

The van arrived safely in Ottawa, after multiple breakdowns, included broken steering and brakes, engine failure, a flat tire, and extensive towing, as a perfect symbol of Canadians' resilience in the fight to preserve our rights, even in the face of seemingly overwhelming obstacles.



Victoria BC



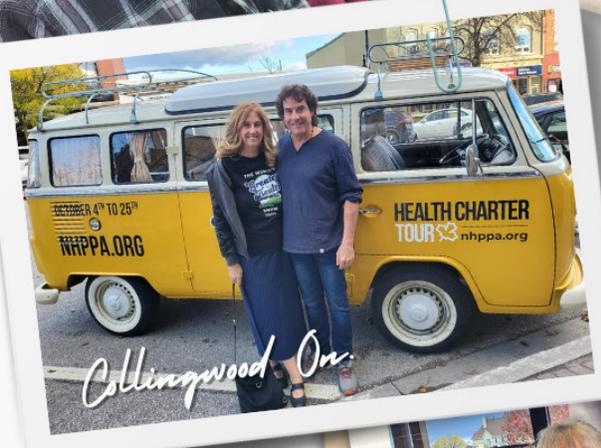
Québec Qc



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Upon arrival at Parliament Hill, Shawn gave a moving speech and handed over 153,000 signed petitions on behalf of Canadians, the third largest paper petition in Canada's nearly 158-year history to MP Blaine Calkins, the honourable member for Ponoka-Didsbury, Alberta. Thousands more petitions arrived by mail after Canada Post resumed its service. Listen to Shawn's speech at: bit.ly/4pqfSL0.

As of this writing, we await the outcome in Parliament but by any measure The Charter Tour and World's Greatest Health Show were a tremendous success, with thousands of participants and approximately 2 Million social media engagements. Said Buckley, who authored the legal document outlining a superior way to regulate natural health products than the current government overreach that has resulted in the loss of countless natural health products due to Health Canada's policies: "Canadians are feeling empowered for the first time." He added: "The Charter of Health Freedom is about Canadians taking responsibility for themselves again because the reality is we are getting tired of having to ask the government for permission to be healthy. We are tired of having to ask the government for permission to take enough vitamin D for us to have healthy immune systems. We are tired of the government having responsibility over our own lives. We've been safely using ginger tea for 3000 years to treat nausea. We shouldn't need Health Canada's permission to continue in 2025."

Support the Charter :

End the Drug Model for Traditional Remedies

Democratize access to natural remedies. Currently, Health Canada's regulations risk wiping out vital nutrients and time-honoured remedies that are part of our heritage, including many Native and Chinese medicines. Says Buckley: "I'm inviting everyone to join us at nhppa.org to become part of the solution."

Here are a few ways you can help:

1. **Demand** protection for NHPs. Tell MPs, both those in power and opposition parties, that you demand protection for these essential life-saving remedies, used by over 30 MILLION Canadians and insist they support Bill C-224. There's a ready-made letter you can send at: <https://nhppa.org/bill224/>.

2. **Learn** more about the Charter of Health Freedom at <https://www.charterofhealthfreedom.org> and the Tour at <https://nhppa.org/health-charter-tour/>. Share links and information with your family and friends.

3. **Donate** to help the NHPPA protect access to natural health products and practices. The NHPPA depends entirely on supporters like you to continue its work to protect access to natural health products in Canada. Individual, practitioner, manufacturer and freedom of choice advocates' contributions are NHPPA's only source of revenue. There are no government grants for its brand of activism. Help the NHPPA to protect Canadians' right to choose natural health options. Don't miss your chance to leave a legacy at <https://nhppa.org/donate/>!

4. **Subscribe** to the NHPPA's newsletter so you don't miss critical updates about natural health products at <https://nhppa.org/subscribe>

5. **Follow** the NHPPA on its socials, including: Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Rumble, X (Twitter), and TikTok. Share its posts to help inform others about NHPPA's work. <https://nhppa.org/socials/>. You can also listen to the many fascinating interviews from the World's Greatest Health Show at: <https://nhppa.org/speakers>

Special Feature

Postcards from the Health Charter Tour

Said NHPPA spokesperson and campaign coordinator, Jason Dahl, “Health Canada’s ‘self-care framework’ is quietly reshaping how natural health products are classified and controlled, adding new fees, testing requirements, and enforcement powers that could put small manufacturers and independent retailers out of business.”

According to Buckley, in common law, there are basic laws that governments and their actions cannot transgress. The Charter of Health Freedom documents these basic health rights that have been laid out by the courts. “This is part of our legal tradition as Canadians, as citizens of Canada. We set these rights out clearly and we state what the common law says: that government must adhere to these basic rights. The Charter also moves the regulation of natural health products from Health Canada and creates a new Ministry of Wellness with the legal duty to protect and promote our access to vital nutrients and natural remedies.”

The yellow van, Canada’s unique take on “the little engine that could,” is resting for now after its incredible journey over stunning, but sometimes punishing landscapes, as it awaits its next journey. It symbolizes Canadians’ strength, resilience, and we hope, ultimate victory in the fight to restore our health rights.

Michelle Schoffro Cook, Ph. D., DNM, is an international bestselling, multiple award-winning, & 25-time book author and strategic communications consultant, including to the NHPPA. Her books include: Pain Erasers, Be Your Own Herbalist, The Ultimate pH Solution, and The Essential Oil Healing Deck. Learn more about the NHPPA at nhppa.org/fr and Dr. Cook’s work at DrMichelleCook.com.