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October 12, 2005

The Hon. George Smitherman  
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care  
Hepburn Block  
10<sup>th</sup> floor, 80 Grosvenor Street  
TORONTO ON M7A 2C4

Dear Mr. Smitherman:

**re: Use of Commercial Tanning Beds by Minors  
Our Resolution 05-108**

At its Regular Meeting of September 27, 2005, the Thunder Bay District Board of Health passed Resolution 05-108 in support of the World Health Organization recommendation regarding the legislation and enforcement of the operation of sunbeds, and in support of the resolution of Middlesex-London Health Unit, "Artificial Tanning Use in London-Middlesex".

The Thunder Bay District Board of Health also urges the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to amend the Personal Services Setting Protocol to include the ban of the use of commercial tanning beds by those under the age of 18 years, in support of the World Health Organization recommendation.

The Thunder Bay District Board of Health respectfully requests support of, and action on this resolution.

*"WHEREAS ultraviolet radiation from tanning beds and other artificial sources is a human carcinogen,*

*AND WHEREAS skin cancer rates are on the rise in Ontario and Canada,*

*AND WHEREAS the World Health Organization recommends that "governments consider comprehensive legislation governing the operation of sunbeds..." and..."should be legally binding and be capable of local enforcement" (WHO, 2003),*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Thunder Bay District Board of Health endorse the World Health Organization's recommendation that "governments consider comprehensive legislation governing the*

*operation of sunbeds..." and "should be legally binding and be capable of local enforcement."*

*AND FURTHER THAT the Thunder Bay District Board of Health support Middlesex-London Board of Health's resolution "Artificial Tanning Use in London-Middlesex."*

*AND FURTHER THAT the Thunder Bay District Board of Health urge the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-term Care to amend the Personal Services Setting Protocol (1998) to ban the use of commercial tanning beds by those under the age of 18, in support of the WHO recommendation;*

*AND FURTHER THAT copies of this letter be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Health and Long-term Care, the Minister of Health Promotion, the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Healthy Environments and Consumer Safety Branch of Health Canada, local members of the Provincial Parliament, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, the Ontario Public Health Association, the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors, Ontario Boards of Health, member municipalities, the Canadian Cancer Society, the Canadian Dermatology Association, the Canadian Paediatric Association, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, and the Provincial Cancer Prevention and Screening Council requesting their support and action."*

Sincerely,



Connie Bryson, Chair  
Thunder Bay District Board of Health

copy: The Hon. D. McGuinty, Premier of Ontario  
The Hon. J. Watson, Minister of Health Promotion  
Dr. S. Basrur, Chief Medical Officer of Health  
Mr. M. Gravelle, MPP, Thunder Bay – Superior North  
Mr. B. Mauro, MPP, Thunder Bay - Atikokan  
Healthy Environments and Consumer Safety Branch, Health Canada  
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA)  
Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA)  
Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (CIPHI)  
Canadian Cancer Society – Ontario Division  
Canadian Dermatology Association

Canadian Pediatric Association  
College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario  
Provincial Cancer Prevention and Screening Council  
Member Municipalities  
Ontario Boards of Health