



Sudbury & District

Health Unit

Service de
santé publique

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October 24, 2006

Electronic Mail

The Honourable Tony Clement
Minister's Office - Health Canada
Brooke Claxton Building, Tunney's Pasture
Postal Locator: 0906C
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K1A 0K9

Dear Minister:

Re: TransFat Task Force Recommendations: TRANSforming the Food Supply, June 2006

Please be advised that at its October 19, 2006 meeting, the Sudbury & District Board of Health was informed of the Trans Fat Task Force recommendations and passed the following motion (#55-06):

WHEREAS the consumption of trans fat in Canadians is estimated to be 10% of total fat intake, while the recommended limit is 2% of total fat intake; and

WHEREAS a growing body of research demonstrates the impacts of trans fat on coronary heart disease; and

WHEREAS the leading cause of death in Northern Ontario is heart disease; and

WHEREAS Boards of Health are mandated to reduce the premature mortality and morbidity from preventable chronic diseases; and

WHEREAS the Trans Fat Task Force provided recommendations to the federal Minister of Health on how to reduce trans fat intake in Canadian's diet; and

WHEREAS these recommendations include comprehensive proposed regulatory limits, research, development and industry incentives, consumer protection, awareness and public education;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Sudbury & District Board of Health urge the federal Minister of Health to go beyond the current mandatory labeling of trans fat on prepackaged foods and act on the recommendations from the Trans Fat Task Force report: TRANSforming the Food Supply, June 2006; and

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FURTHER THAT copies of this motion be forwarded to the federal Ministers of Health, Agriculture and Agri-Food, the Chief Public Health Officer of the Public Health Agency of Canada, Members of Parliament for Sudbury and districts, Members of Provincial Parliament for Sudbury and districts, the Premier of Ontario, the provincial Ministers of Health and Long-Term Care, Health Promotion and Agriculture, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, as well as the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA), and Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) for distribution to all Ontario Boards of Health and constituent municipalities.

The Sudbury & District Board of Health urges the federal government to act on the recommendations in order to effectively eliminate or significantly reduce processed trans fats in the diet of all Canadians.

Thank you for your attention to this important health matter which affects all Canadians.

Yours sincerely,

Original signed by

Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

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- c: The Honourable Chuck Strahl, Federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
Dr. David Butler-Jones, Chief Public Health Officer Public Health Agency of Canada
Members of Parliament for Sudbury and Districts
Members of Provincial Parliament for Sudbury and Districts
The Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable George Smitherman, Provincial Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
The Honourable Jim Watson, Provincial Minister of Health Promotion
The Honourable Leona Dombrowsky, Provincial Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Dr. S. Basrur, Chief Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Health Division, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
Connie Uetrecht, Executive Director, Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA)
Linda Stewart, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA)
Sudbury & District Health Unit Constituent Municipalities
Ontario Boards of Health