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June 23, 2025

Honourable Marjorie Michel
Minister of Health
Public Health Agency of Canada
130 Colonnade Rd
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9
marjorie.michel@parl.gc.ca

Dear Minister Michel:

Subject: Enhancing Support for Canada's Natural Health

It is our honour to extend congratulations from the Southeast Alberta Chamber of Commerce on your recent electoral success and appointment as the Minister of Health for Canada's 45th Parliament.

On behalf of the Southeast Alberta Chamber of Commerce and as a proud member of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, we are writing to express our desire to work with the Ministry to find pathways for greater support for and strength within this industry across Canada.

There are two current priorities raised as concerns by our members that we hope you will consider as you advance the priorities for Canada's Health sector. These recommendations are outlined in the following documents:

1. [Improving the Regulatory Environment for Natural Health Products](#)
2. [Regulating the Sale of Raw Milk](#)

Improving the Regulatory Environment for Natural Health Products

There are concerns with the changes being imposed by Health Canada on the Self-Care Framework related to the imposition of additional new fees, labelling requirements, new regulatory burdens on natural health product businesses; and inequitable authority over the natural health product community. The new regulatory burdens and costs on natural health product businesses will make it difficult for small producers to comply and will force them to scale back the variety of their offerings or cease production altogether. The Southeast Alberta Chamber of Commerce and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce is recommending the Government of Canada:

1. Replace the definition of therapeutic product in section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act with the following: therapeutic product means a drug or device or any combination of drugs and devices, but does not include a natural health product within the meaning of the Natural Health Products Regulations.
2. Repeal Section 21.321 of the Food and Drug Act and Subsection 21.8(2) of the Food and Drug Act to reverse the changes imposed by Bill C-47 section 500-504.
3. Eliminate additional fees, until fee levels are re-examined in consultation with industry;
4. Consult with the Natural Health Product industry to come up with a globally competitive strategy to address safety concerns, and the differentiation between medicinal NHPs, supplements, and other consumer products while taking into consideration costs and the regulatory impacts for businesses of all sizes;
5. Implement the Standing Committee on Health's recommendations from the report: Natural Health Products: A New Vision;
6. Only implement new regulatory changes once backlogs are cleared, operations run efficiently, and policies and procedures are in place to ensure stable operations continue for Natural Health Products.

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Regulating the Sale of Raw Milk

Canada remains the only G7 nation with a complete prohibition on the sale of raw milk, despite growing consumer interest and international models demonstrating safe, regulated access. The current ban has driven the practice underground, creating unregulated markets and missed opportunities for public health oversight and agricultural innovation. Our Chamber is requesting:

1. The implementation of regulated, legal pathways to raw milk access that use proven regulatory standards;
2. The requirement of regulatory standards and labelling for licensing purposes;
3. The provision of a public directory of licensed producers to ensure safety and public awareness.

We request your consideration of these recommendations and the implementation of policies that will strengthen our health sector. By addressing these critical areas, we can ensure the access to Canadian natural health products for future generations.

We would welcome a meeting with you and your Deputy Minister to meet with our health industry in Southern Alberta to discuss some of the challenges that impede their growth and sustainability in this industry.

Thank you for your attention to these important matters and we look forward to your positive response and the continued support of the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Sincerely,




Steven Pudwell
2024-2025 President, Board of Directors



Lisa Dressler
Executive Director

Cc: MP Glen Motz, Medicine Hat-Cardston-Warner Constituency

Cc: MP David Bexte, Bow River Constituency 

Cc: Dan Mazier, Shadow Minister Health, Dan.Mazier@parl.gc.ca