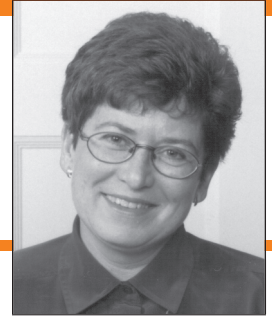




*Judy
Wasylycia-Leis*



MP for Winnipeg North

January 11, 2008

Hon. Tony Clement
Minister of Health
278 Confederation Building
House of Commons

Dear Minister,

I am writing on an urgent matter of child safety around the use of bisphenol A in Canadian consumer products.

In Question Period on December 5th, I raised safety concerns over the use of this chemical and called for a ban on its use in all food and beverage containers in Canada. Scientific evidence had been brought to public attention by Environmental Defence Canada pointing to the serious long-term damage from infant exposure to bisphenol A (BPA), particularly from polycarbonate baby bottles and many infant formula containers.

Peer-reviewed research by Dr. Frederick vom Saal, a leading authority on BPA, and others has now reinforced these concerns. I share the scientists' particular concern for the health of children. As you are aware, children's capacity to deal with chemical hazards cannot be equated with that of adults. As has been proven with lead, while harmful to all, exposure for children bears much more serious consequences.

I am therefore asking that you instruct Health Canada to treat this matter with the greatest urgency and take immediate steps to eliminate the use of bisphenol A in food containers, beginning immediately with products to which children may be exposed.

I look forward to your response on this matter of urgent concern to Canadian working families.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Judy Wasylycia-Leis, MP
NDP Health Critic

