



Health Action Network Society

MEDIA RELEASE

BURNABY, BC (January 13, 2009) – Hundreds of Concerned Consumers Expected to Attend Second Natural Health Products Rally, February 2nd, in Vancouver

While many in the natural health product (NHP) industry are wondering how the January 1, 2010, deadline for product applications and approvals will affect them, Shawn Buckley, LLB, will be presenting a second talk on how government regulations, developed for ‘safety and security’, may cause more harm than the products themselves. Bill C51 may have mobilized the industry, but the true issues, which Buckley will address, run deeper and include problems with our existing regulations, which are affecting consumer health freedoms and are poised to limit access to natural health products.

Buckley, a constitutional lawyer well-versed in regulatory matters, is also president of the Natural Health Products Protection Association (NHPPA), which launched the Charter of Health Freedom on September 10, 2008.

The Charter (charterofhealthfreedom.org) is being supported across Canada by a broad cross-section of Canadians—consumers/citizens, NHP manufacturers, retailers and wholesalers, natural health practitioners from many disciplines and cultures and NGOs. More than 10,000 signatures have been gathered on petitions, and national efforts continue.

Last June, Buckley spoke in Vancouver before a crowd of 500 people. On February 2nd, a larger crowd is anticipated to be present as Buckley discusses how the Charter, if passed, would affect our health system and the existing NHP industry. This event will also cover:

- Corporate influence on Health Canada and the FDA
- The unfortunate results of a recent court case ruling, which sets a dangerous precedent for the majority of natural health products becoming re-classified as available only through prescription.

When: Monday February 2nd, 7:00 pm

Where: St. Andrew's-Wesley Church, 1022 Nelson Street at Burrard, Vancouver

Tickets: \$5 at the door OR FREE for HANS members who preregister by Jan 30th, or show a valid membership card at the door

For more information or media passes, please contact Angela Nat at 604-435-0512 or angela@hans.org.