

Sarah Miller

From: Silverman, Caroline [Caroline.Silverman@cancercare.on.ca]
Sent: October 12, 2006 10:37 AM
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Subject: "Report on Cancer 2020" released today by CCO and CCS
Attachments: Report on Cancer 2020 - English.pdf

Re: Report on Cancer 2020: A Call for Renewed Action on Cancer Prevention and Detection in Ontario

Dear Cancer 2020: Cancer and the Environment Stakeholder Group,

We are writing to provide you with a copy of the *Report on Cancer 2020: A Call for Renewed Action on Cancer Prevention and Detection in Ontario* that was released today by Cancer Care Ontario (CCO) and the Canadian Cancer Society (CCS).

In 2001, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care asked CCO to lead the development of a long-term cancer prevention and detection strategy. In May 2003, the Provincial Cancer Prevention and Screening Council, a multi-sectoral advisory group, released the *Cancer 2020 Action Plan* to lower cancer incidence and death rates.

The *Report on Cancer 2020* highlights key provincial initiatives accomplished since the release of the *Cancer 2020 Action Plan*, provides baseline estimates and indicators in several key areas against which progress towards the Cancer 2020 targets will be measured, and sets out the Council's recommendations for action.

The prevention targets include: reduction of tobacco use, increased consumption of vegetables and fruit, reduction of obesity, increased physical activity, reduction of alcohol consumption, reduction of ultraviolet exposure and reduction of exposure to occupational and environmental carcinogens.

While progress is being made in cancer prevention and screening, as Ontario's population grows and ages, the total number of newly diagnosed cancers could increase by two-thirds by 2020 and by half by 2028, unless more action is taken. Approximately half of all cancers that will be diagnosed by 2020 can be prevented or detected early. For example, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death, and the most preventable. Ontario's Smoke-Free Ontario legislation and strategy has the potential to have a more significant impact than any policy to date on reducing cancer rates. Tireless and single-minded effort will continue to be needed to bring teen and adult smoking rates in line with Cancer 2020 targets.

Currently, not enough Ontarians are taking advantage of breast and cervical screening to detect cancer early. Nearly 80 per cent of the eligible population in Ontario has never been screened for colorectal cancer – the leading cause of non-tobacco related death. Only 10% of Ontarians aged 50 to 74 have had a fecal occult blood test (FOBT) in the last two years to screen for colorectal cancer.

If the province is to reach the ambitious targets set out in the *Cancer 2020 Action Plan*, the Council recommends substantial investments in research, surveillance and monitoring; continued support for programs and policies to meet the targets; and collective action between cancer and other disease and healthcare stakeholders on common chronic disease and cancer specific risk factors.

12/10/2006

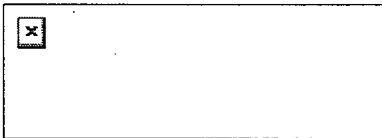
On behalf of CCO, CCS, members of the Provincial Cancer Prevention and Screening Council, we look forward to continuing to collaborate with you on our common mission to reduce the rate and toll of cancer in Ontario.

If you would like more information, please contact John McLaughlin, Vice President, Preventive Oncology and in-coming Chair of the Provincial Cancer Prevention and Screening Council at john.mclaughlin@cancercare.on.ca or Sylvia Leonard, Vice President, Cancer Control Policy and Programs, Canadian Cancer Society, Ontario Division at sleonard@ontario.cancer.ca.

The report is available in French and English on the Cancer Care Ontario (www.cancercare.on.ca) and Canadian Cancer Society (www.cancer.ca) websites.

To order hard copies of the report contact: cancercontrol@ontario.cancer.ca

Sincerely,



Terrence Sullivan, Ph.D.
President and CEO
Cancer Care Ontario

Peter Goodhand
Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Division,
Canadian Cancer Society

Enclosed: Report on Cancer 2020

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