



CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DU DROIT DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

September 15, 1997

Heather Ramsay
Health Promotion and Programs Branch
Health Canada, Ontario Region
25 St. Clair Avenue East
Toronto, Ontario
M4T 1M2

Dear Ms. Ramsay,

Re: Proposal for a Resource Guide for Community Action on Cancer Prevention

The Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA) has been participating in a Toronto committee planning for the creation of a Cancer Prevention Taskforce to implement and raise awareness of the recommendations of the Ontario Primary Prevention of Cancer Taskforce Report. It is very important to our organization to promote strategies of pollution prevention with strategies for cancer prevention and to further understanding of the environmental linkages with cancer.

The primary focus of our committee work has been in planning a fall conference to elicit the formation of a broadly representational cancer prevention taskforce which would carry on the work of devising a prevention strategy for our community. It is our hope that this work could also be informative for other communities undertaking similar efforts.

When the suggestion was made for a community action guide, there was a need for an incorporated experienced public interest group to act as administrator for funds raised for the work of the Cancer Prevention Taskforce once it is formed this fall. At its meeting on September 8, 1997, CELA's Board of Directors agreed that CELA contribute this component to the collective effort as we have done this before for other collective projects. This approval was given with the understanding that the work of devising the prevention plan and publishing and distributing the community action guide would be carried out by the Prevention Taskforce. Since the success of this project depends on the level of community involvement, project guidance and decisions will need to be made by a steering committee made up of this community. This committee should be in place as soon as the Prevention Taskforce is created by the fall conference. To ensure that there are clear guidelines for administering these funds, CELA has submitted a number of conditions for administration of the funds and for communications that should assist in sound management of this project to the committee planning this proposal.

We hope you will agree that community based projects such as this one are crucial to successfully promoting cancer prevention. We would be happy to discuss this project with you at any time.

Yours truly,
Canadian Environmental Law Association

Sarah Miller
Coordinator