



AN ALBERTA SOCIETY FOR CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES

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## HEALTH CANADA PROPOSES BABY BOTTLE BAN

### *Chrysalis bottles do not pose health risk*

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EDMONTON, Alta. (April 21, 2008) — On Friday April 18, 2008 the federal government announced its plan to ban the importation and sale of polycarbonate baby bottles containing bisphenol A (BPA), a controversial chemical found in hard-plastic bottles and other products.

Based on the results of Health Canada’s assessment, some laboratory studies on animals suggest that bisphenol A at low levels of exposure can affect neural development and behaviour when the animals are exposed in very early life. The draft screening assessment proposes bisphenol A is “toxic” to human health and the environment, as defined in the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999.

Environmental Defence recently studied how BPA leaches out of plastic baby bottles —especially when heated in boiling water or in a microwave, or if boiling water is poured directly into the bottle.

While there is some concern for BPA migrating into foods or liquids when the BPA container is heated, studies indicate that at room temperature BPA migration is minimal and you should not be concerned about using these products.

At the time of Friday’s announcement Health Canada and the Minister of Health Tony Clement indicated that polycarbonate water bottles are safe for use.

“Canadians can continue to use hard plastic, reusable water bottles and plastic tableware if they so choose,” Minister Clement said. “There is no health risk.”

Sales of all Chrysalis promotional water bottles and thermal drinking mugs containing polycarbonates are paused at present time. Water coolers at Chrysalis offices are also made of polycarbonates and remain available for staff and client use unless future discoveries are made by Health Canada.

If you are concerned about using products made with polycarbonates, check the bottom of the bottle for the letters “PC,” which indicates it is a polycarbonate and likely contains BPA. Also look for the number 7 inside a triangle this symbol also indicates that the product may contain BPA.

For more information please visit the Government Canada webpage *Questions and Answers for Action on Bisphenol A, Under the Chemicals Management Plan*:

[http://www.chemicalsubstanceschimiques.gc.ca/faq/bisphenol\\_a\\_qa-qr\\_e.html#1](http://www.chemicalsubstanceschimiques.gc.ca/faq/bisphenol_a_qa-qr_e.html#1)

**The Chrysalis Plastics division does not use any polycarbonates in their manufactured products.**

About Chrysalis:

Chrysalis is a charitable Albertan society for citizens with disabilities. Chrysalis offers personalized services to help thousands of people with disabilities receive training, develop life and vocational skills, find employment, discover volunteer opportunities, and realize a better quality of life. Chrysalis also operates two manufacturing divisions, proceeds from the sale of woods and plastic products assist us to improve the quality of our services.