



QUESTIONS FOR PARTY LEADERS & CANDIDATES

Federal Election 2008

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**PREVENT
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1. In Canada, there has been a sharp rise in cancer since the 1970s. One third of Canadian females and half of Canadian males will develop cancer. Most cancers are not inherited, but caused by repeated or prolonged exposure to environmental hazards, and are therefore preventable. To prevent cancer we must avoid introducing carcinogens into our bodies from the air we breathe, the water we drink and the food we eat.

Q1. Will your party protect the health of its citizens through a cancer prevention approach which will eliminate the use of all known and suspected carcinogens from homes, schools, workplaces, and the environment?

Q2. Will your government establish strict timelines for eliminating the use of known or suspected carcinogens, and require industry to immediately replace known or suspected carcinogens with proven safer or non-toxic substitutes where they exist?

2. The province of Quebec has prohibited pesticides use in all daycare facilities and schools.

Q. Will your party enact Federal legislation modeled on the Quebec Pesticide Management Code to eliminate pesticides use in and around daycare facilities and schools?

3. The Government of Canada is responsible for protecting the health of its citizens through regulation of food and consumer products. Most Canadians have no idea they are being exposed to known or suspected carcinogens – but they are! They are exposed every day through the food they eat, makeup they wear, cleaning products they use and many other consumer products.

Q. Will your government support a consumers "Right to Know" and immediately enact product labelling laws requiring the disclosure of all known or probable carcinogens in consumer products?

4. The Rotterdam Convention (RC), ratified by Canada in 2002, protects human health and the environment by controlling trade in hazardous chemicals. The RC's expert scientific body has repeatedly called for chrysotile asbestos to be classified as an extremely hazardous chemical. Currently, 95% of Canada's chrysotile asbestos is exported to poorer developing countries which don't have the capacity to safely address the associated risks. The World Health Organization, International Labour Organization, Canadian Cancer Society and numerous health organizations have called all forms of asbestos carcinogenic and say that it should be banned. Over 40 countries have banned all forms of asbestos.

Q1. Will your government support listing chrysotile asbestos under the Rotterdam Convention as a hazardous chemical?

Q2. Would your government support a ban on all forms of asbestos?

RETURN ANSWERS TO: Election Questions, #5-220 Mutchmore, Gatineau, QC J8Y 3V1
[Note: Please be sure to include the candidate's name and riding.]