

The Honourable Patty Hadju
Minister of Health
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A0A6

T/ 613 992-8072
E/ Patty.Hadju@parl.gc.ca

Dear Minister:

A Health Canada review of poisons used to kill coyotes, wolves, bears and other wildlife is due or coming due. The three poisons are strychnine (2017), sodium cyanide, used in a product called the M-44 cyanide device (2018), and sodium fluoroacetate, sold as Compound 1080 (2019/20).

One of the stated core objectives of Health Canada is to “prevent and reduce risks to individual health and the overall environment.” Based on that objective, no scientifically defensible case can be made for culling wildlife by the use of cruel poisons which puts people at risk and kills non-target species including endangered wildlife and companion animals.

According to the best available science, culling coyotes and other wild animals due to conflict issues puts the “overall environment” at risk and does not resolve the conflicts.

Clear scientific evidence shows that conflicts can be reduced with non-lethal methods available to ranchers, farmers and government officials. The only purpose that culling wild species seems to serve is to create the impression that elected and unelected officials are ‘doing something.’ Culling wildlife is a political placebo, nothing more.

I urge you to ensure that when your officials review sodium cyanide, sodium fluoroacetate, and strychnine, they base their recommendations on science, evidence, and best practices. The government has promised nothing less.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Signature

Name

Address

City Province Postal Code