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From: Bill <billhillier@hotmail.com>
Sent: October-27-14 1:33 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Amendments to Tobacco law

I want to express my concern regarding what seems to be the position You and the Province seem to be moving towards with regard to the so called Electronic Cigarettes. I have no issue with a ban on sale to those under 18 or even with banning from public places. So please read on and feel free to point out where you think I'm wrong.

Is it true that the "juice" sold, other than menthol, will be completely banned in Nova Scotia or will it still be sold but treated like tobacco? If the e-cig hardware is age restricted, why can't I, as an adult, buy whatever flavor that I choose to. The juice, flavored or not is useless to a minor without the e-cig hardware.

This issue is important to me, a Liberal Government supporter. You see, my wife has been a smoker for over 30 years and since taking up the e-cig habit instead of tobacco her health as improved immensely. Her lungs have cleared up, she doesn't spend much of the day hacking her head off anymore. This may be anecdotal evidence but the improvement is obvious and you can find many others that see the same effects. I hope that someday she will quit both smoking and vaping but as of now she's going to do one or the other so please don't force her to revert back to a product (tobacco) that has absolutely proven and adverse health effects in lieu of something that "MAY" harm her health. I'm sure I can produce as many studies that say e-cigs are not harmful as you can that say they are. So until there is definitive proof, I would hope that you move slowly in your actions with consideration to the fact that e-cigs are not and never will be a tobacco product. The main components used to make the "e-juices", glycerine and propylene glycol are Health Canada and USFDA approved for human consumption. Many people use the e-cig like a tobacco cessation product to reduce their dependence on nicotine by gradually reducing the nicotine level in the juice over time.

The name e-cig was poorly chosen as they are in no way related to a traditional cigarette. In a tobacco cigarette, in order for nicotine to be released, there must be combustion. Smoke is a by product of the combustion or burning of tobacco. By burning the tobacco, a myriad of other harmful chemical compounds are released.

On the other hand, in a "e-cig" there is no combustion. What there is instead is the evaporation of a liquid otherwise called vapour.

I only ask that the Bill 60 legislation be amended to allow the sale of flavored e-cig juices.

Here is a study of the composition or the vapour produced....

<http://publichealth.drexel.edu/SiteData/docs/ms08/f90349264250e603/ms08.pdf>

The report's findings can be summarized thusly:

By reviewing over 9,000 observations about the chemistry of the vapor and the liquid in e-cigarettes, Dr. Burstyn was able to determine that the levels of contaminants e-cigarette users are exposed to are insignificant, far below levels that would pose any health risk. Additionally, there is no health risk to bystanders. Proposals to ban e-cigarettes in places where smoking is banned have been based on concern there is a potential risk to bystanders, but the study shows there is no concern.

ACSH's Dr. Gilbert Ross, a close follower of the e-cigarette literature and regulatory scene, commented as follows: "Prof. Burstyn's comprehensive analysis should help put to rest the good-faith concerns of some in the anti-smoking community who continue to doubt the safety of e-cigarettes' 'second-hand vapor.' Unfortunately, for the bulk of the harm-reduction haters, this will probably have little impact, since they are refractory to science-based discussion, fixated as they are on their various perverse agendas."

Please consider what I have taken the time to write,

William Hillier

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