

**Canadian Cancer  
Society**

**Société canadienne  
du cancer**

**Heart and Stroke  
Foundation of Canada**

**Fondation des  
maladies du coeur du  
Canada**

**Non-Smokers' Rights  
Association**

**Association pour les  
droits des non-  
fumeurs**

**Physicians for a  
Smoke-Free Canada**

**Médecins pour un  
Canada sans fumée**

July 22, 2004

The Honourable Pierre Pettigrew, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Foreign Affairs Canada  
125 Sussex Drive  
Ottawa, ON, Canada  
K1A 0G2

Dear Minister,

We wish to congratulate you on your recent appointment as Minister of Foreign Affairs. We very much appreciated your strong support for stronger tobacco control measures during your tenure as Minister of Health. Your strong support for measures requiring all Canadian cigarettes to be of reduced ignition propensity, as well as your support for stronger global tobacco control were very much appreciated by leading public health agencies in Canada, and by Canadians in general.

It has been over a year since Canada signed the *Framework Convention on Tobacco Control* (FCTC) – yet the treaty has not been ratified. We hope that you will now arrange for speedy ratification by Canada of this critical treaty, an action you very much favoured as Minister of Health.

Speedy ratification of the *Framework Convention on Tobacco Control* will re-establish Canada's position of responsibility on international public health issues and leadership in global tobacco control. Quick ratification will also place Canada in a more credible position as a world leader on tobacco control at the next meeting (fall 2004) of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Working Group, where treaty implementation issues will be discussed. Ratification will also allow Canada to be a full member of the Conference of the Parties – which will likely have its first meeting in 2005. Canada can only become a full member of the Conference of the Parties by ratifying the FCTC.

Early implementation of this treaty will help reverse the progress of the tobacco pandemic.

Leading public health agencies in Canada, including ourselves, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, the Canadian Cancer Society and the Non-Smokers' Rights Association and many others are all pressing for speedy ratification by Canada of the *Framework Convention for Tobacco Control*.

Mr. Minister, we urge you to do your part and restore Canada as a leader in the international effort to achieve global tobacco control. Please ratify the *Framework Convention on Tobacco Control* now.

Yours sincerely,



Rob Cunningham,  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Canadian Cancer Society



Sally Brown  
Chief Executive Officer  
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada



Gar Mahood  
Executive Director  
Non-Smoker's Rights Association



Cynthia Callard  
Executive Director  
Physicians for a Smoke-Free Canada