



Health
Canada

Santé
Canada

Health Products
and Food Branch

Direction générale des produits
de santé et des aliments

JAN 15 2008

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250 Lanark Avenue
A.L. 2005D
OTTAWA, Ontario
K1A 0K9

08-100280-209

Mr. Anthony F. Stephan and Mr. David L. Hardy
Truehope Nutritional Support Ltd.
BOX 1254
CARDSTON, Alberta
T0K 0K0

Dear Mr. Stephan and Mr. Hardy:

I write with respect to the email you sent to various department officials on December 11th, 2007, as well as the website that was referenced in that email, www.healthcanadaexposed.com, and in response to your recent letter to the Minister dated January 3, 2008. I write also to express my concerns regarding telephone calls received by current and former Health Canada employees from Mr. Ian Stewart.

I would like to advise you that the statements regarding specific Health Canada employees made on both the [healthcanadaexposed.com](http://www.healthcanadaexposed.com) website and your recent email are highly inappropriate. On the website, specific Health Canada employees are referred to as "bureaucrats that have demonstrated a blatant disregard for the health and safety of Canadians." I can assure you that this statement is false. All Health Canada employees who have been involved in any compliance and enforcement action taken with respect to your company have acted in good faith and in the interest of the health and safety of Canadians. Health Canada fully supports the actions taken by inspectors in the administration of the *Food and Drugs Act* and its *Regulations*.

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Of particular concern are the unfounded remarks you continue to make against two specific inspectors, Miles Brosseau and Sandra Jarvis. These two inspectors were acting as public servants on behalf of the Minister of Health and should not be subject to personal attacks against their character. Public servants work to serve the interest of all Canadians. As such, we recognize that our work is under public scrutiny, and therefore the work of, and ethics around, public servants is and should be, held to very high standards. These standards were upheld by both Mr. Brosseau and Ms. Jarvis, as well as other inspectors involved with your company.

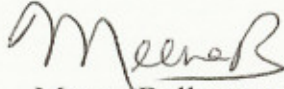
In light of the above noted concerns, I am requesting that you remove the names of inspectors from the healthcanadaexposed.com website, as well as the statements made against them. I would also request that you refrain from publishing any further misleading and insulting remarks about Health Canada employees on the healthcanadaexposed.com website, and any other website or public documents for which you are responsible.

In your recent letter, you state that you have evidence to bring forward regarding the conduct of Health Canada employees. I have personally discussed your concerns with employees and managers within this Branch who have been involved with the regulatory actions and decisions involving your company. I have every confidence that they have acted in good faith in carrying out their duties. I request that you submit the information you have in support of your concerns to my attention at the earliest possible date. The information you submit, I assure you, will be carefully assessed and further action will be taken as appropriate.

Finally, a number of current and former Health Canada employees have received calls, at home or at work, from a Mr. Ian Stewart. Mr. Stewart informed them that he is an investigator / mediator acting on your behalf and is seeking information about Health Canada's involvement with Truehope. Health Canada takes a very serious view of this matter. It is not appropriate for Mr. Stewart to be contacting these individuals directly, and we have been advised that Mr. Stewart has acted in an intimidating and/or threatening manner during the phone calls. Employees who feel threatened or intimidated have been advised to contact HC Security or their local police force. Please inform me if Mr. Stewart is in fact acting on your behalf. If he is, I request that you advise him to immediately discontinue contacting

current and former employees and that if he would like to contact a Health Canada representative, he can communicate with me in writing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meena Ballantyne', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Meena Ballantyne
Assistant Deputy Minister

cc: Diana Dowthwaite
Philip Waddington
Simon Carvalho, Health Canada Legal Services