

PETITION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Regarding imported plasma product

We the undersigned citizens of Canada draw the attention of the Minister of Health to the decision by Canadian Blood Services to increase imports of U.S. “surplus” plasma while closing Canada’s last dedicated blood plasma donor clinic in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Whereas the United States still maintains paid blood donations, contrary to recommendations by the World Health Organization to reduce transfusion-transmissible infections; and

Whereas FDA-approved infected plasma product exported in the 1980s led to thousands of lives lost in Canada and around the world; and

Whereas screening of Canadian blood products is considered to be among the best in the world;

Therefore your petitioners request, as regulator of Canada’s blood system, that the Minister of Health direct Health Canada to act to protect that system by directing Canadian Blood Services to increase Canadian plasma content in products used by Canadian hospitals, including re-opening Canadian plasma donor clinics to achieve that aim.

Signature

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Please return completed petitions to Len Mason, OPSEU Thunder Bay, 1201 Amber Drive, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 6M4