

# Action Program

## Ontario Environment Minister Susan Fish proposes National PCB Action Program

A detailed action program for the control and eventual elimination of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) was outlined by Ontario Environment Minister Susan Fish at the May 31 meeting of federal and provincial environment ministers in Montreal.

"Our challenge is to show the people that their governments have full control of the situation, that we can and do regulate the use, handling, transportation and disposition of PCBs and that we are working in full accord and in the best interests of the public,"

Ms. Fish told the assembled environment ministers from across Canada.

She set out a six-point Ontario section plan "to ensure that our own house is in order," including:

- Tightening up and improving emergency response.

- Ensuring that industry in Ontario conforms to and complies with the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act.

- Notifying other provinces and the federal government of PCB movements leaving the province.

- Expanding Ontario's waste manifest system to ensure that the originator of wastes is accountable for

their safe and proper disposal.

- Further toughening of Ontario regulations covering storage and transportation of hazardous chemicals such as PCBs and,

- Providing the people of Ontario with safe, efficient and environmentally acceptable disposal options for eliminating PCB wastes.

Ms. Fish challenged other provinces to match Ontario's commitment to a national PCB management program, to open borders for PCB transport to destruction facilities, to cooperation in investigation and enforcement and to full sharing of facilities and information for safe and effective PCB transportation and disposal.

"Beyond this, we must look to Environment Canada and the federal government," she said. "I see Canada's role in PCB

management in terms of providing leadership and co-ordination, sharing responsibility and accountability and providing resources and technical skills."

She urged the federal government to develop a national PCB attrition strategy and to provide sites and funding for experiments and demonstrations of new PCB destruction technology. She also called for an improved federal-provincial emergency response capability for transboundary incidents and for federal procedures and resources to handle spill cleanup from federally regulated utilities such as railways, ships, pipelines and airlines.

Ontario's program also looks to the federal government for national standards and emission criteria for PCBs which can be applied

consistently across Canada. In addition, it calls for a national system to track and regulate interprovincial movement of PCB wastes, shared cleanup costs in incidents involving interprovincial transportation and some federal legislation or other action to ensure provinces have the right to control movement of dangerous goods into or out of their jurisdiction.

Ms. Fish concluded: "The people of Canada are looking to us for resolute and prompt action to deal with these wastes and eliminate them as a hazard to public health and environmental integrity."

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The McCuaig families would like to thank those who sent flowers, made donations, also those who sent food and cards to the house. Special thanks to Doris, Audrey, Betty, Betty Ann, and Mike. If we have missed anyone, please accept our thanks. May God bless you all.

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## Senior Citizens

Yes we are Senior Citizens of this world and know what it means to attend church each Sunday. We were taught to obey God's Commandments and respect the Lord. Also respect the elder people and parents. Yes we are senior Citizens and a good many of us forgotten and ignored - we are the people of experience and knowledge. We are the ones that helped to build this country. We know the value of money and a good working knowledge of Life's ways and hardships - took it in our stride and carried on - we do not want to be pushy but if asked, we can still offer assistance with our experiences in living and working. There is some good in all of us yet and it is pleasant to know that we are still wanted - not left on a shelf and forgotten. Keeping active is one of life's blessings. It keeps one still familiar with one's community and the country's affairs.

The word OLD has many meanings. It could be the process of AGING. Some say that we are sort

of gruff and cranky but that can be applicable to the younger generation as well, even a baby can be out of sorts. So it does not really follow that the Seniors can only be that as age does not be associated with these moods. Health problems can disturb people young or old with being uncomfortable from headaches to arthritis. There are so many wonderful young or old people, in spite of sufferings are wonderful people to know the youth or the elderly can suffer pain. Aches and pains can make it difficult to communicate with others whether the youth or elderly. Geriatrics is the science of aging and we all meet up with it sooner or later in our lives.

Everyone wants to live a longer life. Never in the history of the world has so many people lived to be so old. About a century ago, rarely did the average person live beyond forty years, but today to live to 80 or beyond is common. They are the challenge of our creative years, but

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