



Atlantic Canada
Opportunities
Agency

Agence de
promotion économique
du Canada atlantique

President

PATENTED MEDICINE
PRICES REVIEW BOARD

2006 JUL 21 PM 1 16

CONSEIL PROMOTION
DU PRIX DES
MÉDICAMENTS BREVETÉ

Head Office
P.O. Box 6051
Moncton, N. B.
Canada E1C 9J8

Siège social
B.P. 6051
Moncton (N.-B.)
Canada E1C 9J8

(506) 851-2271

(506) 851-2271

JUL 14 2006

3225-3-15

Brien G. Benoit, M.D.
Vice-Chairperson
Patented Medicine Prices Review Board
Box L40
Standard Life Centre
333 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 1C1

Dear Dr. Benoit:

Thank you for your letter of June 20, 2006 inviting the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency to comment on the Discussion Guide for Consultations on the Board's Excessive Price Guidelines.

The Agency seeks to strengthen the economy of Atlantic Canada by accelerating the development of knowledge-based industries, including pharmaceutical and research firms. Through its Atlantic Innovation Fund, the Agency is collaborating with many such enterprises and with regional university partners involved in the development and patenting of medicines and other pharmaceuticals. I expect that many Atlantic Canadian firms, research institutions and consumers will have an interest in your price review process, in particular, the contemplation of price variations across Canadian markets and in your consideration to link allowable price increases to the amount of research and development spending undertaken by the patentee in Canada.

This Agency is not a representative of any of these specific entities, therefore, I suggest that private and public sector partners are better positioned to provide specific comments on the Discussion Guide. For this reason, I will respectfully decline your kind invitation to participate in the consultation meeting to be held in Halifax in November. I will, however, advise my colleagues to direct interested clients to the Board to ensure that Atlantic Canadian interests are represented in your consultation process.

*I decline
attendance*

.../2

I appreciate your inclusion of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency as an interested stakeholder in this crucial national issue and wish you much success with this endeavour.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a stylized representation of the name Monique Collette.

Monique Collette