



## Dr. Colin Carrie MP Oshawa

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### MP Colin Carrie Promotes Prescription Drug Drop-off Day on May 10<sup>th</sup>

#### News Release

For Immediate Release

**Oshawa, ON May 8, 2014** - Today, Dr. Colin Carrie, Member of Parliament for Oshawa and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of the Environment, encouraged Oshawa residents to drop off their unused or expired prescription medication to local police and pharmacies to ensure safe disposal on May 10, 2014.

“This initiative provides an important opportunity to reduce the volume of prescription drugs that could get into the hands of people who would misuse them,” stated Dr. Carrie. “It is also a great opportunity to inform the public of various harms associated with misusing prescription drugs.”

“It is vital that unused prescriptions be disposed in an environmentally proper fashion and that the community works together to continue to keep expired and potentially dangerous medications out of the hands of those who may misuse them – including, and especially, our youth,” stated Chief Designate Paul Martin of the Durham Regional Police.

Canada’s second annual Prescription Drug Drop-off Day was organized by The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP) – along with its partners Public Safety Canada, Health Canada, the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA), and the Partnership for a Drug Free Canada. Last year’s Prescription Drug Drop-off Day resulted in the collection of over two tons of prescription drugs that, otherwise, could have been diverted to the illegal market or misused.

According to the International Narcotics Control Board, Canada is now the second highest per capita user of opioids in the world. Potentially more disturbing is that in some provinces, one in five young people in middle and high school report misuse of prescription drugs – and most of them say they got them from home.

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#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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