



Dr. Colin Carrie MP Oshawa

Dr. Colin Carrie Encourages Canadians to Participate in Prescription Drug Drop-off Day

For Immediate Release

Oshawa, ON May 17, 2016 - Today, Dr. Colin Carrie, Member of Parliament for Oshawa and Official Opposition Critic for Health, encouraged Oshawa residents and Canadians from Coast to Coast to Coast to participate in this weekend's National Prescription Drug Drop-Off Day.

"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 also provides a great opportunity to inform the public of the harms associated with misusing prescription drugs."

On Saturday May 21st, 2016 police agencies and pharmacies across Canada will open their doors and encourage Canadians to properly dispose of their unused prescription medications. 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.

"The recent action of the Liberal government with regards to controlled substances is creating a situation where these prescription narcotics and opioids are going to become more readily available" Carrie said. "We see them taking actions to make medical grade heroin more accessible, increase the number of "safe" injections site and cancelling the implementation of regulations aimed at making opioids more tamper-resistant. It is more important now than ever before that Canadians do their part ensure their unused prescriptions drugs are properly disposed."

Canada's fourth annual Prescription Drug Drop-off Day was organized by The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACCP) – 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.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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