



## Colin Carrie MP Oshawa

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### **Government of Canada Takes Action to Protect the Health and Safety of Canadians**

For immediate release.

**OTTAWA, 29 January, 2009** – The Government of Canada today introduced proposed legislation that will modernize and strengthen product safety laws by overhauling existing rules to further protect the health and safety of Canadians.

The proposed *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act* will provide better oversight of consumer products in Canada by improving the government's ability to take timely compliance and enforcement actions when unsafe products are identified. It will also encourage compliance through higher fines and increased penalties for violators.

"One of our Government's top priorities is to protect consumers across Canada from unsafe products," said Member of Parliament and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health Colin Carrie. "We will continue to work towards a safer Canada, where families will have better access to information, helping them make more informed choices when deciding which goods and foods to purchase."

The proposed *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act* will work to prevent problems from occurring, target the highest risk products, and respond to problems more rapidly and effectively. It will prohibit the manufacture, importation, advertisement or sale of consumer products that pose an unreasonable danger to human health or safety. It will also require mandatory reporting by suppliers of serious product-related incidents, including those where injury may have been averted, or defects that could cause serious injury or illness.

Canada's Government will be able to respond more effectively to protect the public when problems occur, including being able to order the recall of unsafe consumer products. Industry will be required to maintain accurate records so that products can be easily traced throughout the supply chain, particularly in recall situations.

For more information regarding the Food and Consumer Safety Action Plan, please consult the Healthy Canadians ([www.healthycanadians.gc.ca](http://www.healthycanadians.gc.ca)) website.

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#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

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