

From: Charles Shanks <charles.shanks@cbc.ca>
Date: August 4, 2016 at 3:29:41 PM PDT
Subject: Re: Childhood Vaccinations
To: Ted Kuntz <tedjkuntz@gmail.com>
Cc: CBC Ombudsman <ombudsman@cbc.ca>

Ted Kuntz
Coquitlam, British Columbia
tedjkuntz@gmail.com

Dear Mr. Kuntz:

Thank you for your email of July 10, which included a copy of your earlier email of March 19, 2015.

You first wrote to us on February 9, 2015, drawing our attention to the treatment of the subject of childhood vaccinations on recent editions of The National (February 5) and Cross Country Checkup (February 8).

In the first instance, you cited Rex Murphy's comments on Rex Murphy: Point of View as "derogatory" in that they "demean, dismiss and show contempt for parents who[se] children have been damaged by vaccines". In the second instance, you pointed to what you see as the program's "bias" in "indiscriminately" accepting the claims of the pharmaceutical industry and showing "complete disregard" for the concerns of parents who have experienced the "reality of vaccination damage".

I wrote to you on March 11 responding to both concerns. In the first instance, I suggested that your understanding was not what Mr. Murphy had actually said. And in the second, I wrote that the treatment of the subject on Cross Country Checkup did include your point of view, as it should. Overall, the program discussed the widely accepted benefits of vaccines, while acknowledging the well-known, but very low, risk factors involved. However, as I wrote to you in that email, "to elevate the small risk of a bad reaction to a vaccine to the point that it would be seen as a 50/50 choice would be journalistically irresponsible".

There is nothing more I can add to what I have already written to you about our programs other than to emphasize that if you are not satisfied with my reply, you might wish to submit the matter for review by CBC Ombudsman, Esther Enkin. The Office of the Ombudsman, an independent and impartial body reporting directly to the President, is responsible for evaluating program compliance with the CBC's journalistic policies. The Ombudsman may be reached by mail at Box 500, Terminal A, Toronto, Ontario M5W 1E6, or by fax at [416-205-2825](tel:416-205-2825) or by email ombudsman@cbc.ca.

Mr. Kuntz, I appreciate that you are a strong advocate of a particular point view on this matter and are seeking CBC's support. However, CBC is prohibited by federal regulation and corporate policy from supporting or advocating any point of view on controversial matters including this

one. I can assure you that CBC makes every effort to be fair, accurate and balanced in the presentation of all stories.

Thank you again for your email.

Sincerely,

Charles Shanks
Senior Producer
Cross Country Checkup
CBC Radio

cc. Esther Enkin, CBC Ombudsman

On Sun, Jul 10, 2016 at 12:55 PM, Ted Kuntz <tedjkuntz@gmail.com> wrote:

Mr. Shanks

I have yet to receive a response to my email of March 19, 2015 below. I asked for a response again on April 20, 2015.

Would you kindly inform me whether you have any intention on addressing the concerns I raised about the journalistic standards of the CBC as pertains to their reporting on vaccine safety and effectiveness.

Sincerely,

Ted Kuntz