

Ministre de la Santé

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0K9

MAY 0 4 2016

Edda West President Vaccine Choice Canada P.O. Box 169 Winlaw, BC V0G 2J0

Dear Ms. West:

Thank you for your letter of February 17, 2016, inviting me to meet with you to discuss concerns you have regarding my mandate to increase vaccination rates, given your concerns about the safety of vaccines.

Unfortunately, my schedule does not permit me to accept your kind invitation at this time.

Our government has long recognized the value of immunization for the health of Canadians, especially our most vulnerable, our children. Vaccines are without a doubt one of the greatest achievements of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and continue to save millions of lives every year around the world. Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada, in collaboration with provincial and territorial public health authorities, and in partnership with governments and organizations around the world including the World Health Organization, work continuously to ensure that safe and effective vaccines are available to all.

Again, thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Jane Philpott, P.C., M.P.