

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CANADIAN HEMOPHILIA SOCIETY'S POSITION ON PRE-1986, POST-1990 HEPATITIS C COMPENSATION

Montréal - July 12, 2006. Representatives of the Canadian Hemophilia Society (CHS) wish to reiterate their position surrounding the long-awaited compensation plan for Canadians who became infected with the hepatitis C virus (HCV), through the Canadian blood system prior to 1986 or after 1990.

The CHS has always advocated for equal compensation for all who contracted hepatitis C through the blood supply, regardless of when they became infected. Until a deal is officially announced CHS will continue to respond to the needs and inquiries of its members understanding that they are growing justifiably impatient. A comprehensive blood injury compensation plan should have been provided years ago, so any delay in announcing the present deal is unfortunate.

It is however important to recognize that no amount of money could ever compensate for those who are no longer with us and for the suffering and the loss of health experienced by thousands.

Approximately 5,000 to 6,000 people who were infected through tainted blood outside the 86-90 window could file claims for compensation.

Profile

The Canadian Hemophilia Society is a non-profit organization, striving since 1953 to improve the health and quality of life for all people with hemophilia and other inherited bleeding disorders, and to find a cure. To find out more about hemophilia, check out the CHS Website, www.hemophilia.ca, or call toll-free: 1-800-668-2686.

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