

July 1, 2014

Dear Minister Ambrose:

I am writing this letter to you in response to Health Canada's request for public input regarding Safety Code 6, Canada's safety standard for wireless technology, such as WiFi in schools, smart meters and cell towers.

***I am very, very concerned regarding the use of WiFi in schools and in my city, Edmonton, there is not ONE school that does not have WiFi and therefore parents do not have a choice regarding whether or not they want their child exposed to this type of radiation. Children and teachers who are electrosensitive have NO options.***

What is most concerning is that there are many scientific studies that show adverse health effects at very low levels of WiFi radiation and these are not being considered.

To date, Health Canada has not followed international best practices in its updates of Safety Code 6 which include; 1) Listing the studies included and excluded [with reasons], evidence tables, grading of study quality to permit meaningful public participation to ensure a "rigorous, transparent" review 2) For the weight of evidence, adapting and adopting a framework such as that proposed by the US National Toxicology Program with complete transparency on assumptions, interpretations and decisions 3) Review the original research publications, not just review articles 3) Ensure the panel has the mandate, capability and resources to validate and further update the literature searches 4) For the first time, publish a monograph from the SC6 update.

As well, the statement, "... Certain members of the general public may be more susceptible to harm from RF and microwave exposure", was removed from the 2009 update to Safety Code 6. As electrosensitivity is in the Canadian Human Rights Act, it should be put back in Safety Code 6.

Safety Code 6 was developed by exposing a 200 lb. male mannequin to 6 minutes of radiation. What scientific evidence is there that this provides safety for children and fetuses? How is that relevant to today's constant exposure?

Safety Code 6 was created in 1979 to protect workers and visitors to federal buildings. What scientific proof is there to justify expanding this to cell towers and antennae? Smart meters? Wi-Fi? Cell and portable phones? Baby monitors? Game consoles? Tablets? Wireless laptops, etc.?

Research now shows that damage occurs at very low levels of radiation exposure, yet Safety Code 6 is based on the heating of tissue. Biological damage occurring at these low levels MUST be considered! ***Recently a friend tested the WiFi reading under a router in two local schools and the readings were double that of the measurements she took 100 yards from a local cell tower. We would never want to live near a cell tower because of the well-established research linking them to leukemia's and other cancers, yet our children are exposed to much more than this when in school!!***

Minister Ambrose, we need you to take action to protect our children. We do not want to have an epidemic of cancers and infertility 10 years from now. Please consider all the relevant research and ensure that the scientists that participate in these review panels are unbiased.

Sincerely, Nicole Iwabuchi