

National Insulin Strategy

Petition To the House of Commons in Parliament Assembled

We, the undersigned residents of Canada draw attention of the House to the following:

THAT the discovery of insulin at the University of Toronto in Canada in 1921 by Drs. Banting and Best has been described as one of greatest achievements in medicine in human history;

THAT Canada is now dependent entirely on foreign manufacturers of this essential medicine;

THAT Eli Lilly announced on July 6, 2005, that it will withdraw the last remaining natural animal insulins from the Canadian market by April 2006;

THAT more than 30 types of animal-sourced and synthetic "human" insulins have been withdrawn from the Canadian market during the last 10 years, none for clinical reasons;

THAT in February 2003, a Health Canada representative told the Standing Committee on Health that "The current [scientific] knowledge does not really enable us to understand why the synthetic insulins or the human insulins do not work as well for some people as do the animal insulins, but clearly that is the case...";