



For Immediate Release

CBWA supports Health Canada's declaration that polycarbonate water cooler bottles are safe for use

"There is no health risk," says minister Clement

RICHMOND HILL – April 18, 2008 - The Canadian Bottled Water Association (CBWA), supports the findings of Health Canada and the Minister of Health Tony Clement that polycarbonate water bottles are safe for use, CBWA Executive Director, Elizabeth Griswold said today.

According to Minister Clement, in making its findings Health Canada reviewed 150 sets of data. That data would have included reviewing the 18-Litre polycarbonate water cooler bottles that some CBWA members use to deliver and distribute drinking water.

"Canadians can continue to use hard plastic, reusable water bottles and plastic tableware if they so choose," Minister Clement said. "There is no health risk."

"As they have for years, Health Canada has again determined that polycarbonate water bottles used with water coolers are safe for use," said Griswold. "Health Canada should be commended for basing its decision on all evidence available, including by third party researchers using widely accepted scientific methods."

It should be noted that bisphenol A is not an ingredient in the plastic used for typical single-serve, single-use bottles. These bottles have a number 1 on the bottom and are made from PET. PET does not contain bisphenol A.

"Bottled water is a healthy, safe and portable beverage that is an alternative to other beverages on store shelves," said Griswold. "Drinking plenty of water, whether from the tap or a bottle, is an important and recommended part of a healthy, daily diet."

About the Canadian Bottled Water Association (CBWA)

The CBWA is the trade association for the bottled water industry in Canada. CBWA member companies produce and distribute about 85 per cent of the bottled water sold in Canada. The CBWA supports and promotes bottled water as a healthy, safe and convenient food product. All CBWA members are committed to environmentally responsible practices.

-30-

For more information:
Elizabeth Griswold
Executive Director, CBWA
(905) 886-6928