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HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

Maurice Vellacott, MP
Saskatoon-Wanuskewin

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario extends deadline

For Immediate Release

August 20, 2008

SASKATOON – We have received a report that the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has extended its deadline for receiving feedback to its proposed new policy on conscience freedoms for physicians. The new deadline is September 12, 2008.

Recent media outlets have reported on the draft proposal to restrict the freedom of conscience for physicians. The College says the impetus for the draft policy reform is the recent reforms implemented regarding the operation of Ontario's Human Rights Commission and Tribunal. These reforms have apparently led the College to believe that physicians risk facing "human rights" complaints if they appeal to their freedom of conscience to refuse to provide certain services to their patients. The elective procedure of abortion is one area which has resulted in controversy in this regard.

For more information, visit this website:

http://www.cpso.on.ca/Policies/consultation/HumanRightsDRAFT_08.pdf

Your correspondence to the College of Physicians and Surgeons should be sent using the following contact information:

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