

December 9, 2010

Dr. Keith Martin, P.C., M.P.
Member of Parliament for Esquimalt - Juan de Fuca
666 Granderson Road
Victoria, British Columbia
V9B 2R8

Dear Dr. Martin:

This letter is being provided in support of The International Conservation Forum's request to halt the senseless poaching of rhinos and tigers for the purpose of harvesting body parts for reasons of no apparent medicinal value. Valid and reliable evidence of therapeutic benefit of these substances is lacking. At the very least, other, more environmentally sustainable (or friendly or humane) evidence-based therapies exist for any of the conditions tiger bone and rhino horn purport to treat. The costs to these animals does not appear to outweigh the known or possible unique claims of benefits.

The Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine (CCNM) is Canada's premier institute for education and research in naturopathic medicine. CCNM offers a rigorous four-year, full-time doctor of naturopathic medicine program. The College educates, develops and trains naturopathic doctors through excellence in health education, clinical services and research that integrate mind, body and spirit.

Naturopathic doctors (NDs) are primary healthcare practitioners. Interns at CCNM's Robert Schad Naturopathic Clinic improve their patients' health by identifying and treating the underlying causes of illness, employing therapies such as lifestyle counselling, nutrition, botanical medicine, acupuncture/Asian medicine, manipulation, homeopathic medicine, and hydrotherapy/massage.

Sincerely,



Bob Bernhardt, B.Sc., M.Ed, LL.M, PhD
President/CEO



a healthy curiosity

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