

23 October 2013

Dr. Djaouida Sellah, MP Saint-Bruno – Saint-Hubert House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Dr. Sellah:

The College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) would like to commend you for presenting Bill C-523, Disclosure of Drug Shortages.

On March 29, 2011, the CPFC wrote to the Prime Minister expressing our concern with the shortage of generic prescription medicines in Canada. We noted that drug shortages compromised family physicians' ability to deliver the best in patient care.

We asked that the federal government "adopt a comprehensive plan for monitoring and reporting prescription drug shortages in Canada. The strategy should include a regulatory reporting process that mandates pharmaceutical drug manufacturing companies to inform Health Canada of any identified drug shortages. We urge the Government of Canada to inform hospitals and health professionals about drug shortages and provide better guidance on how long it is expected to last."

The CFPC is heartened to see our recommendations to the federal government reflected in your Private Member's Bill.

Thank you for inviting the CFPC to support your private member's bill. We welcome any proposal that seeks to improve the health of Canadians and would be of interest to our family physician members.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 905-629-0900 ext.325 or e-mail: <u>ejm@cfpc.ca</u>.

Yours sincerely,

Eric J. Mang Director, Health Policy and Government Relations

c.c.: Dr. Francine Lemire, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, CFPC Dr. Jamie Meuser, A.E.D. & Director, Continuing Professional Development, CFPC Mr. Artem Safarov, Manager, Health Policy and Government Relations, CFPC