



House of Commons
Canada

Libby Davies, MP
Vancouver East

March 25, 2014

Hon. Rona Ambrose
Minister of Health
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A6

Dear Minister,

I am writing with concern about recent decisions at the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) regarding their ethics reform process. A Vice President of Ethics has not been appointed at CIHR despite being made an issue of primary concern by *The Final Report from the Task Force on Ethics Reform at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, July 3, 2013*.

CIHR is legally responsible for the operation of a strong and robust ethics programme. This objective cannot be met if key recommendations by the Task Force are ignored. Denying the implementation of a Vice President of Ethics position could damage Canada's reputation as a leader in the health research field, and it may fall behind other prominent international research organizations. If CIHR fails to act accordingly, I worry that our country's position as a world-leader in ethics will be seriously compromised.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter, and I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Libby Davies, MP
Vancouver East
NDP Health Critic

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