**Appendix 3 – Congratulatory Letter**

Jane Smith, MP

House of Commons

Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6

Dear Ms. Smith,

On behalf of the Canadian Association of Naturopathic Doctors (CAND), please accept my sincere congratulations on your success in the recent election. We appreciate your hard work and commitment to serving in Canada’s 43rd Parliament.

CAND membership consist of more than 2400 naturopathic doctors (ND) across the country. They continue to be an emerging answer to Canadians’ health-care concerns, including {XX} Naturopathic Doctors living in {Riding Name} treating {XX} patients. More people than ever before are seeking and benefiting from naturopathic medical care and the number of naturopathic doctors is growing at record rates to accommodate this increased demand. Currently there are naturopathic doctors practicing in every province and all but one territory in Canada.

Naturopathic doctors are experiencing greater recognition as health care practitioners and as experts in the field of natural and preventive medicine. They provide leadership in natural medical research and are politically active at the federal, provincial and territorial levels. Positions for naturopathic doctors are opening up in hospitals, multi-disciplinary clinics and specialized health centres across Canada.

Presently in Canada there are five provinces that regulate the practice of naturopathic doctors: British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario. The Naturopathic Doctors Act of 2008 grants title protection for naturopathic doctors in the province of Nova Scotia. In all the remaining provinces and territories, naturopathic doctors are actively engaged in the process of seeking regulation.

Currently, the naturopathic profession finds itself well positioned in health care. With more research emerging that supports the therapies used by naturopathic doctors, and the public demand for greater choice and increased access to more natural approaches to health, naturopathic medicine is meeting the health needs of an ever-increasing number of Canadians.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you at your convenience to provide further information on NDs and to answer any questions you may have about how they work with patients, or, regarding naturopathic medicine in general. I can be reached by phone at 1.800.551.4381 or via email at soreilly@cand.ca. I look forward to hearing from you.

Again, thank you for your time and dedication! I recognize your service in as a Member of Parliament does not come without sacrifices and I am grateful for your service.

Yours sincerely,

Shawn O’Reilly

Executive Director